

# 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 are glad that you have chosen to spend this Saturday afternoon to worship the Lord with us. May we be deeply humbled and in awe as we come before our Almighty and Sovereign God!



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# COME AND WORSHIP

## THE COUNSEL OF THE LORD STANDS FOREVER

Is the word of God a source of joy to you? The Psalmist understood and appreciated the very nature of God's word, which invoked a deep and profound sense of joy in him. The Word of God is not only Powerful (Psalm 33:6-9), it is also Sovereign.

**10** The LORD brings the counsel of the nations to nothing;  
He makes the plans of the peoples of no effect.

**11** The counsel of the LORD stands forever,  
The plans of His heart to all generations.

### PSALM 33:10-11

1. The counsel of the nations
  - a. The word 'counsel' and 'plan' were used interchangeably in this text
  - b. When the counsel of the peoples is contrary to God's Will
    - i. The LORD can bring their counsel to nothing
    - ii. He can make their plans of no effect
  - c. Any wicked and evil endeavour would not abide
2. The Counsel of God prevails
  - a. The counsel of the LORD stands forever
  - b. They will endure from generation to generation
  - c. They will not be thwarted by the plans of men

The reality of this truth can be observed throughout Biblical history. One familiar story would be the exodus of the nation of Israel from the land of Egypt. Much as the Pharaoh sought to afflict the people of Israel and restrain them from leaving Egypt to the Promised Land, all his plots were futile because God's Sovereign Plan was in motion. The Lord successfully led His people out of bondage by displaying His glorious power through the 10 plagues and the parting of the Red Sea (Exodus 7-14). These marvellous stories, amongst others, would have firmly convinced the Psalmist of God's prevailing Plans.

### **REJOICING IN THE LORD AND HIS WORD**

Believing wholeheartedly in the sovereignty of God and the supreme authority of His Word, the Psalmist concluded that blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD (Psalm 33:12). God would be for His nation, and the evil schemes of men would never succeed in destroying His people. Therefore, God's word brought much joy and confidence to the Psalmist, and inspired his praise to the Lord!

What is our response when we recognise the power and authority of God's Word? Let us give our utmost regard as the Word of God duly commands. Let us be inspired to give attention to study His Word, and in so doing, to readily welcome the truth that will stand the test of time. May we also come to rejoice in the Word of God!



# ORDER OF WORSHIP

## YOUTH WORSHIP SERVICE

4 JUNE 2022

**Prelude**

Pianist: Gabrielle Wan

**Call to Worship**

Pastor Charles Tan

**Opening Prayer**

Pastor Charles Tan

**Song Leading**

1. May Your Name Ever Be Praised

2. Before You I Kneel

Janelle Tan & Stanley Woo

Pianist: Gabrielle Wan

**Scripture Reading:**

Genesis 28:16-22; 33:17-20

Chloe Tang, Tessa Kang &

Bethany Toong

**Pastoral Prayer**

Pastor Mark Tan

**Message:**

“El, Elohe Israel”

Text: Genesis 33:20

Pastor Charles Tan

**Closing Prayer**

Pastor Charles Tan

**Postlude**

Pianist: Gabrielle Wan

# MY NOTES

4 JUNE 2022

“EL, ELOHE ISRAEL”

GENESIS 33:20

# WORSHIP SONGS

## May Your Name Ever Be Praised

by Camille Tam

Gracious Lord, Your work we see,  
Declare Your pow'r and majesty.  
Tender mercies cover each one,  
In righteousness Your work is done!  
You meet every longing need,  
Lord, You are good indeed!

Chorus:

My God and my King, to You I will sing  
In praise of Your greatness and glory  
I'll rise up and bless Your holiness  
And goodness all of my days,  
May Your Name ever be praised!

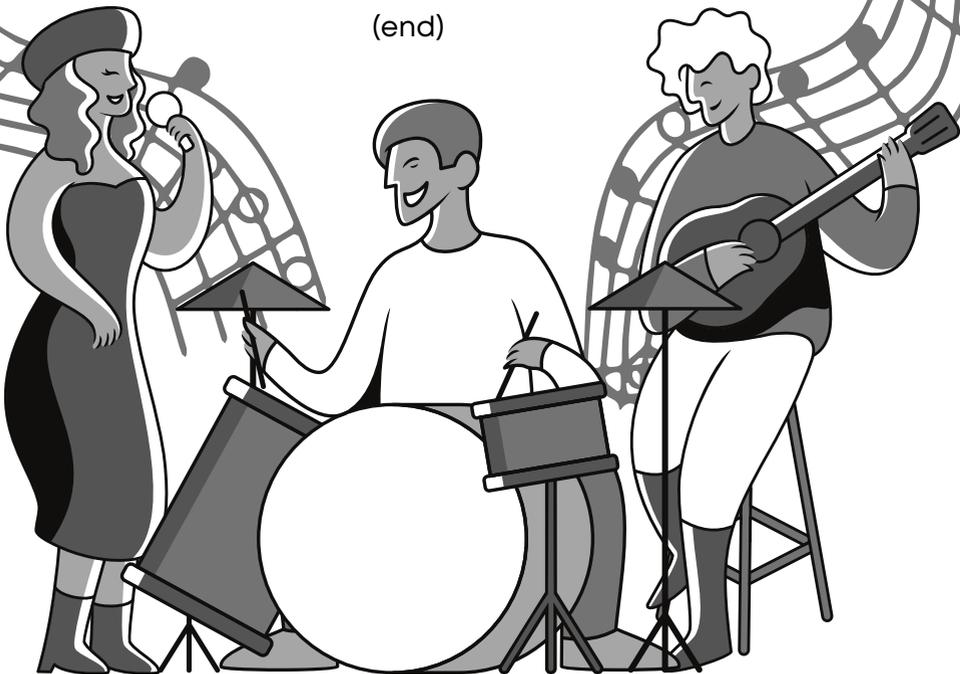
Gracious Lord, You hear us call,  
You lift us up whene'er we fall.  
We will never need to fear  
You have promised to be near.  
Your love is love beyond degree,  
You prove Yourself so faithfully!

Chorus

Your greatness is unsearchable;  
Your glory unmistakable!  
Your majesty is ev'rywhere  
Splendour and praise we must declare.

My God and my King, to You I will sing  
In praise of Your greatness and glory  
I'll rise up and bless Your holiness  
And goodness all of my days,  
May Your Name ever be praised!  
May Your Name ever be praised!

(end)



# Before You I Kneel

by Keith and Kristyn Getty

Before You I kneel, my Master and Maker,  
To offer the work of my hands.  
For this is the day You've given Your servant;  
I will rejoice and be glad  
For the strength I have to live and breathe,  
For each skill Your grace has given me,  
For the needs and opportunities  
That will glorify Your great name.

Before You I kneel and ask for Your goodness  
To cover the work of my hands.  
For patience and peace to shape all my labor,  
Your grace for thorns in my path.  
Flow within me like a living stream,  
Wear away the stones of pride and greed  
'Til Your ways are dwelling deep in me  
And a harvest of life is grown.

Before You we kneel, our Master and Maker;  
Establish the work of our hands.  
And order our steps to seek first Your kingdom  
In every small and great task.  
May we live the gospel of Your grace,  
Serve Your purpose in our fleeting days,  
Then our lives will bring eternal praise  
And all glory to Your great name.  
(end)



# REVIEW OF GOD'S WORD

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

## **YWS MESSAGE - 28 MAY 2022**

### **“PLEASE, TAKE MY BLESSING THAT IS BROUGHT TO YOU” GENESIS 33:8-20**

#### **INTRODUCTION**

1. The meeting between two brothers, twins
  - a. Not met for 2 decades
  - b. Jacob bowed 7 times
  - c. Esau ran to Jacob, embraced him, fell on his neck and kissed him
  - d. Reconciliation
  
2. Tears were shed
  - a. For many lost years
  - b. For sorrow felt
  - c. Regret for all the pain
  - d. Tears of joy

#### **The question of Esau**

“Then Esau said, “What *do you mean by* all this company which I met?”  
Genesis 33:8a

1. Esau had seen the company of things
  
2. The company... a reference to the huge gift from Jacob
  
3. Esau was puzzled by the gift
  
4. It was something that he had never experienced before
  - a. The huge gift was unexpected
  - b. Jacob had never given him anything before



## The answer of Jacob

And he said, "*These are* to find favour in the sight of my lord."

Genesis 33:8b

1. Jacob was open and candid
  - a. He shared openly his true intention in giving the gift
  - b. Generous in his giving
  - c. He revealed why he planned the gift for Esau
    - i. He wanted Esau to look on him favourably
    - ii. It was his way of apologising to Esau for his bad behaviour
  
2. But Jacob was still hesitant
  - a. Jacob addressed Esau as my lord
  - b. He was still afraid of Esau
    - i. Esau had his 400 men with him
    - ii. Jacob was not a hunter or warrior
    - iii. Esau could easily destroy him and his family

## The brotherly response of Esau

"But Esau said, "I have enough, my brother; keep what you have for yourself."

Genesis 33:9

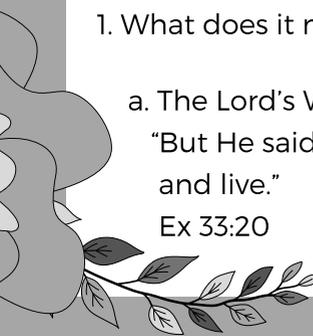
1. Esau called Jacob his brother
  
2. It was Jacob who had been avaricious and covetous... not Esau
  
3. Esau's reply
  - a. Kindness
  - b. Graciousness
  - c. Brotherly love

- 
4. Esau was not looking for anything
    - a. He had enough
    - b. Enough to maintain 400 men
    - c. He wanted to return the gift

### **Jacob persuades Esau to receive his gift**

“And Jacob said, “No, please, if I have now found favour in your sight, then receive my present from my hand, inasmuch as I have seen your face as though I had seen the face of God, and you were pleased with me. Please, take my blessing that is brought to you, because God has dealt graciously with me, and because I have enough.” So he urged him, and he took it.”

Genesis 33:10-11

1. Jacob’s insistence for Esau to receive the gift
    - a. A confirmation of Esau’s favour upon him
    - b. Jacob planned to give the gift to Esau
    - c. He was no longer being avaricious and covetous
    - d. He was sharing his blessings with Esau
  2. Seeing Esau’s face
    - a. He saw Esau’s face differently
    - b. He saw “the face of God”
    - c. He believed that Esau was pleased with him
- 

### **Seeing the face of God**

1. What does it mean to see the face of God?
  - a. The Lord’s Word to Moses

“But He said, “You cannot see My face; for no man shall see Me, and live.”

Ex 33:20

b. Idiomatic phrases

i. The house of God

Gen 28:16-19

ii. Peniel... the face of God

Gen 32:30

c. The meaning of seeing God face to face

i. To be understood figuratively

ii. Closeness with God

2. Seeing the face of God in his reconciliation with Esau

a. "As though"

b. Recalling the encounter with the Angel of the Lord

i. The event of being reconciled to Esau

ii. Caused Jacob to recall this recent encounter with  
the Angel of the Lord

Gen 32:24-30

iii. Jacob wrestled with the Angel of the Lord

iv. Named the place Peniel as he saw the face of God

c. Closeness with God

i. Seeing how God had been there with him right from the  
beginning

ii. Seeing how He had changed him

iii. Seeing how He had also changed Esau

iv. Seeing the restored relationship between Esau and him

3. Reasons for Esau to receive the gift

a. A polite plea... "Please"

b. Spiritual reasoning from Jacob

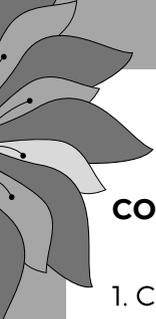
i. Sharing God's blessing that was meant for Esau

ii. God had graciously given to Jacob

iii. He had more than enough

c. Esau accepted Jacob's explanation and received the gift





## CONCLUSION

1. Cultivation of faith
  - a. Commencement of faith Gen 28
  - b. Limited faith Gen 29-31
  - c. A more mature faith Gen 32, 33
  
2. Change of heart Gen 32, 33
  - a. Change in how we see things
  - b. Change in how we see others
  
3. Closeness with God
  - a. Relating closer to God in prayer
  - b. Closeness in seeing God's hand in our lives





# REFLECTION

Written by

*Lorraine Lai*



The Jacob we see in Genesis 33 is now "Israel". With his new name, Jacob's past sins were forgiven and the future gleamed with opportunity. Jacob recognised that God was One whom he should rely on and it was with this strengthened faith that he sought to be reconciled with Esau.

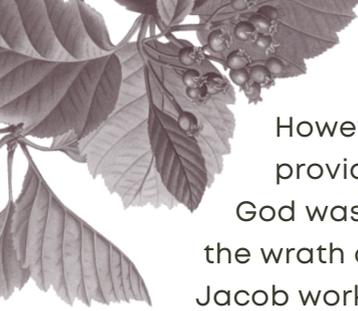
### **The fear of seeing Esau's face**

However, it was still with some fear that Jacob anticipated seeing Esau's face. We read in Genesis 32:20, "I will appease him with the present that goes before me, and afterward I will see his face; perhaps he will accept me." Jacob wanted Esau's acceptance, hoping that his gift would appease his brother.

### **Finally seeing God's face**

With some hesitation and fear, Jacob met his brother. However, when the brothers eventually saw each other, Esau readily forgave Jacob! It was not Jacob's gifts that caused Esau to look upon him with favour. It was God who had provided for Jacob. He went before Jacob and caused Esau's change of heart.

It was only then did Jacob see God's face (Genesis 33:10).



However, this was not the first time God had provided for Jacob. Behind Jacob's many fears, God was protecting him. When Jacob first fled from the wrath of Esau (Genesis 28), God was there. When Jacob worked 14 hard and arduous years under Laban to marry Rachel (Genesis 29), God was there. When Jacob had conflicts with Laban, and left for Canaan (Genesis 31), God was there also.

Why was Jacob's recognition of God's face so delayed?

### **The Challenge of Seeing God's face**

Jacob's fears blinded him from seeing God. Not only so, it was also evident that Jacob did not pause to appreciate God's involvement in his challenges nor did he make a conscious effort to seek the Lord's face in the many difficulties that he faced.

Like Jacob, I realise that there have been several challenges that I've met, struggled with and gotten over, without pausing to think about the Lord and His involvement. The effects of facing challenges, and getting through them without attempting to seek the Lord's face are adverse, tiring the spirit.

As I anticipate future challenges, this lesson serves as a reminder to recognise that behind the challenges of life, the Lord works and provides. May we be challenged to seize the opportunity to appreciate the Lord's involvement in every difficulty that may come our way!



# POETRY CORNER

## LORD GOD OF MY MASTER ABRAHAM

Prayer is truly a very personal thing;  
It involves a person's innermost being.  
Abraham's servant prayed to his master's God;  
How did he actually pray to the LORD?

Abraham was his master who believed in God;  
His prayer was formally offered to this same LORD.  
He did not presume that God would hear his prayer;  
But he did believe that the God of Abraham really cares.

He spoke to God about what he thought a good wife should be;  
She ought to be kind and courteous to strangers such as he.  
She should have a heart that cares for man and beast;  
These were some qualities in a wife, at the very least.

He prayed that God would show kindness to his master Abraham;  
He desired that the LORD would reveal His merciful hand.  
Matters of the heart are not things to be taken lightly;  
The LORD's mercy must be sought in prayer humbly.

Charles Tan

Inspiration: Genesis 24:10-14

# ANNOUNCEMENT

## Fellowship Group Meetings

YPG 1-3 & YAG 1-2 will be taking a break for the month of June. May you take time to review the lessons learnt thus far, and we look forward to the resumption of our fellowship group meetings in July!

# NEXT YWS



**11 JUNE 2022**

Message: "Dinah, the daughter of Jacob"

Text: Genesis 34:1-12

Jacob had found a personal relationship with God, and had settled down in the promised land with his family. Unfortunately, this was yet to be "happily ever after". Living in the land of Canaan, among the Hivites, served its own set of challenges.

One day, Jacob received an appalling news that deeply grieved him. Dinah, his only daughter, had been sexually violated by the prince of the country! This ungodly act that disgraced Dinah infuriated Jacob's sons, and would have left Dinah emotionally shattered.

What lessons can we learn from this heart-wrenching story? Join us at Youth Worship next week to find out.





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