

# 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!

We thank God that we can resume singing to the Lord at Youth Worship this afternoon! May we worship our Great God in spirit and in truth!



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# COME AND WORSHIP

## THE WORD OF GOD (I)

There is no mistaking that David was awed by the Glory of God captured in His Creation. But there was one theme that David had the utmost regard for, that reveals the Glory of God - the Word of God!

**“The law of the LORD is perfect,  
converting the soul;  
The testimony of the LORD is sure,  
making wise the simple”**

PSALM 19:17

1. David employed different terms to describe the Word of God
  - a. The Law (Psalm 19:7a)
  - b. The Testimony (Psalm 19:7b)
  - c. The Statues (Psalm 19:8a)
  - d. The Commandment (Psalm 19:8b)
  - e. The Judgments (Psalm 19:9)
  
2. He personally appreciated the attributes of God's Word and its impact upon life
  - a. The law of the LORD is perfect
    - i. The Word of God is flawless and without error
    - ii. It has the power to change a person, right to the depth of his soul!

- b. The Testimony of the Lord is sure
  - i. The Word of God is certain and indisputable
  - ii. It provides one with wisdom to approach faith and life
  - iii. As a result, the simple can become wise

- 3. An appropriate regard for God's Word
  - a. To obey the laws of God
  - b. To heed the testimonies of the LORD

### **THE WORD OF GOD AND ITS IMPACT**

The Word of God carries great potential to make a permanent impact in our lives. Like a mirror, it reflects the sinful state of our soul in need of cleansing and correction. When we yield ourselves to obey His Word, it has the power to change and convert our very souls!

The Word of God is also practical to life, and we can appreciate this through our study of Genesis. There is wisdom found in the Scriptures which can shape our perspective of life positively and establish good principles for us to live by.

### **HOW DO WE VIEW THE WORD OF GOD?**

King David valued and highly regarded the Word of God. He saw the glory of God manifested in His Word. Our encouragement is to heed the Scriptures and cultivate a proper regard for the Lord and His Word. May we deeply treasure the Word of God!

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

## YOUTH WORSHIP SERVICE

**02 APRIL 2022**

Call to Worship

1. Come and Sing
2. What A Faithful God

Goh Yuanli  
Janelle Tan Shiwen

Opening Prayer

Scripture Reading:

1. Genesis 31:1-3
2. Genesis 31:4-13
3. Genesis 31:14-16

Tessa Kang, Bethany Toong &  
Ong Yanning

Pastoral Prayer

Pastor Eugene Seow

Message:

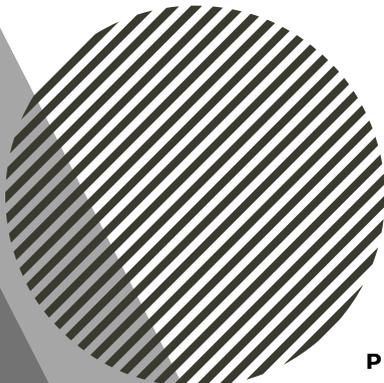
“Return to the land of your fathers”

Text: Genesis 31:3

Pastor Charles Tan

Closing Prayer

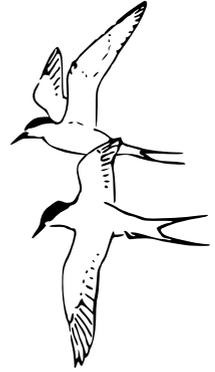
Pastor Charles Tan



# WORSHIP SONGS

## COME AND SING

*By Camille Tam  
Inspiration: Psalm 145*



All around us we see  
Creation in its glory  
And we think of You –  
Your pow'r behind it all!

How wondrous and true  
That we may know You,  
Our merciful Lord,  
On You we can call.

O come and sing of God our glorious King,  
For He is good and gracious all our days.  
O come and sing, bless His name always,  
For He is great and He is greatly to be praised!

All around us we see  
Creation in its glory  
And we think of You –  
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# WORSHIP SONGS

## WHAT A FAITHFUL GOD

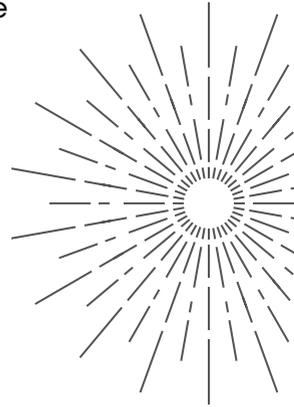
Lord, I come before Your throne of grace  
I find rest in Your presence  
And fullness of joy.  
In worship and wonder  
I behold Your face,  
Singing what a faithful God have I.

### Chorus

What a faithful God have I,  
What a faithful God.  
What a faithful God have I,  
Faithful in every way.

Lord of mercy, You have heard my cry;  
Through the storm You're the beacon,  
My song in the night.  
In the shelter of Your wings,  
Hear my heart's reply,  
Singing what a faithful God have I.

Lord all sovereign, granting peace from heaven,  
Let me comfort those who suffer  
With the comfort You have given.  
I will tell of Your great love for as long as I live,  
Singing what a faithful God have I.



# MY NOTES

02 APRIL 2022

## **“RETURN TO THE LAND OF YOUR FATHERS”**

GENESIS 31:3

# REVIEW OF GOD'S WORD

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

## **YWS MESSAGE -26 MARCH 2022**

### **“THE LORD HAS BLESSED ME FOR YOUR SAKE”**

#### **GENESIS 30:27**

#### **INTRODUCTION**

1. Jacob living with his parents-in-law
  - a. Many years
  - b. Many children (11 sons and one daughter)
2. Future plans must be considered
  - a. To stay in Haran
  - b. To return to Canaan

#### **DECISION OF JACOB TO RETURN TO CANAAN**

25 And it came to pass, when Rachel had borne Joseph, that Jacob said to Laban, “Send me away, that I may go to my own place and to my country.

26 Give me my wives and my children for whom I have served you, and let me go; for you know my service which I have done for you.”

Genesis 30:25-26

1. Every reason to return to Canaan
  - a. It was “my own place”
  - b. “My country”

2. Jacob obviously did not feel Haran was his home
  - a. Laban was his father-in-law
  - b. He had his own family (sons)
  - c. Not stated here, but Laban had deceived him as an employer (Genesis 31:7... Jacob noted that Laban had changed his wages 10 times)
  
3. He felt that he had served Laban very well all these years!

## **RESPONSE OF LABAN**

27 And Laban said to him, "Please stay, if I have found favour in your eyes, for I have learned by experience that the Lord has blessed me for your sake."

28 Then he said, "Name me your wages, and I will give it."

Genesis 30:27-28

1. Laban was alarmed
  
2. He pleads with Jacob to stay on
  
3. He states plainly what he knew was true
  - a. The LORD had blessed him
  - b. It was for Jacob's sake
  
4. Discussion of Wages
  - a. He is prepared to pay whatever wages Jacob demands
  - b. He promised that he would keep his word this time round

But can Jacob trust Laban?



## JACOB'S DISCUSSION WITH LABAN

29 So Jacob said to him, "You know how I have served you and how your livestock has been with me.

30 For what you had before I came was little, and it has increased to a great amount; the Lord has blessed you since my coming. And now, when shall I also provide for my own house?"

Genesis 30:29-30

1. Jacob presents his work history
  - a. How Jacob served
  - b. How his livestock had been under his care
2. An honest evaluation
  - a. Laban had little before Jacob worked with him
  - b. His livestock had increased to "a great amount"
  - c. The LORD had indeed blessed since Jacob had come
3. Jacob wants to provide for his own family
  - a. It was large
  - b. It was growing
  - c. Wages would not do!

### LABAN'S QUERY

So he said, "What shall I give you?"

Genesis 30:31a

1. Laban had no answer to give to Jacob's evaluation
2. He asked what could be done to have Jacob to stay on



## JACOB'S SUGGESTION

31 And Jacob said, "You shall not give me anything. If you will do this thing for me, I will again feed and keep your flocks:

32 Let me pass through all your flock today, removing from there all the speckled and spotted sheep, and all the brown ones among the lambs, and the spotted and speckled among the goats; and these shall be my wages.

33 So my righteousness will answer for me in time to come, when the subject of my wages comes before you: every one that is not speckled and spotted among the goats, and brown among the lambs, will be considered stolen, if it is with me."

Genesis 30:31b-33

### 1. Jacob's insistence

He is not looking for higher wages

### 2. He offers a suggestion that seems to be in Laban's favour

#### a. The flocks of Laban

i. Sheep

ii. Goats

#### b. He will take all the sheep/ goats

i. Speckled

ii. Spotted

iii. Brown spots

#### c. The ones that are not speckled/ spotted

These would be Laban's flocks

#### d. Jacob would separate the flocks

i. Laban's

ii. Jacob's



## LABAN'S ACCEPTANCE

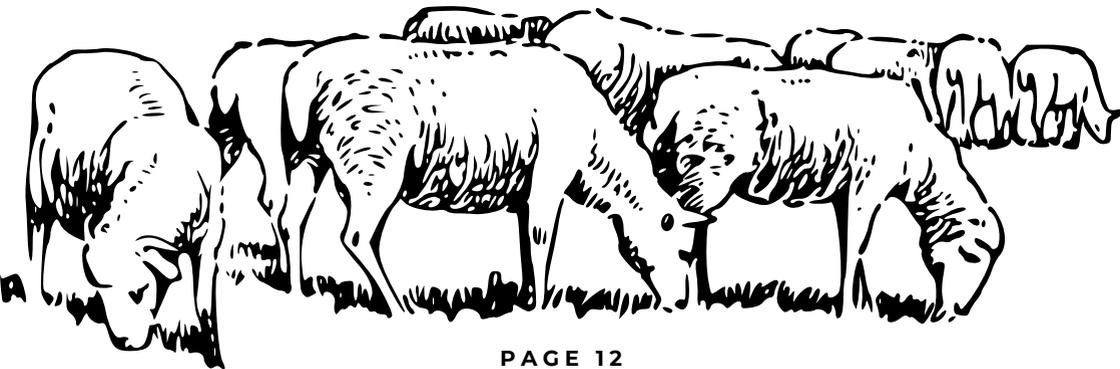
34 And Laban said, "Oh, that it were according to your word!"

35 So he removed that day the male goats that were speckled and spotted, all the female goats that were speckled and spotted, every one that had some white in it, and all the brown ones among the lambs, and gave them into the hand of his sons.

36 Then he put three days' journey between himself and Jacob, and Jacob fed the rest of Laban's flocks.

Genesis 30:34-36

1. Laban was in full agreement  
It would seem that he had a better deal
2. Laban immediately separated the flocks
  - a. He chose his flocks
  - b. He gave them to his sons
3. He made sure that they would be 3 days' journey apart from each other
4. Jacob took what was left behind



## JACOB'S SKILL AS A SHEPHERD

37 Now Jacob took for himself rods of green poplar and of the almond and chestnut trees, peeled white strips in them, and exposed the white which was in the rods.

38 And the rods which he had peeled, he set before the flocks in the gutters, in the watering troughs where the flocks came to drink, so that they should conceive when they came to drink.

39 So the flocks conceived before the rods, and the flocks brought forth streaked, speckled, and spotted.

40 Then Jacob separated the lambs, and made the flocks face toward the streaked and all the brown in the flock of Laban; but he put his own flocks by themselves and did not put them with Laban's flock.

41 And it came to pass, whenever the stronger livestock conceived, that Jacob placed the rods before the eyes of the livestock in the gutters, that they might conceive among the rods.

42 But when the flocks were feeble, he did not put them in; so the feebler were Laban's and the stronger Jacob's.

43 Thus the man became exceedingly prosperous, and had large flocks, female and male servants, and camels and donkeys.

Genesis 30:37-43

1. Jacob had become a knowledgeable shepherd
2. He knew how to breed strong offspring
3. The results were astonishing
  - a. Jacob's flocks were stronger
  - b. He became exceedingly prosperous
  - c. He expanded to have
    - i. Camels
    - ii. Donkeys
  - d. He also increased the strength of his staff
    - i. Male servants
    - ii. Female servants



## CONCLUSION

1. God was mentioned briefly

- a. By Laban
- b. By Jacob

2. But God's hand was obvious!

- a. He had blessed Abraham with prosperity
- b. He had also blessed Isaac with prosperity
- c. He was now blessing Jacob similarly

Genesis 24:1

Genesis 26:13

Genesis 30:43



# REFLECTION

Written by

*Tessa Kang*

## **Jacob's request to Laban**

Jacob had dwelt in the land for over a decade, when he decided to approach Laban with a request to leave with his family for Canaan. Jacob had been dutiful in caring for Laban's flock all this while, for the past 14 years and counting. However, Laban pleaded for Jacob to stay, and was willing to compensate Jacob's labour. Jacob reasoned with Laban that he had faithfully served him well, and the latter's flock had increased greatly under Jacob's care. In the negotiation, Jacob chose for himself a flock which was speckled, spotted and brown as his wages, which was agreed by Laban. Jacob continued to faithfully and skillfully tend to his flock, and the Lord continued to bless Jacob in all that he did, with his flock growing significantly as compared to Laban's flock.



## **Jacob's faithfulness and the Lord's hand of blessing**

We finally see a growth in Jacob's character over the years. He started off as a man who was naive in his ways but became a man who was faithful and stronger in character. It is not evident that Jacob's faith was growing well at this point. Nevertheless, he remained righteous and blameless as he cared for both Laban and his flocks, making sure they were healthy. He worked hard as a shepherd, and strove to remain faithful in all that he did, using his knowledge well as he cared for his sheep.

Through it all, the Lord continued to bless Jacob, giving him the strength to care for his sheep and allowing his flock to multiply greatly. God was with Jacob through it all despite the times when he faltered and stumbled, guiding him through those rough patches in his life and blessing his family and all that he owned.



## **Letting the Lord lead us through life**

We may not be shepherds, but we can still continue to practise faithfulness and righteousness in all that we do. The challenge for us is to be hardworking in developing our skills for the role that God has given us, and trust that the Lord will bless. There may be times when we may stumble in our faith, but may we find strength and comfort in the Lord, knowing that He will be there and will guide us through the challenges in life! This message reminds me of the poem 'Footprints in the sand,' a reminder that the Lord will be with us every step of the way, and during the times that we cannot go on, God will carry us and strengthen us along the way. Let us seek to practise righteousness, learning to give our best in whatever we do, yet striving to do these things with the goal of pleasing the Lord, and not ourselves. Let us learn to see with eyes of faith, knowing that the Lord will lead us through the storm!



# POETRY CORNER

## **GOD TESTED ABRAHAM**

There were “little tests” in Abraham’s life;  
He had not fared well; sins of the flesh were rife.  
His old ways dominated his heart and mind;  
Though there was faith, He was still “blind.”

But through the “little tests,” Abraham grew;  
He became a man of God; his faith was true.  
He would soon face a very difficult test;  
He was to sacrifice his son, at God’s behest!

This was a test of really huge proportion;  
How would he face this proposition?  
For many years, he had waited for this son;  
With this sacrifice, Isaac’s life would be done!

Abraham refused to give in to all his fears;  
He trusted that the LORD would be near!  
He had failed far too many times before!  
He will obey God, even if his heart was sore.

Charles Tan

Inspiration: Genesis 22:1-3



# ANNOUNCEMENT

## YW NEWSLETTER (2 APR 2022)

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How can our faith be featured at the forefront of our lives? The study of Jacob's life would teach us that faith is not to be assumed. It is wise and good for us to pause and check the progress of our faith. In this issue, Hannah Hoo shares with us her need to involve God in the challenges of school and life.

Scan here to read:



## FINDING ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ABOUT FAITH AND LIFE

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Do you have any questions about faith and life? How do we find answers from the Scriptures?

We are going to have a column in our next YW "A Living Faith" Magazine to address your questions! Pastor Charles Tan will personally respond to them to help us find Biblical answers to our queries.

We'd love to hear from you!

You may submit your questions via this link:

<https://forms.gle/8UjvKqXzWwxhR3J98>

# NEXT YWS



**09 APR 2022**

Message: "God had come to Laban in a dream by night"

Text: Genesis 31:24

The tension and hostility between Jacob and Laban grew as Jacob continued to prosper. Fearing for his life and the safety of his family, Jacob had to make an escape plan. With great haste, he took his family, livestock and possessions, and stealthily departed. It only came to Laban's knowledge three days later that Jacob had fled Padan Aram with the entire family! Immediately, Laban gathered all his brethren in pursuit of Jacob. Certainly, God has the power to overturn the wicked scheme of Laban. How would He intervene to protect Jacob and his family from Laban's wrath?

Find out more at Youth Worship next week!



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