

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!

Praise the LORD! He who arrayed His glorious power through the 10 formidable plagues is the God whom we worship. Surely, the heart is moved that the LORD would draw close to us. Let us offer our whole heart to praise the LORD this afternoon!



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COME AND WORSHIP

THE FEAR OF THE LORD

How do we know when we have truly understood the works of God? Not only will we have a more intimate understanding of the Person of God, our hearts would also be impacted to fear the LORD.

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom;
A good understanding have all those who do His commandments.
His praise endures forever.

PSALM 111:10

Appropriate responses to the great and mighty works of God:

1. To fear God
2. To seek a good understanding of His commandments
3. To obey His Word
4. To offer enduring praises to Him

WISDOM IS FOUND WHEN WE LEARN TO FEAR GOD

A sample of the reality of this truth can be observed in the Egyptians' response to God's forewarning of the seventh plague. The LORD had revealed to Pharaoh and his servants about an impending hailstorm that would strike every man and every beast in the field dead. Along with this warning, a clear command was given to gather the livestock and people back home to preserve their lives (Exodus 9:19).

The great and powerful works of God in the preceding plagues should have humbled Pharaoh and the people to acknowledge and fear the LORD. While Pharaoh's heart remained hardened, the Bible noted the response of some of his servants who learnt to fear the word of the LORD (Exodus 9:20).

1. They understood God's commandment
2. They obeyed and gathered their servants and livestock to safety
3. These were saved from the deadly hailstorm
4. They would be most glad to have heeded the LORD's word!
5. But this does not mean that they had come to faith in God.
They only feared Him.

CULTIVATING THE FEAR OF THE LORD

As we continue our study of God's glorious work in redeeming the Israelites out of the hands of the Egyptians, let us open our hearts to be impacted by the LORD. May we choose the excellent response of fearing Him and heeding His word of instruction!

A genuine reverence for the LORD will see us pursue and possess a good understanding of His commandments and offer our full obedience to do them. One who is committed to doing the commandments of God can look forward to a life specially blessed by the LORD, and the enduring praise of God would naturally ensue!



ORDER OF WORSHIP

YOUTH WORSHIP SERVICE

9 SEPTEMBER 2023

Prelude

Pianist: Gabrielle Wan

Call to Worship

Pastor Benjamin Quah

Opening Prayer

Pastor Benjamin Quah

Song Leading

1. I'm Singing

Stanley Woo

2. Find Us Faithful

Pianist: Gabrielle Wan

Scripture Reading:

Exodus 9:13-35

Asia Tan, Laura Chan,
Chloe Tang & Janelle Tan

Pastoral Prayer

Pastor Mark Tan

Message:

"I will send all My plagues to your
very heart"

Pastor Benjamin Quah

Text: Exodus 9:14

Closing Prayer

Pastor Benjamin Quah

Offering

Postlude

Pianist: Gabrielle Wan

MY NOTES

9 SEPTEMBER 2023

**“I WILL SEND ALL MY PLAGUES
TO YOUR VERY HEART”**

EXODUS 9:14

WORSHIP SONGS



I'm Singing

By Kari Jobe

Only one name lasts forever,
Only one fame stands alone;
Only one King has an anthem
That goes on and on and on.

And I'm singing to the God
Who brings redemption to the nations;
Kings and princes bow to Him in praise;

And I'm singing to the God
Who wrote the book on our salvation,
To the One who covers me in grace,
I'm singing.

Only one Word in the beginning,
Only one Truth will prevail;
Only one Love brings a freedom,
Only one Man took the nails.

And I'm singing to the God
Who brings redemption to the nations;
Kings and princes bow to Him in praise;



And I'm singing to the God
Who wrote the book on our salvation,
To the One who covers me in grace,
I'm singing.

Praise, praise to the Saviour,
Praise to the Lamb of God;
Praise in all of His splendour,
Praise for saving my life.

And I'm singing to the God
Who brings redemption to the nations;
Kings and princes bow to Him in praise;

And I'm singing to the God
Who wrote the book on our salvation,
To the One who covers me in grace,
To the One who covers me in grace,
I'm singing.

(end)



Find Us Faithful

By John Mohr

We're pilgrims on the journey
Of the narrow road,
And those who've gone before us
Line the way.

Cheering on the faithful,
Encouraging the weary,
Their lives a stirring testament
To God's sustaining grace.

Surrounded by so great
A cloud of witnesses,
Let us run the race
Not only for the prize,

But as those who've gone before us.
Let us leave to those behind us,
The heritage of faithfulness
Passed on through godly lives.

O may all who come behind us
Find us faithful,
May the fire of our devotion
Light their way.
May the footprints that we leave,
Lead them to believe,
And the lives we live
Inspire them to obey.



O may all who come behind us
Find us faithful.

After all our hopes and dreams
Have come and gone,
And our children sift through all
We've left behind,

May the clues that they discover,
And the mem'ries they uncover,
Become the light that leads them,
To the road we each must find.

O may all who come behind us
Find us faithful,
May the fire of our devotion
Light their way.
May the footprints that we leave,
Lead them to believe,
And the lives we live
Inspire them to obey.
O may all who come behind us
Find us faithful.

(end)

REVIEW OF GOD'S WORD

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

YWS MESSAGE - 2 SEPTEMBER 2023

“THE LORD WILL MAKE A DIFFERENCE”

EXODUS 9:4

INTRODUCTION

1. Four plagues had taken place
 - a. Blood Exodus 7
 - b. Frogs Exodus 8
 - c. Lice Exodus 8
 - d. Flies Exodus 8
2. Response from Pharaoh
 - a. Negative
 - b. Hardening of the heart
 - c. Deception

A COMMAND REITERATED

1 Then the LORD said to Moses, “Go in to Pharaoh and tell him, ‘Thus says the LORD God of the Hebrews: “Let My people go, that they may serve Me.

2 For if you refuse to let *them* go, and still hold them,

Exodus 9:1-2

1. Thus says the LORD God of the Hebrews
2. Let My people go

3. That they may serve Me

These words have been repeated many times already
But they had gone unheeded!

A WORD OF WARNING: A SEVERE PESTILENCE ON EGYPTIAN LIVESTOCK

Behold, the hand of the LORD will be on your cattle in the field, on the horses, on the donkeys, on the camels, on the oxen, and on the sheep—a very severe pestilence.

Exodus 9:3

1. The hand of the LORD
2. A very severe pestilence forewarned
 - a. Cattle
 - b. Horses
 - c. Donkeys
 - d. Camels
 - e. Oxen
 - f. Sheep

A DIFFERENCE WILL BE MADE

And the LORD will make a difference between the livestock of Israel and the livestock of Egypt. So nothing shall die of all *that* belongs to the children of Israel.””

Exodus 9:4

1. Livestock of Israel
2. Livestock of Egypt
3. No livestock of the children of Israel will die!

APPOINTMENT OF THE PLAGUE

5 Then the LORD appointed a set time, saying, "Tomorrow the LORD will do this thing in the land."

6 So the LORD did this thing on the next day, and all the livestock of Egypt died; but of the livestock of the children of Israel, not one died.

Exodus 9:5-6

1. The livestock of the Egyptians died
2. The livestock of the children of Israel survived

CHECKING OF FACTS

Then Pharaoh sent, and indeed, not even one of the livestock of the Israelites was dead. But the heart of Pharaoh became hard, and he did not let the people go

Exodus 9:7

1. Pharaoh sent his servants to check
2. The livestock of the Egyptians had died
3. No livestock of the children of Israel had died
4. But the heart of the Pharaoh remained hardened
5. He refused to obey the LORD

THE SIXTH PLAGUE: BOILS

8 So the LORD said to Moses and Aaron, "Take for yourselves handfuls of ashes from a furnace, and let Moses scatter it toward the heavens in the sight of Pharaoh.

9 And it will become fine dust in all the land of Egypt, and it will cause boils that break out in sores on man and beast throughout all the land of Egypt."

10 Then they took ashes from the furnace and stood before Pharaoh, and Moses scattered *them* toward heaven. And *they* caused boils that break out in sores on man and beast.

11 And the magicians could not stand before Moses because of the boils, for the boils were on the magicians and on all the Egyptians.

12 But the LORD hardened the heart of Pharaoh; and he did not heed them, just as the LORD had spoken to Moses.

Exodus 9:8-12

1. Moses will scatter ashes from a furnace
2. The ashes would become boils on both man and beast
3. The magicians were astounded and defeated by this plague

THE LORD IN HARDENING THE HEART OF THE PHARAOH

But the LORD hardened the heart of Pharaoh; and he did not heed them, just as the LORD had spoken to Moses.

Exodus 9:12

1. This was purposive
2. The Pharaoh's heart was already hardened
3. The Lord's action was not evil in any way
4. Pharaoh's heart remained as it was – "Hardened!"

CONCLUSION

1. The heart
 - a. It must be carefully guarded
 - b. Never let it harden
2. God's Plan
 - a. He had a plan
 - b. These plagues were a part of an overall plan
3. Pharaoh and Egypt
 - a. They must know that the LORD is God
 - b. He is to be revered
 - c. He is to be obeyed

CHOSEN BY GOD TO BE DIFFERENT

By Ashley Tan

Last week's lesson was taken from Exodus 9:1-12 where we learnt about how God has chosen us to be different and set apart from the world.

“The LORD will make a difference”

Pharaoh's heart was hardened and thus he still refused to let the Israelites go, thus the LORD warned that a fifth plague would befall Egypt—a severe pestilence. However, the Israelites, being God's chosen people, were differentiated and set apart from the Egyptians. Thus, their livestock would be protected. It reads in Exodus 9:4, “And the LORD will make a difference between the livestock of Israel and the livestock of Egypt. So nothing shall die of all that belongs to the children of Israel.” And when it came to pass that “the LORD did this thing on the next day” and the pestilence befell Egypt, Pharaoh sent his servants to check and indeed, not one of the livestock of the Israelites was diseased while all the livestock of the Egyptians had died. This was proof and clear indication that the LORD had made the Israelites different from the Egyptians.



God's plan for us to be different

Belonging to God means being different from the rest of the world. In 1 Peter 2:9 it reads, "But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvellous light." Just as the LORD had elected the Israelites as His special people, He has chosen us to be set apart from the world and He has a plan to make us different – to be children of light. God will also power this plan, and the difference will be proven and revealed to us. This difference the LORD makes is manifested and shown in distinct and visible ways. There ought to be a clear difference between us and the world in terms of how we conduct ourselves, relate to others, face challenges and live.

Darkness in the world

However, in this increasingly complex world where darkness is more abundant than light, it can be easy to be influenced by the world. The world has its own beliefs, it is fickle and ever changing. There are shifting social norms and ideologies, many of which are portrayed through the media and seek to destabilise our faith. These widespread worldly beliefs that are contrary to the word of God have influenced many into thinking in the worldly way. For me, I see this influence in daily school life. Many have adopted worldly views concerning issues like gender identity, homosexuality, atheism, evolution –and are convicted by them. It has become what is accepted and what is deemed as good in the eyes of the world. And because of their sheer presence, it is easy to become more tolerant and accepting of these issues, or choose to ignore them.

There were many times when I had chosen to abstain from difficult conversations, knowing that presenting the truth is often received badly. Besides, there are many Christians who have adopted worldly beliefs. Yet knowing God has a plan for me to be unlike the world, I am challenged to exercise my practical and personal part in allowing God to make me different. One verse that encourages me is taken from John 15:19, “If you were of the world, the world would love its own. Yet because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you.” Instead of allowing myself to be influenced by the judgment of others, I want to be unafraid in asserting and defending the truth. I am also seeking to exercise my part through girding myself with His word and praying for wisdom to help me navigate and discern right from wrong. Through having a steadfast faith, God can set me apart from the world, He makes all the difference.

Our part

While God has a plan for us to be different from the world, in order for this difference to be revealed and proven, there is a practical and personal part we must play. This means staying away from things or people that corrupt the soul and draw us away from God—staying away from darkness. God has called us out of the world, but we also have to make a choice. After all, darkness and light cannot coexist together, we can only be in one or the other. Nevertheless, when we walk closely with God and exercise our practical part, He will power His plan and reveal the distinct difference He can make in us. And the closer we walk with God, the more distinct the difference.



Two Dreams Shared

Dreams in the ancient days were special;
God's special messages were deeply spiritual.
Joseph was the recipient of two divine dreams;
But his dreams were not at all esteemed.

In the first dream, his brothers' sheaves bowed;
This was offensive to the brothers who cried out.
How could he say that his brothers would bow to him?
This dream only deepened their brother's bent to sin.

All the stars bowed to Joseph's star in the second dream;
Even the sun and the moon also bowed to him.
Jacob was bemused when he heard Joseph speak;
Wisdom to discern spiritual things, one must seek.

The two dreams shared soured family ties further;
Greatly grew the deep hatred of Joseph's brothers.
They could not imagine that they would ever bow the knee;
Only time would reveal the potent power of this mystery.

Charles Tan
Inspiration: Genesis 37:5-11

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Ministry in Bethel

Pastor Charles Tan sends his greetings from Perth. He is ministering in Bethel IPC this week (3-10 September 2023) as the church celebrates her 29th Anniversary. Let us share in the joy of God's faithfulness to the church!



YW NEWSLETTER (9 SEPTEMBER 2023)

Let us encourage each other in our commitment to memorise and meditate on the Scriptures. In God's word, we find the instruction and inspiration on how we are to live as His people. In this Newsletter, Grace Pang shares her meditation on Psalm 111:1 about praising the LORD with her whole heart!

Scan QR code to read Newsletter



NEXT YWS



16 SEPTEMBER 2023

Message: "Do you not yet know that Egypt is destroyed?"

Text: Exodus 10:7

Thus far, we have looked at seven plagues that descended upon Egypt, each one progressively more severe. The plague of the hailstorm had caused widespread destruction and even claimed many lives. Was Pharaoh aware of the devastation in his country? Would this move his persistently hardened heart?

Join us at Youth Worship next week to understand, and be warned against the serious problem of a hardened heart.



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