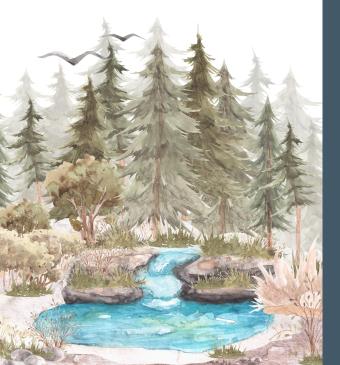
## Youth Worships

BETHANY INDEPENDENT-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

## WELCOME TO YOUTH WORSHIP!

There is gladness in returning to the house of the LORD for worship! May your heart be greatly refreshed by God's Presence and His life-giving Word!



## IN THIS Bulletin

**01** GREETINGS

**02** COME AND WORSHIP

**04** ORDER OF WORSHIP

**05** MY NOTES

**06** Worship songs

**09** REVIEW OF GOD'S WORD

15 REFLECTIONS

**21** POETRY CORNER

**22** ANNOUNCEMENTS

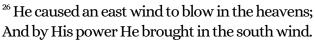
23 NEXT YWS

## **COME AND WORSHIP**

## The Wrath of God

The awe-inspiring sight of manna raining down from heaven every day did not generate a fear of the LORD nor a heart of gratitude among the people. Instead, their ungrateful and greedy hearts complained as they craved intensely for meat (Number 11:4-6). Graciously and by an incredible display of power, God satisfied their cravings by providing quails aplenty.

PAGE 2



<sup>27</sup> He also rained meat on them like the dust, Feathered fowl like the sand of the seas;

<sup>28</sup> And He let *them* fall in the midst of their camp, All around their dwellings.

<sup>29</sup>So they ate and were well filled, For He gave them their own desire.

<sup>30</sup>They were not deprived of their craving; But while their food *was* still in their mouths,

<sup>31</sup> The wrath of God came against them, And slew the stoutest of them, And struck down the choice *men* of Israel.

PSALM 78:26-31



- 1. God, in His power, commanded the wind
- Psalm 78:26
- 2. Innumerable quails landed in the midst of Israel's camp

Psalm 78:27-28

- a. Like dust
- b. Like the sand of the seas
- 3. Their craving for meat was graciously satisfied Psalm 78:30
- 4. However, God's wrath was incited
  - a. How much could the children of Israel eat?
  - b. They stayed up overnight, across two days to gather the quail

Numbers 11:32

- c. Quite possibly, they ate the quail without killing them in the proper way commanded by God
- d. Consequently, God struck them with a plague Psal while the food was still in their mouth Num

Psalm 78:30-31; Numbers 11:33

#### **CULTIVATING A GRATEFUL HEART**

Consumed by their cravings and greed, the children of Israel were blind to God's glorious provision. No word of gratitude nor spontaneous worship were noted – the people had forgotten the LORD! Even the stoutest men, and the choice men of Israel were struck dead by the wrath of God.

Today, we live in great abundance! Do we possess hearts that are grateful to the LORD? Or are our desires insatiable, leaving us discontent and constantly demanding more from God? Like the children of Israel, we can be blessed so richly, yet still be blind to God's gracious provision. Let us note the LORD's wondrous provision in our lives and receive them with heartfelt gratitude!

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

YOUTH WORSHIP SERVICE 14 JUNE 2025

**Prelude** Pianist: Lorraine Lai

Call to Worship Pastor Charles Tan

**Opening Prayer** Pastor Charles Tan

Song Leading Amanda Lai and Jovan Wong

How Can I Keep From Singing
 Lord Jesus, We Adore You
 Pianist: Lorraine Lai
 Cajonist: Rayne Quek

**Scripture Reading**Thaddeus Heng and Laura Chan
Text: Numbers 20:1-13

Pastoral Prayer Pastor Moses Kwek

**Message** Pastor Charles Tan

"Speak to the rock"
Text: Numbers 20:1-13

Closing Prayer Pastor Charles Tan

Offering

Postlude Pianist: Lorraine Lai

## **MY NOTES**

## 14 JUNE 2025 "SPEAK TO THE ROCK"

NUMBERS 20:1-13

## WORSHIP SONGS

# How Can T Keep From Singing

By Chris Tomlin

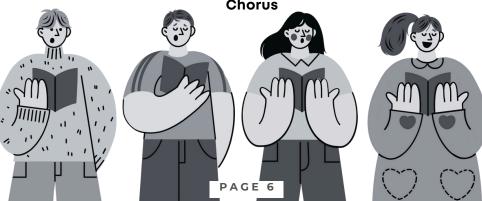
There is an endless song, Echoes in my soul, I hear the music ring. And though the storms may come, I am holding on, to the rock I cling.

#### Chorus

How can I keep from singing Your praise? How can I ever say enough, How amazing is Your love? How can I keep from shouting Your name? I know I am loved by the King And it makes my heart want to sing.

I will lift my eyes in the darkest night, For I know my Saviour lives. And I will walk with You Knowing You'll see me through. And sing the songs You give.









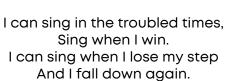












I can sing 'cause You pick me up, Sing 'cause You're there.

I can sing 'cause You hear me Lord,
When I call to You in prayer.
I can sing with my last breath,
Sing for I know
That I'll sing with the angels,
And the saints around the throne.





How can I keep from singing Your praise?
How can I ever say enough,
How amazing is Your love?
How can I keep from shouting Your name?
I know I am loved by the King
And it makes my heart;
I am loved by the King, and it makes my heart;
I am loved by the King,



(end)

And it makes my heart want to sing.

PAGE 7















## Lord Jesys. We Adore You

By Gabriel Ou



#### Verse 1

Our Lord Jesus came to save us By dying on the cross. He showed His love and mercy -To seek and save the lost.

#### Chorus

Lord Jesus, we adore You.
Our hearts, we bow before You
For You alone are worthy
Of praises that we sing.

Lord Jesus, how we love You. Our lives, we lay before You, To serve You now and always And love You all our days.

#### Verse 2

Our Lord Jesus, He will help us By praying for our sins. He brings us all before God To stand forgiven, clean.

#### Chorus

(end)





## **REVIEW OF GOD'S WORD**

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

### YWS MESSAGE - 31 MAY 2025 "BEHOLD, THE ROD OF AARON" NUMBERS 17

#### INTRODUCTION

- 1. To whom did God speak recorded in Numbers 17?
  - a. Those who complained had already been dealt with
  - b. He had a word for the children of Israel who survived God's judgments
- 2. Understanding what these people were like
  - a. They may not have been overtly hostile but they could still pose a threat
  - b. The Korah incident (Numbers 16) had left a huge scar
  - c. God referred to them as rebels
    - i. They were rebellious and stubborn (Psalm 78:8)
    - ii. These rebels refused to accept the judgments of God
    - iii. They harboured ill feelings towards God and His tabernacle

## THE MEANS BY WHICH GOD PLANNED TO RID HIMSELF OF THE COMPLAINTS OF THE PEOPLE

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<sup>1</sup> And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying: <sup>2</sup> "Speak to the children of Israel, and get from them a rod from each father's house, all their leaders according to their fathers' houses—twelve rods. Write each man's name on his rod. <sup>3</sup> And you shall write Aaron's name on the rod of Levi. For there shall be one rod for the head of *each* father's house. <sup>4</sup> Then you shall place them in the tabernacle of meeting before the Testimony, where I meet with you. <sup>5</sup> And it shall be *that* the rod of the man whom I choose will blossom; thus I will rid Myself of the complaints of the children of Israel, which they make against you."

<sup>6</sup> So Moses spoke to the children of Israel, and each of their leaders gave him a rod apiece, for each leader according to their fathers' houses, twelve rods; and the rod of Aaron *was* among their rods. <sup>7</sup> And Moses placed the rods before the LORD in the tabernacle of witness.

#### Numbers 17:1-7

- 1. The significance of the twelve rods
  - a. They represented the tribes
  - b. They represented the heads or leaders from the respective tribes
  - c. They represented their authority as leaders
- 2. Specific mention of Aaron's name
  - a. God singled out Aaron from the tribe of Levi by name
  - b. Moses was to write Aaron's name on the rod of Levi
  - c. For the other tribes, Moses was to write the name of whoever gave of their rod

- 3. The selection made by God
  - a. God would identify a man and that man's rod would blossom

- b. This would become a very clear way of identifying the man chosen by God
- c. In this manner, God would rid Himself of their complaints made against Moses

#### THE MEANING OF THE SIGN GIVEN BY GOD

<sup>8</sup> Now it came to pass on the next day that Moses went into the tabernacle of witness, and behold, the rod of Aaron, of the house of Levi, had sprouted and put forth buds, had produced blossoms and yielded ripe almonds. <sup>9</sup> Then Moses brought out all the rods from before the LORD to all the children of Israel; and they looked, and each man took his rod.

<sup>10</sup> And the LORD said to Moses, "Bring Aaron's rod back before the Testimony, to be kept as a sign against the rebels, that you may put their complaints away from Me, lest they die." <sup>11</sup> Thus did Moses; just as the LORD had commanded him, so he did.

Numbers 17:8-11

- 1. Beholding the rod of Aaron
  - a. Moses witnessed something amazing and extraordinary
    - i. Of all the rods placed in the tabernacle, Aaron's had sprouted and put forth buds
    - ii. It had produced blossoms and yielded ripe almonds

- b. All the children of Israel beheld this too
  - i. They looked at all the rods after Moses brought them out from before God

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- ii. It was certainly obvious that Aaron's rod was clearly different from their rods
- 2. Aaron's rod was to be kept as a sign against the rebels
  - a. The sign of Aaron's rod brought with it a message against the rebels
    - i. Having beheld the rod, they also needed to understand the message behind it
    - ii. They needed to learn that Aaron was God's chosen man
    - iii. The serious consequence of death would follow if complaining didn't cease
    - iv. Moses was to use this sign and make their complaining to cease
  - b. The sign of Aaron's rod would serve as a memorial
    - i. To help the children of Israel remember
    - ii. To help the children of Israel keep hold of this vital lesson
    - iii. To enable them to recount these lessons to the next generation

## THE CHILDREN OF ISRAEL MADE NO ATTEMPT TO LEARN OR CHANGE

<sup>12</sup> So the children of Israel spoke to Moses, saying, "Surely we die, we perish, we all perish! <sup>13</sup> Whoever even comes near the tabernacle of the LORD must die. Shall we all utterly die?"

Numbers 17:12-13

- 1. God had done His part
  - a. He made the lesson clear for the people
  - b. He provided them with meaning and understanding
  - c. He helped them to remember this lesson
- 2. But the people failed to do their part
  - a. The rebels
    - i. They were supposed to put their complaints away from God
    - ii. They failed to make any response
  - b. The children of Israel
    - i. They spoke out against God and His tabernacle by casting aspersions
    - ii. They did not humbly accept that they were wrong
    - iii. They refused to cease from their complaining and contending (cf. Numbers 20)
    - iv. They did not repent and turn from their wickedness

#### **RELEVANT LESSONS WE CAN LEARN**

- 1. Let us not remain in our sins
  - a. Let us not be rebellious and recalcitrant
  - b. Let us not repeat the same sins
  - c. Let us not refuse to change
- 2. Appropriate responses to help us address the problem of sin in our lives

JAM JOSE

- a. Behold what God is teaching us
- b. Find out what is the intended meaning of each lesson
- c. Remember these lessons by keeping them in our hearts
- d. Seek God for change

## REFLECTIONS

### YOUTH WORSHIP REFLECTIONS

## by Leon Lai

Hi everyone, welcome back to Youth Worship! At our last Youth Worship, we learnt from Numbers 17 about the budding of Aaron's rod - an infallible sign from God that Aaron was His chosen man for the priesthood. Despite this clear sign, the children of Israel remained stubborn in their ways and continued to complain against God.

The children of Israel persisted in their complaining nature despite having been corrected by God several times before. They even spoke against God and His tabernacle in response to His miracle. Whenever we are corrected or taught a lesson, we have the decision to choose how we respond. This decision is often influenced by our attitudes - with humility, we can learn from our mistakes and grow from them, but arrogance in our hearts prevents us from doing so. More often than not, our pride can cause us to sin even more, as seen by the Israelites who spoke against God after refusing to repent. For me, this lesson reveals the danger of pride and how it can blind a person and prevent them from changing their ways. Furthermore, pride can manifest in a variety of ways. Some of these include thinking that our thoughts and ways are better than God's or blaming God when things do not go our way. I am reminded of Proverbs 16:18, which reads:

> "Pride goes before destruction, And a haughty spirit before a fall."

In everything that we do, let us choose to remain humble and guard ourselves against any pride we may have in our hearts.

God instructed Moses to keep Aaron's rod as a memorial for the children of Israel to remember the lesson taught. When we learn new lessons, they leave an impact on us, but often only for a short while. The impact once felt slowly dissipates, and we tend to forget what was taught. This is evident in the Israelites who repeatedly made the same mistakes, be it a lack of trust in God or having a complaining spirit. Time and time again, God did His part by teaching the Israelites, and yet they did not learn. When it comes to learning God's word, we should first seek to understand what God is trying to teach us and respond by keeping these lessons in our hearts. God's word is precious and should not be taken lightly. By treasuring His word, it will help us to face the problems we encounter in life and to turn away from our sins.

### **Our Response**

As I reflect upon this lesson, our response should be to have the correct attitude - one that is willing to grow and learn. When we are corrected, let us have the humility to admit our mistakes and change our ways. Let us also seek to remember the lessons taught so that we will not end up in a cycle where we repeat our mistakes.



### **Youth Worship Reflections**

## By Vera Kang

Welcome back to Youth Worship! Two weeks ago, we learned about the need to respond appropriately to address the sin problems in our lives.

### A sign given by God: He had chosen Aaron

Prior to this incident, the children of Israel had been punished for complaining against the Lord. To make their complaining cease, God gave a sign to the children of Israel who had survived His judgements. Out of all the rods submitted by the leaders of each tribe, the Lord singled out Aaron's by asking Moses to "write (his) name on the rod of Levi'. (Numbers 17:3) God's choosing of Aaron became even clearer the next day, as only Aaron's rod blossomed. This was far from a natural occurrence—it was the Lord behind it all! He had chosen Aaron as the leader and caused his rod to blossom as a sign of His divine choice.

### The lack of repentance by the rebels

The rebels were meant to receive this sign from the Lord, repent and put away their complaints. However, they failed to respond positively to the given sign, choosing to continue in their wickedness instead. (Numbers 17:12-13) This made me reflect on whether I personally respond appropriately to the lessons which God has sought to teach me. Admittedly, with the many messages that are taught each week and many activities which seek to take up my time, I find myself failing to respond well to some lessons.



### To fulfill our part by responding well

Just as God did His part to teach the children of Israel to put away their complaints, He also seeks to teach us many lessons and also reveal our sin problems to us through Worship services, Sunday School, Church Camps and life experiences.

#### · To seek a deeper understanding of each lesson

To truly understand each lesson and change, the intended meaning of the lesson must first be discerned carefully. To do so, we must spend time reflecting on the lesson, to the point where we truly comprehend it! At a recent YPG 3 session, Pastor Ben Chong shared that we should not move on from a text until we fully understand it. It is easy to settle for a surface-level understanding of a lesson, but instead, I am seeking to practise understanding each lesson on a deeper level!

#### · To seek the Lord for change

Beyond understanding a lesson, an appropriate response must also involve repentance and change. But our spirit can remain unrepentant and resistant to change without God's help. Psalm 32:9 reads:

"Do not be like the horse *or* like the mule, *Which* have no understanding, Which must be harnessed with bit and bridle, Else they will not come near you."

As sinners, our natural inclination is to stubbornly continue in our sinful ways like an obstinate 'horse' or 'mule', as exemplified by the children of Israel. Personally, I find this true for myself as at times, I catch myself persisting in the same sin of pride, as I try to rely on my own strength rather than relying on the Lord. Worse still, I find it easy to come up with self-justifications such as "I have no time to address this sin now" or "It is easier to rely on myself first." However, against our innate stubbornness, the way we can respond well is revealed to us in the verses before:

I acknowledged my sin to You,
And my iniquity I have not hidden.
I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD,"
And You forgave the iniquity of my sin.
(Psalm 32:5)

"I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will guide you with My eye. (Psalm 32:8)

It is the Lord alone who can do a work of change inside us. He offers to personally guide and correct us when we sin, but for Him to do so, we must repent and allow Him to help us. We can draw near to the Lord, firstly acknowledging our stubborn and sinful ways to Him (Psalm 32:5). Then, we can pray for a heart that is ready to listen and be corrected, so that the Lord may help us walk in His way instead!

#### To remember the lesson

The Lord helped the children of Israel remember this lesson by instructing Moses to keep Aaron's rod as a memorial. (Numbers 17:10) This would remind them not to return to their complaints, and it would also serve as a lesson for future generations.

Personally, I recognise how easily a lesson can be forgotten when it is neither reviewed nor hidden in my heart. In Deuteronomy 8, we read about God's warning to the children of Israel on the danger of failing to remember, encapsulated in the phrase "lest you forget". When we forget the lessons taught, we fall prey to the same sins and mistakes. Consequently, God has to teach us the same lessons again, sometimes through more severe chastening. Hence, to guard myself from a fleeting memory, I am seeking to hide the Lord's Word in my heart and apply it practically, so that each lesson becomes so much more real and memorable to me!

#### Conclusion

All in all, to respond well to the lessons taught, I believe we can begin by humbly asking the Lord what He is teaching us each and every day. We can also pray for a heart that is not stubborn, but ready to receive His Word, His instruction and His correction. Let us also hide the lessons in our hearts, so that we may not return to our sinful ways like the children of Israel!

### POETRY CORNER

## THE CHILDREN OF ISRAEL WERE FRUITFUL

Joseph had been appointed by the Pharaoh; He was to govern Egypt in its time of sorrow. There was a great famine that threatened to slay many; God raised Joseph so that he could fulfil his destiny.

The great famine also affected surrounding countries; Jacob and his small family had suffered terribly. In God's mercy, the children of Israel were spared; They lived in Goshen, a land that God had prepared.

There were but seventy people in Jacob's family; From this small number, the family grew immensely. The children of Israel were fruitful, blessed by God; They multiplied abundantly, protected by the LORD.

The children of Israel continued to grow mightily; The land of Egypt began to regard them with hostility. Would the children of Israel become a threat to the nation? The Egyptians began to look at them with consternation.

Charles Tan
Inspiration: Exodus 1:1-7



## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**



## JUNIOR CAMP (2-5 JUNE 2025) "MY LITTLE CHILDREN"

By God's marvellous mercy, our children had a wonderful experience at Camp! Thank God for all who helped make the Junior Camp a success. May the children continue to grow in their knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ!

## CONGRATULATIONS! IT'S A BOY!

We rejoice with Teacher Yuanli and Teacher Qing Yang on the gift of their second son, Dave Goh. Baby Dave was born on 9 June 2025. Thank God that both mother and baby are well!

## **NEXT YWS**



#### 21 JUNE 2025

**21** JUNE

Message: "Aaron shall be gathered to his people and die there" Text: Numbers 20:22-29

Aaron began as the spokesman of Moses (Exodus 4:16). He was then given the honour of being Israel's first high priest. While there were seasons of failure in Aaron's ministry and he was forbidden to enter the promised land because of his rebellion against the word of God (Numbers 20:24), the Lord mercifully gave him an honourable death. Aaron's office as the high priest was succeeded by his son Eleazer, and he died as foretold by God, on Mount Hor.

Join us at Youth Worship next week, to glean an understanding of the significance of funerary rites, and its relevance for us today.



## Bethany Independent-Presbyterian Church