

Youth Worship

BETHANY INDEPENDENT-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

God's kind of church, where God is touching lives, and people care for people.

WELCOME TO YOUTH WORSHIP ON-LINE!

We thank God for every privilege to draw near to God in worship. May our hearts be greatly encouraged as we receive His Word!



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COME AND WORSHIP

The sons of Korah concluded Psalm 84 with a renewed and refreshing appreciation of God and His blessings. We can find great delight and assurance in knowing that God will specially bless.

***“For the LORD God is a sun and shield;
The LORD will give grace and glory;
No good thing will He withhold
From those who walk uprightly.
O LORD of hosts,
Blessed is the man who trusts in You!”***

PSALM 84:11-12



1. Renewed appreciation of who God is
 - a. As our Sun
 - i. He emits glorious light
 - ii. He provides great cheer to the heart
 - b. As our Shield
 - i. He protects us
 - ii. He defends us
 - iii. He is present with us
 - c. As our Giver of both grace and glory
 - d. As the One who does not withhold good from those who walk uprightly
2. The recipients of God's blessings
 - a. Those who love the LORD's house (Psalm 84:10)
 - b. Those who walk uprightly
 - c. Those who trust in Him

God has bestowed upon us many wonderful blessings. God's bountiful blessings reflect His Proven and Perfect character. Our hearts must be deeply inspired to appreciate our Almighty God afresh as we offer Him worship. Let us never grow dull in beholding the greatness and goodness of God!

As His children, we are in a privileged place to receive God's blessings. The fullness of His blessings is yet to be discovered and realised. Our challenge is to cultivate a strong and vibrant faith, and to walk righteously with God. Therein His blessings will ensue and gloriously unfold! May we seek to deepen our trust in the LORD God who is our Sun and Shield!



ORDER OF WORSHIP

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YOUTH WORSHIP SERVICE

7 AUGUST 2021

Call to Worship

Pastor Charles Tan

A stylized orange line drawing of a plant with several long, thin, curved leaves extending upwards and outwards from a central point.

Opening Prayer

Message:

Pastor Charles Tan

“Cast out this bondwoman and her son”

Genesis 21:8-21

Closing Prayer

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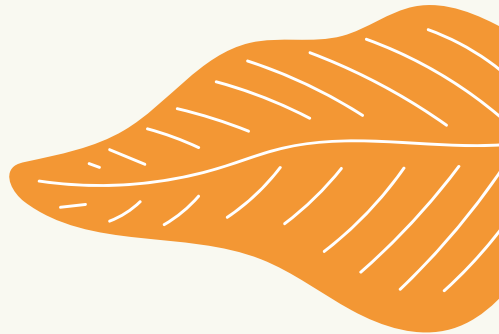
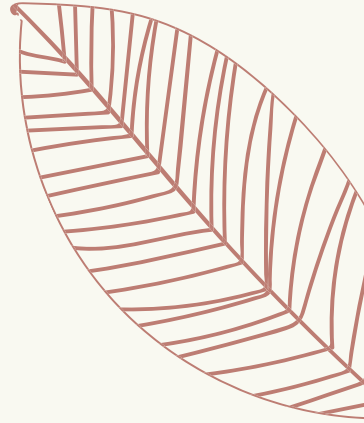
REVIEW OF GOD'S WORD

Let us review what we have learnt at Youth Worship last week!

YWS MESSAGE - 31 JULY 2021 **"AS HE HAD SAID" GENESIS 21**

INTRODUCTION

1. Many vital lessons of Faith to be learned
 - a) The Word of God
 - i) It is given in the form of a Promise
 - ii) It awaits fulfilment
 - b) The lessons
 - i) To believe
 - ii) To wait upon the Lord in hope
2. Difficulties faced along the way
 - a) Fear
 - b) Faltering faith
 - c) Human error
 - d) Setbacks
3. God continued to be
 - a) Gracious
 - b) Merciful
 - c) Patient
 - d) Understanding
 - e) Kind



VISIT OF THE LORD

1. Promise of a visit

“At the appointed time I will return to you,
according to the time of life”

Genesis 18:14b

2. Fulfilment of a promise to visit

“And the LORD visited Sarah as He had said”

Genesis 21:1a

3. Lessons learned

- a) What God has said/ promised
- b) It would come to pass
- c) “Is anything too hard for the LORD?”
- d) The LORD will keep what He has said always

Genesis 18:14a

FULFILMENT OF PROMISE

1. Promise of a son

“And Sarah shall have a son”

Genesis 18:14c

2. Fulfilment of the promise to have a son

“And the LORD did for Sarah as He had spoken”

Genesis 21:1b

3. What God would have to do

- a) Rejuvenate Sarah's body
- b) Healing the problem of barrenness
- c) Enabling Sarah to have a son

4. Lessons learned

- a) “Is anything too hard for the LORD?”
- b) There is nothing too hard for God
 - i) There is power with the Lord
 - ii) He will personally see to things
 - iii) His presence would be manifested

Genesis 18:14a

CONCEPTION AND BIRTH

1. Sarah conceived

- a) It seems “natural”
- b) But God’s power had to be applied
 - i) Obviously
 - ii) Significantly
 - iii) Personally

Genesis 21:2a

2. And bore Abraham a son in his old age

- a) Recalling a word about “old age”

“Now Abraham and Sarah were old, well advanced in age; and Sarah had passed the age of childbearing”

Genesis 21:2b

- b) Recalling another word about “old age”

“Shall a child be born to a man who is one hundred years old? And shall Sarah, who is ninety years old, bear a child?”

Genesis 18:11

- c) Recalling God’s word of promise
“Sarah your wife shall bear you a son”

Genesis 17:17

Genesis 17:19a

- d) Stating the age of Abraham
“Now Abraham was one hundred years old when his son Isaac was born to him”

Genesis 21:5

e) Lessons learned

- i) Recall what God had said
- ii) Faith will be refreshed as we see God fulfilling what He had said
- iii) Details are not unimportant



ABRAHAM'S FIRST RESPONSE

1. Naming of the son

a) "And Abraham called the name of his son who was born to him— whom Sarah bore to him— Isaac" Genesis 21:3

b) This was in obedience to what God said
"And you shall call his name Isaac" Genesis 17:19b

2. Lessons learned

a) Full obedience

b) The name Isaac

i) It means "laughter"

ii) Abram laughed because of unbelief Genesis 17:17a

iii) Sarah laughed for a similar problem Genesis 18:13, 15

c) This name would be:

i) A reminder of a historical context

ii) A reminder of the problem of unbelief

iii) A reminder that there is nothing too hard for God Genesis 18:14b



ABRAHAM'S SECOND RESPONSE

1. "Then Abraham circumcised his son Isaac when he was eight days old" Genesis 21:4a

2. "As God had commanded him" Genesis 21:4b



RECALLING WHAT GOD HAD SAID

1. Context: The Abrahamic Covenant

“And you shall be circumcised...

And it shall be a sign of the covenant between
Me and you”

Genesis 17:11

2. Eight days old

“He who is eight days old among you shall be
circumcised”

Genesis 17:12

3. An everlasting covenant

“And My covenant shall be in your flesh
for an everlasting covenant”

Genesis 17:13

4. Lessons to be learned

a) Application of faith in God

b) Full obedience to the word of God



A LAUGHTER OF JOY

1. Sarah's Testimony


A play on the word “laugh”

“God has made me laugh...”

Genesis 21:6a

a) Once, it was a laugh of unbelief

b) Now, it was a laughter of joy from God



2. Sarah's quip

"And all who hear will laugh with me"

Genesis 21:6b

- a) She will share openly about her past unbelief
- b) And speak of God and His grace and mercy
- c) All who hear will laugh with her
 - i) Of understanding
 - ii) Of faith
 - iii) Of gladness

3. Sarah's further quip

"Who would have said to Abraham that Sarah would nurse children? For I have borne him a son in his old age" Genesis 21:7

- a) The joy of childbirth
- b) The blessing which obviously came from God



CONCLUSION

1. The challenge to know God's word better

- a) Read
- b) Understand
- c) Believe

2. The Joy of Discovery that the Lord is a promise-keeping God!



REFLECTION

Written by Chloe Tang

The context of Genesis 21

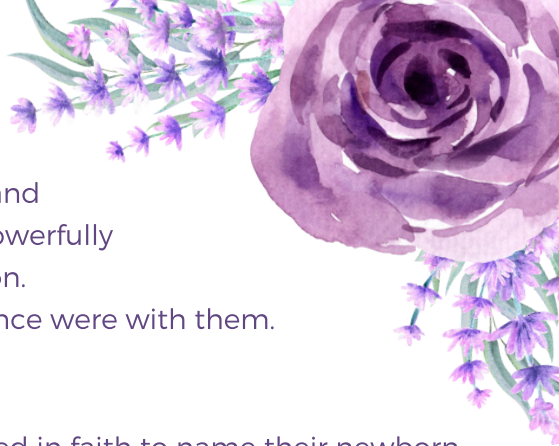
In this lesson, we return to something first encountered in Genesis 17 and 18. Then, the Lord promised Abraham that he would have a son by Sarah. This might have seemed like an extremely outlandish promise - Abraham and Sarah's reactions in Genesis 17 and 18 reflected this. They both showed unbelief, which the Lord had to address by telling them that nothing was too hard for Him, and saying that "At the appointed time I will return to you, according to the time of life, and Sarah shall have a son." (Genesis 18:14)

Around one year had passed between Genesis 17 and Genesis 21. During this time, God passed judgment on Sodom and Gomorrah, Lot fled, and Abraham journeyed to the South again.

God fulfils His promises

Now in Genesis 21, we reach the "appointed time" when God returned to Abraham and Sarah to fulfil what He had promised - Sarah would bear a son. The exact words of Genesis 21:1 were highlighted, "And the LORD visited Sarah as He had said, and the LORD did for Sarah as He had spoken." The word we focused on was "as", because this highlights how the Lord remembered and kept His promise, exactly as He had said in Genesis 18.

From this, we can see that whatever the Lord says and promises will come to pass. Furthermore, nothing is too hard for the Lord!



Abraham and Sarah initially had concerns about their old age and Sarah's barrenness, but the Lord powerfully overcame these to grant them a son. The Lord's Divine Power and Presence were with them.

Abraham and Sarah's responses

Abraham and Sarah both responded in faith to name their newborn "Isaac" as God had previously commanded (Genesis 17:19). The name "Isaac" means laughter. Earlier, both of them had moments of unbelief when they laughed. This name would not only remind them of their unbelief, but also that nothing was too hard for the Lord. Sarah would openly share this event as a testimony of God's grace and mercy. Abraham also circumcised Isaac according to the covenant that God had made with him, showing his continued obedience.

How does this apply to us?

While the extent and context of God's work in our lives may not be as physically drastic as in Abraham and Sarah's, we can draw out two important lessons. Firstly, God is gracious and merciful, and He keeps His promises. We simply need to remember His promises, and apply faith by trusting that He will fulfil them. Secondly, there is nothing too hard for the Lord. Our challenges may seem insurmountable to us, but we have the Lord on our side! We can remember these precious thoughts even as we face another week ahead.



I AM YOUR SHIELD

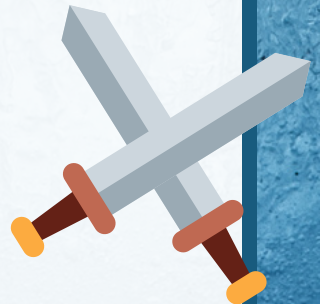
Entering into a righteous battle can give strength;
One is empowered to travel for a truly great length.
Victory over a more powerful enemy is uncertain;
But there is help from the Possessor of earth and heaven.

Victory may be won for the day but what about the future?
Would the enemy return with vengeance as the main feature?
These fearful thoughts may have crossed the mind;
These are human feelings that make one be in a bind.

"I am your shield," were the words God spoke graciously;
Abram need not fear any form of reprisal from the enemy.
God's shield of protection would be more than sufficient;
Exercising faith in the LORD would be most important!

"I am your exceedingly great reward," God added;
These were words that may not have been expected.
God knows the greatest desire of our heart and soul;
His glorious promises can wonderfully make us whole!

Charles Tan
Inspiration: Genesis 15:1



ANNOUNCEMENT

Youth Worship (On-Line)



We thank God for the On-line facility and resources made available to us by the faithful AVA Team and Web Team. Let us appreciate this wonderful provision and cherish every moment of worship we can have, albeit on-line.

The Youth Worship On-Line message will be available on our Website from 2.45pm on Saturday.

Bethany 40+8 Anniversary Month



As we usher in the month of August, we are filled with anticipation and excitement to celebrate Bethany's 40+8 Anniversary!

We will be celebrating 48 years of God's goodness and mercies upon our Church on 29th August 2021. Let us recall and remember what God has done for us and offer Him thanksgiving and praise.

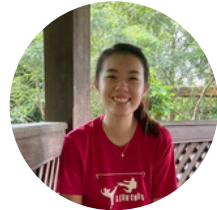
ANNOUNCEMENT

Happy National Day



On 9th August, we celebrate Singapore's 56 years of independence. Thank God for His blessings poured out on our nation! May our hearts always be appreciative of the privileges that we enjoy in Singapore!

YW Newsletter (7 August 2021)



Our respective journeys of life are unique to each one of us. At each point of our journey, God is with us, imparting precious lessons about life, about Him and about faith. This week's Newsletter features Grace Pang's sharing on what she is learning in this season of her life.

Click or scan the QR code to read this week's Newsletter:



ANNOUNCEMENT



14 AUG 2021

Message: "Do not let it be displeasing in your sight"

Text: Genesis 21:8-21

Abraham had no solution in sight to the disharmony that had resurfaced in his family. He was displeased with Sarah's demand to cast out Hagar and his beloved son, Ishmael. As a concerned father, it would have greatly grieved Abraham to leave Ishmael without a home, without an inheritance, and without much hope for a bright future.

In his moment of helplessness, Abraham was comforted by God's intervention! To his surprise, God approved of Sarah's demands and urged Abraham to comply. This solution went against how Abraham felt and thought, and it would take Abraham to trust in God's promise to protect and bless Hagar and Ishmael.

While we may struggle to fathom God's Divine Plan, faith assures us that God's thoughts are higher than ours and we can trust in His Plan.



Bethany Independent Presbyterian Church

301 UPPER PAYA LEBAR ROAD, SINGAPORE 534934
www.bethanyipc.sg