

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!

God is One who searches all hearts and understands all the intent of the thoughts. (1 Chronicles 28:9). Let us come with sincerity of heart to worship our LORD in spirit and in truth!

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THEIR HEART WAS NOT STEADFAST WITH HIM

What drives you to seek the LORD? For the children of Israel who sinned repeatedly against God, it was affliction that compelled them to consider their Redeemer again.

“

³⁴ When He slew them, then they sought Him;
And they returned and sought earnestly for God.

³⁵ Then they remembered that God *was* their rock,
And the Most High God their Redeemer.

³⁶ Nevertheless they flattered Him with their mouth,
And they lied to Him with their tongue;

³⁷ For their heart was not steadfast with Him,
Nor were they faithful in His covenant.

”

PSALM 78:34-37

1. The LORD slew the children of Israel

Psalm 78:34a

a. This happened on a few occasions

b. God was exercising His righteous judgment on the rebellious nation



2. Then they sought Him

Psalm 78:34b



a. The people returned to the LORD

b. They sought Him earnestly

c. They remembered

Psalm 78:35

i. God was their rock

ii. He is the God Most High

iii. He is their Redeemer

3. What was the true state of the people as they sought the LORD?

a. With their lips, they flattered God

Psalm 78:36

b. But in their heart, they were far from God

Psalm 78:37

i. Their heart was not steadfast

ii. They were not faithful to their covenant with God

c. Israel sought the LORD out of fear, rather than faith

SEEK THE LORD WITH ALL YOUR HEART AND ALL YOUR SOUL

Do we see a reflection of Israel's unfaithfulness and insincerity in ourselves? In good times when life sails smoothly, we forget the LORD and often neglect to seek Him. Yet when trials and afflictions strike, we are quick to turn to Him for deliverance.

Even then, we may speak the right words, in professing faith in the LORD and confessing our sins. But are our words a true reflection of our hearts? Does our outward expression match inward consecration? What matters to God is for us to love Him with all our heart, with all our soul and with all our strength! (Deuteronomy 6:5)

Let us, with candour, examine our hearts and be stirred to seek the LORD consistently. Our Rock and our Redeemer is most deserving of our adoration and devotion!

ORDER OF WORSHIP

YOUTH WORSHIP SERVICE

28 JUNE 2025

Prelude

Pianist: Rayne Quek

Call to Worship

Pastor Charles Tan

Opening Prayer

Pastor Charles Tan

Song Leading

1. Through It All

2. I Lift My Eyes

Joel Tan and Lorraine Lai

Pianist: Rayne Quek and
Gabrielle Wan

Scripture Reading

Text: Numbers 21:1-9

Tessa Kang and Thaddeus Heng

Pastoral Prayer

Pastor Eugene Seow

Message

“Make a fiery serpent”

Text: Numbers 21:1-9

Pastor Charles Tan

Closing Prayer

Pastor Charles Tan

Offering

Postlude

Pianist: Gabrielle Wan

MY NOTES

28 JUNE 2025

“MAKE A FIERY SERPENT”

N U M B E R S 2 1 : 1 - 9

THROUGH IT ALL

By Reuben Morgan

You are forever in my life,
You see me through the seasons.
Cover me with Your hand,
And lead me in Your righteousness.
And I look to You,
And I wait on You.

Chorus

I'll sing to You, Lord, a hymn of love
For Your faithfulness to me.
I'm carried in everlasting arms,
You'll never let me go, through it all.

You are forever in my life,
You see me through the seasons.
Cover me with Your hand,
And lead me in Your righteousness.
And I look to You,
And I wait on You.

Chorus


(end)



I Lift My Eyes

By Laura Story

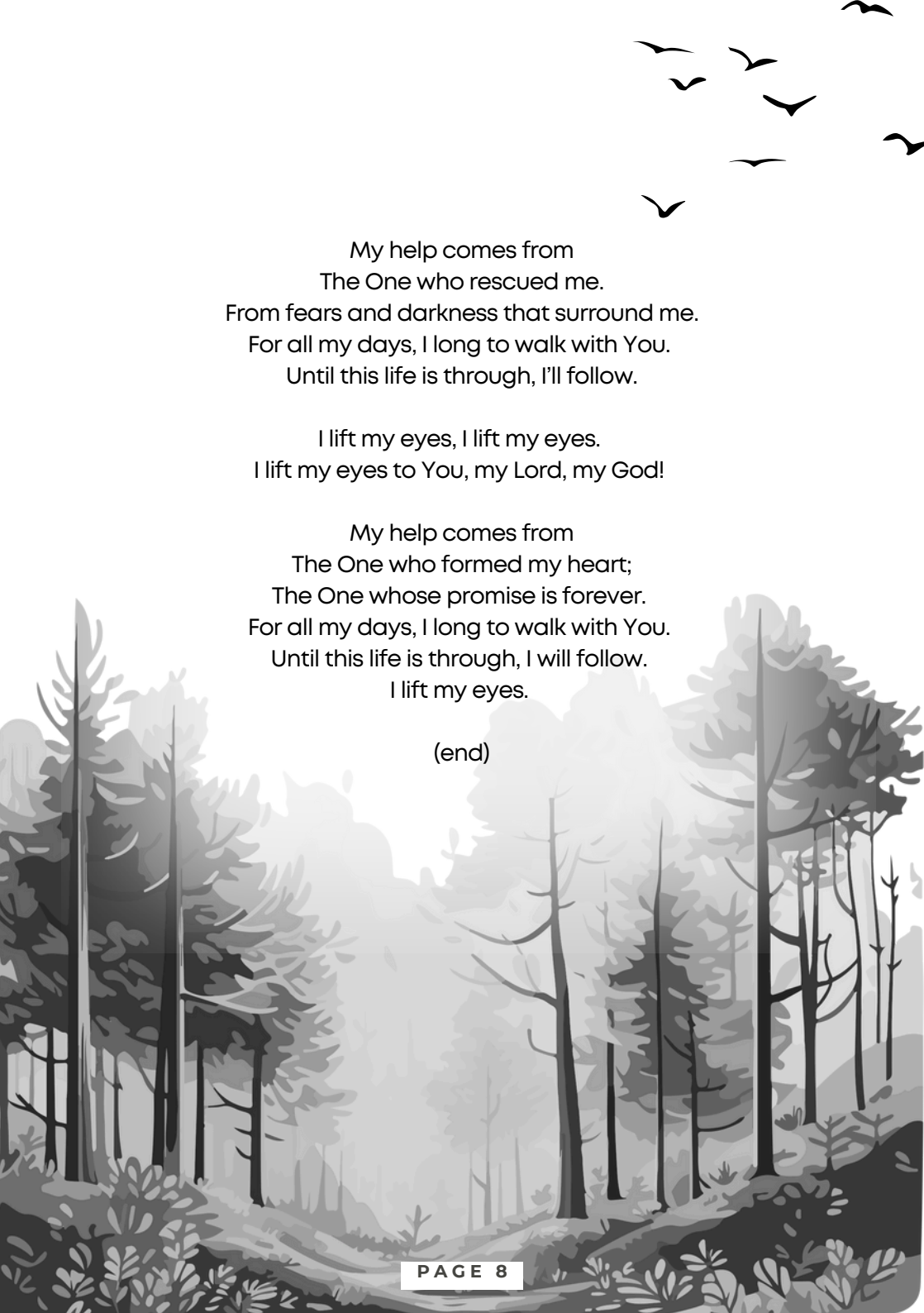
I lift my eyes to the hills.
Where does my help come from?
My help comes from the Lord, my God;
My Maker, Creator, my Sustainer, Protector,
My Defender, my Saviour forever.



My help comes from
The One who formed my heart.
The One whose promise is forever.

His love will keep my heart at peace
When I rest in Him, my Strong Tower.
His breath can breathe new life in me;
And tomorrow will bring happiness,
And each sorrow turned to dancing,
And His thoughts t'ward me bring joy overflowing.





My help comes from
The One who rescued me.
From fears and darkness that surround me.
For all my days, I long to walk with You.
Until this life is through, I'll follow.

I lift my eyes, I lift my eyes.
I lift my eyes to You, my Lord, my God!

My help comes from
The One who formed my heart;
The One whose promise is forever.
For all my days, I long to walk with You.
Until this life is through, I will follow.
I lift my eyes.

(end)

REVIEW OF GOD'S WORD

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

YWS MESSAGE - 21 JUNE 2025

“AARON SHALL BE GATHERED TO HIS PEOPLE AND DIE THERE NUMBERS 20:22-29

INTRODUCTION

²² Now the children of Israel, the whole congregation, journeyed from Kadesh and came to Mount Hor.

²³ And the LORD spoke to Moses and Aaron in Mount Hor by the border of the land of Edom, saying:

²⁴ “Aaron shall be gathered to his people, for he shall not enter the land which I have given to the children of Israel, because you rebelled against My word at the water of Meribah.

²⁵ Take Aaron and Eleazar his son, and bring them up to Mount Hor;

²⁶ and strip Aaron of his garments and put them on Eleazar his son; for Aaron shall be gathered *to his people* and die there.”

²⁷ So Moses did just as the LORD commanded, and they went up to Mount Hor in the sight of all the congregation.

²⁸ Moses stripped Aaron of his garments and put them on Eleazar his son; and Aaron died there on the top of the mountain. Then Moses and Eleazar came down from the mountain.

²⁹ Now when all the congregation saw that Aaron was dead, all the house of Israel mourned for Aaron thirty days.

Numbers 20:22-29

THE LIFE AND MINISTRY OF AARON REVIEWED

1. Positive aspects

- a. As a spokesman for Moses Exodus 4:10-16
- b. He served with Moses standing before Pharaoh Exodus 7-10
- c. He was the first High Priest of Israel Exodus 28-29
- d. The Aaronic priesthood was confirmed by God Numbers 16-18

2. Negative aspects

- a. He made a golden calf Exodus 32
- b. Together with Miriam, Aaron challenged Moses' authority Numbers 12

DEATH OF AARON

²³ And the LORD spoke to Moses and Aaron in Mount Hor by the border of the land of Edom, saying:

²⁴ "Aaron shall be gathered to his people, for he shall not enter the land which I have given to the children of Israel, because you rebelled against My word at the water of Meribah.

Numbers 20:23-24

1. This was the Lord's decree

- a. When Aaron would die
- b. Where he would breathe his last
- c. Why he was to die

2. Explanation of the Lord's decree

- | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------|
| a. They did not believe in God | Numbers 20:12a |
| b. They did not hallow His name | Numbers 20:12b |
| c. They had rebelled | Numbers 20:24 |

SUCCESSION TO THE HIGH PRIESTHOOD

1. Eleazar, one of the sons of Aaron would succeed him

2. Aaron had four sons

- a. Nadab
- b. Abihu
- c. Eleazar
- d. Ithamar

3. The garments of Aaron

- a. They were symbolic garments
- b. They were stripped off Aaron
- c. They were placed on Eleazar
- d. They were put on Eleazar to signify his succession

4. This was attended to by Moses and Eleazar
 - a. The children of Israel were not up at Mount Hor
 - b. This was a special moment:
 - i. For the family
 - ii. For Moses
 - iii. For Eleazar

THE TYPICAL JEWISH MOURNING PERIOD TODAY

1. Immediate
2. First week
3. First month
4. First year (for parents)

The Month-long mourning period was not uncommon.

5. Home visits are made
 - a. Prayers are offered (Kaddish)
 - b. Praise of God given
 - c. Fellowship meals

CULTIVATING AN UNDERSTANDING OF FUNERARY RITES

1. Concern for the bereaved family
2. Support for the bereaved family
3. Funeralary rites:
 - a. Worship
 - b. Fellowship
 - c. Remembering the dead (Eulogies)

REFLECTIONS

YOUTH WORSHIP REFLECTIONS BY MICHELLE CHOO

Hello Young People! Welcome back to the House of the Lord for yet another time of worship!

Last week, we learnt about the heavy topic of death. As we trace Aaron's life, we see how he had served God, but had still sinned against Him on some occasions—building of the golden calf, complaining against Moses, and disobedience to the Lord's word at Kadesh. With God being a just God, He did not allow Aaron to enter the promised land and told him that he was going to be called Home. (Numbers 20)

“Fear God and keep His commandments” (Ecclesiastes 12:13)

All of us are subject to death, and it will be in accordance with God's timing and plan. As I reflected on the lessons taught over the weekend, I thought about how I would feel if God were to tell me I was going to die. Would this life I have lived be one that glorified Him?

This time that the Lord has given us is indeed precious and it should be used wisely. Chasing worldly pursuits would be in vain as these are worthless when we stand before the Throne. The only thing that is not futile, would be the fear of the Lord. Cultivating a fear of the Lord would naturally lead to drawing near to Him and

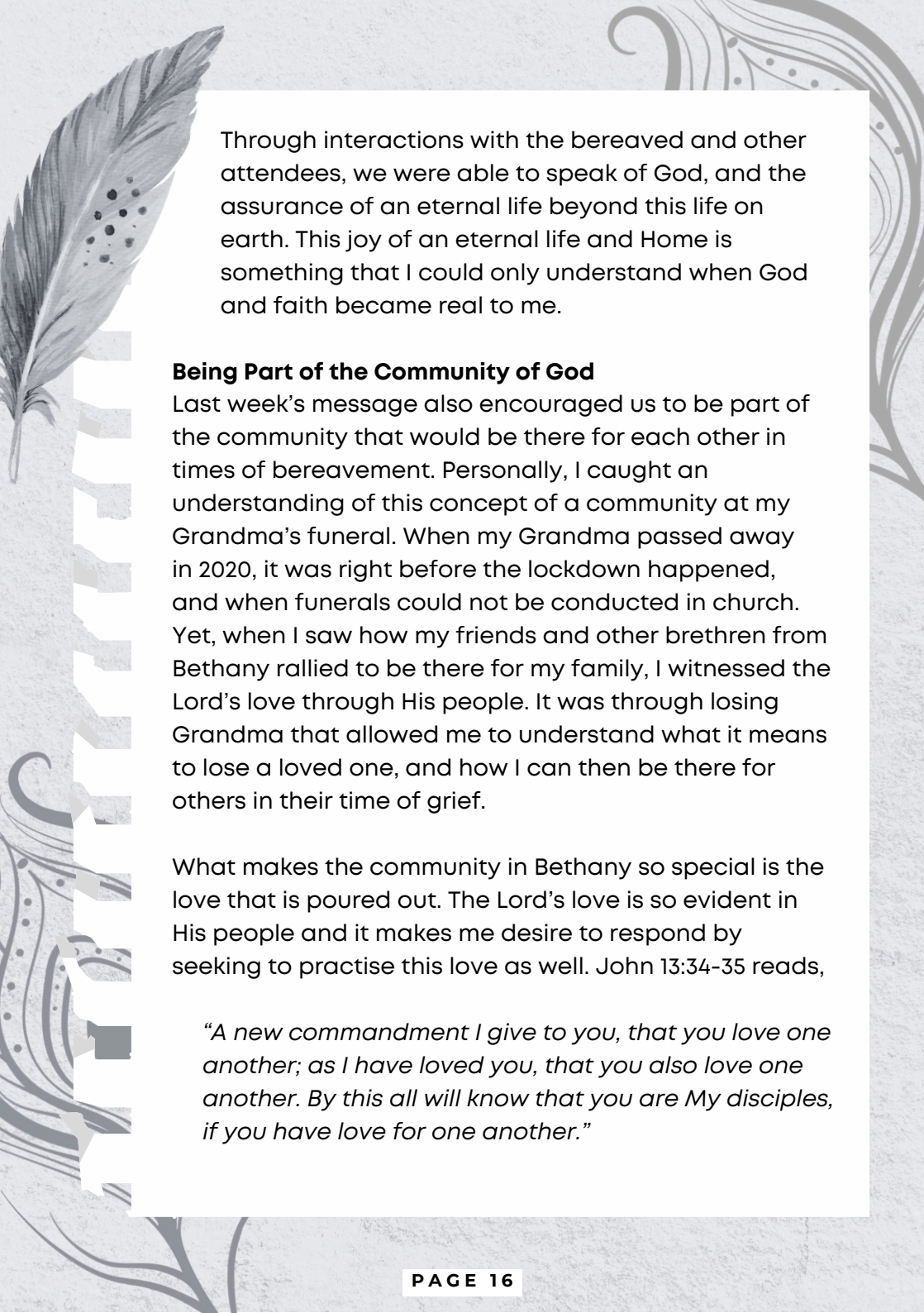
keeping His commandments, and to yearn to glorify and please Him with our lives.

Despite Aaron being the high priest, his moment of weakness allowed him to sin gravely against God. This reminds us to always be conscious of God as we are accountable for what we do, especially if we hold roles of leadership, we would be held to higher standards and expectations (something we learnt at Youth Worship two weeks ago).

Praise Amidst Grief

One of the things that stood out to me as we study the death of Aaron was the way God was the focus, even at a funeral. The Kaddish is a special prayer that is made at Jewish funerals, not in remembrance of the dead, but to remember and hallow the name of God. Even in a time of grief, the focus is on God. While it would be natural to be overcome with feelings of sadness and grief over the loss of a loved one, there will still be reasons to praise God. The Lord is the Giver and Taker of life (John 5:21), and He has the prerogative over how long our lives will be. And just simply because of who He is, and how great He is, are reasons for praise.

Out of the few funerals I have attended, some were for non-believers. The sombreness at those funerals filled the room with unease and it was difficult to offer comfort. Yet, what is different at the funeral services that I have attended in church is the centrality of God – a time of worship, a time of reading His Word.



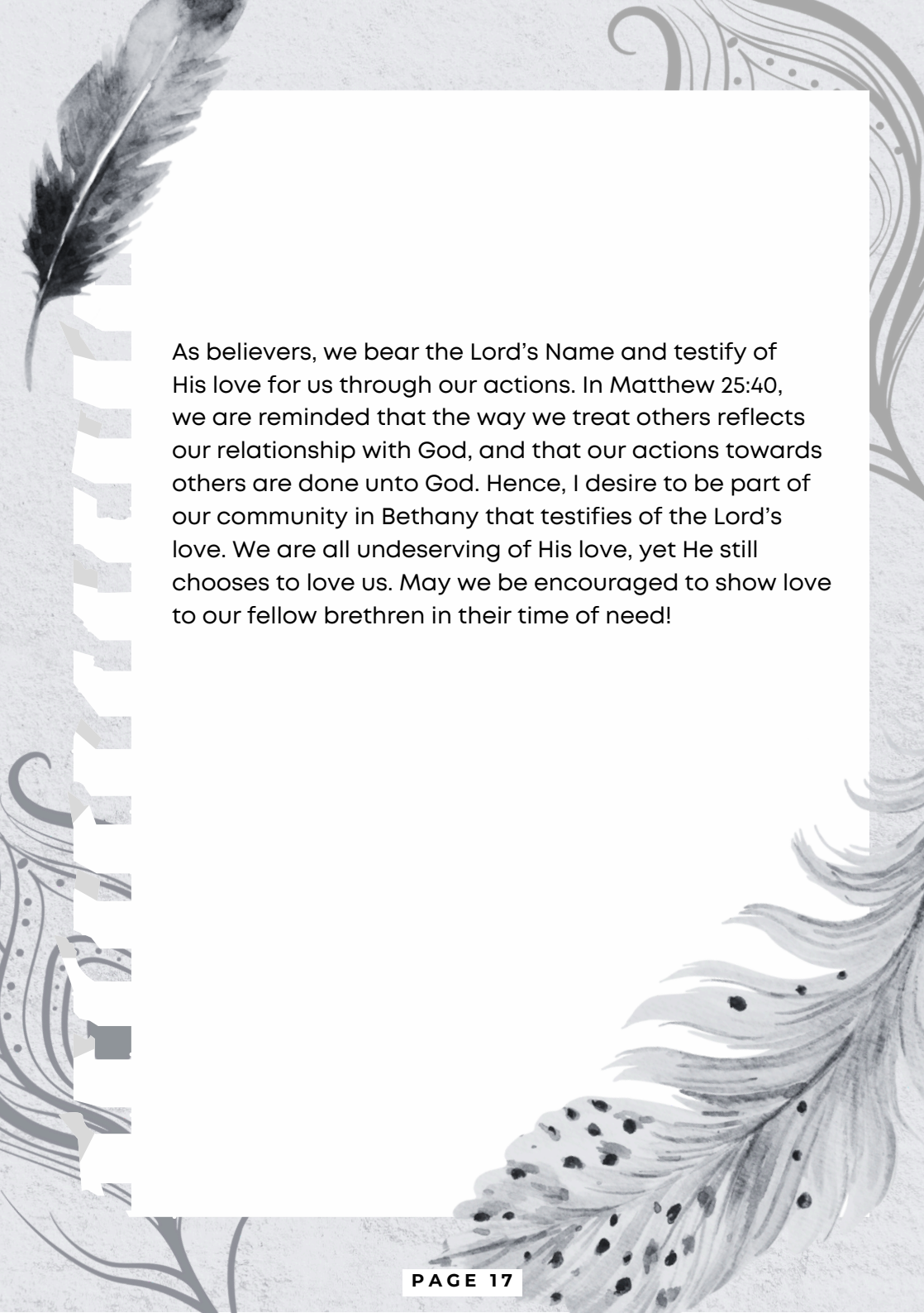
Through interactions with the bereaved and other attendees, we were able to speak of God, and the assurance of an eternal life beyond this life on earth. This joy of an eternal life and Home is something that I could only understand when God and faith became real to me.

Being Part of the Community of God

Last week's message also encouraged us to be part of the community that would be there for each other in times of bereavement. Personally, I caught an understanding of this concept of a community at my Grandma's funeral. When my Grandma passed away in 2020, it was right before the lockdown happened, and when funerals could not be conducted in church. Yet, when I saw how my friends and other brethren from Bethany rallied to be there for my family, I witnessed the Lord's love through His people. It was through losing Grandma that allowed me to understand what it means to lose a loved one, and how I can then be there for others in their time of grief.

What makes the community in Bethany so special is the love that is poured out. The Lord's love is so evident in His people and it makes me desire to respond by seeking to practise this love as well. John 13:34-35 reads,

"A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."

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As believers, we bear the Lord's Name and testify of His love for us through our actions. In Matthew 25:40, we are reminded that the way we treat others reflects our relationship with God, and that our actions towards others are done unto God. Hence, I desire to be part of our community in Bethany that testifies of the Lord's love. We are all undeserving of His love, yet He still chooses to love us. May we be encouraged to show love to our fellow brethren in their time of need!




YOUTH WORSHIP REFLECTIONS **RYAN QUEK**



Last week at Youth Worship we learned about the death of Aaron from Numbers 20:22-29. The message was particularly stirring for me. Despite the message's topic on deaths and funerals, there were many lessons and takeaways even for us as young people. For myself, there were 2 main points that stood out to me.

A newfound perspective to death

Firstly, One thing that stood out to me was the Jewish funerary prayer called the Kaddish that Pastor shared with us. The Kaddish, also known as "the prayer for the dead", would be recited by the Jewish Rabbi and the congregation. Even though it is a prayer for the deceased, the focus instead is on glorifying God's name. For the loved ones of the bereaved, the Lord was not only a source of comfort during the difficult time but also the focus. As I reflected on this, I asked myself if I could have the same level of faith to wholly focus on the Lord if I were to experience the passing of someone I loved. I am personally challenged to seek after a greater measure of faith that will help me keep my focus on the Lord no matter what challenges or uncertainties lie ahead in my life.





Living with a greater appreciation of life


Secondly, Pastor also pointed us to Psalm 90 where Moses prayed about the fragility of life. Psalm 90:10 reads:



*'The days of our lives are seventy years;
And if by reason of strength they are eighty years,
Yet their boast is only labour and sorrow;
For it is soon cut off, and we fly away.'*

Psalm 90 is a reminder for us that life is fragile, fleeting and finite. This is especially real to me because we live in a turbulent world riddled with uncertainties and challenges. As I reflected further on the message, a question came to mind - How then should I live? With a greater understanding and awareness of the fragility of life, I'm challenged to treasure the life that has been given to me and use it well. As we live our day-to-day lives, it is easy to be swept away by the things of the world. Many people are living life aimlessly and are struggling to find their own meaning in life. As a Christian, I'm thankful for the hope and purpose I can find in the Lord and His promises.

Our application

I was also reminded of last Sunday's message by Pastor Moses that further reinforced the pressing need to live with a greater clarity and focus. As King Solomon





contemplated the meaning of life, he searched for a sense of purpose by pursuing many things. After he had attained all the things he longed for, he realised that the things of the world are futile in comparison to the purpose and meaning he found in the Lord. This purpose was summed up by King Solomon in Ecclesiastes 12:13 which reads:

*'Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter:
Fear God and keep His commandments,
For this is man's all.'*

Although we did not experience the things that King Solomon went through, we can still learn from the lessons he learned and the mistakes that he made. With these precious lessons, we no longer need to live a futile life and can seek after a more meaningful one. Personally, I'm challenged to strive to be a useful servant for Him. I want to use the time I have on this earth to serve Him and glorify His name. With a greater understanding of the fragility of life, let us not waste this life that we have been given and seek to live well and meaningfully for the Lord!

THE HEBREW MIDWIVES

The Pharaoh called upon two Hebrew midwives;
They were skilled in delivering babies, saving lives.
Giving birth in ancient days was risky;
Many babies died unnecessarily.

Midwives assisted women in their delivery;
They could bring joy or cause misery.
The Pharaoh gave them a command;
To kill all the baby boys was his demand.

The Hebrew midwives feared the Pharaoh;
If they disobeyed him there would be no tomorrow.
They decided that they would not kill the Hebrew boys;
Together they saved many babies so that all may rejoice.

They made a statement to the Pharaoh about Hebrew women;
They were physically stronger, blessed by God in heaven.
The Pharaoh could think of no way to punish the midwives;
Because they feared the LORD, He blessed their lives!

Charles Tan
Inspiration: Exodus 1:15-22



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Celebrating **BETHANY'S 50+2 ANNIVERSARY**

Theme: "From glory to glory"

The LORD has bestowed bountiful blessings upon
our Church! May we unite our hearts to offer
grateful worship as we celebrate our Anniversary!

Date: 24 August 2025

Venue: Shangri La

Time: 10.30am (Worship)
12.00nn (Fellowship Lunch)

Main Lunch Programme:

Scan the QR code to book your seat today:



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RESUMPTION OF FELLOWSHIP GROUPS

YPG and YAG will resume meetings next Saturday,
5 July 2025. May the Lord bless the time of
learning and strengthen the bonds in Him!



NEXT YWS

5 JULY 2025

**5
JULY**

Message: "I have delivered him into your hand"

Text: Numbers 21:10-35

With renewed faith and their complaining spirit put to rest, the children of Israel pressed on in their wilderness journey and covered significant ground. Yet greater trials awaited them as King Sihon of the Amorites and King Og of Bashan respectively rose up to wage war against the children of Israel. Because the LORD was on Israel's side, He delivered them into their hand, and Israel emerged victorious on both occasions. The LORD truly makes the path smooth when faith is exercised!



Bethany Independent-Presbyterian Church