

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!

While our LORD takes vengeance on evil, He is also the God-Who-Forgives. Let us therefore come humbly and reverently to exalt His Name!



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THE LORD AWOKE

How may Israel have learned to treasure their relationship with God and remain faithful to Him? The LORD dealt severely with His people, chastening them for their grievous sin of idolatry by giving them over to their enemies.

“

⁶² He also gave His people over to the sword,
And was furious with His inheritance.

⁶³ The fire consumed their young men,
And their maidens were not given in marriage.

⁶⁴ Their priests fell by the sword,
And their widows made no lamentation.

PSALM 78:62-64

”

1. An extremely dark period in Israel's history
 - a. The LORD withdrew His Presence and Protection from Israel
 - b. God gave His people to the sword Psalm 78:62
 - c. Young men died in battle Psalm 78:63a
 - d. Maidens could not marry because of a lack of men Psalm 78:63b
 - e. Priests were also not spared Psalm 78:64a
 - f. Deaths occurred so frequently that lamentations for all could not be made Psalm 78:64b
 - g. Anguish and sorrow shrouded Israel for decades

2. The Psalmist Asaph depicted God as being asleep during those troubled times
 - a. The LORD does not slumber
 - b. But the silence of God was as though He was asleep
 - c. The prayers of the people were not answered
 - d. God was distant from His people
3. Finally, the LORD “awoke”

“
⁶⁵ Then the LORD awoke as *from* sleep,
Like a mighty man who shouts because of wine.
⁶⁶ And He beat back His enemies;
He put them to a perpetual reproach.

PSALM 78:65-66

”

- a. Chastening is painful, but it does not last forever
- b. In God’s divine time, He delivered His people from their oppressors
- c. Like a mighty man filled with zest, the LORD beat back the enemies of Israel
- d. He put them to a perpetual reproach

SEEK THE LORD WHILE HE MAY BE FOUND

If we persist in our sins, we invite the chastening of God, and risk enduring seasons of darkness when the LORD withdraws. While we may not be plagued by the sin of idolatry today, we continue to be under the powerful influence of sin. May we seek the LORD while He may be found, and be faithful in our walk with Him!



ORDER OF WORSHIP

YOUTH WORSHIP SERVICE

13 SEPTEMBER 2025

Prelude

Pianist: Gabrielle Wan

Call to Worship

Pastor Moses Kwek

Opening Prayer

Pastor Moses Kwek

Song Leading

1. Lord, Reign In Me
2. Jesus We Place Into Your Hands

Joel Tan and Lorraine Lai

Pianist: Gabrielle Wan

Cajonist: Rayne Quek

Scripture Reading

Text: Numbers 27:12-23

Bethany Toong and Tessa Kang

Pastoral Prayer

Pastor Mitchell Tan

Message

“A man in whom is the Spirit”

Text: Numbers 27:12-23

Pastor Moses Kwek

Closing Prayer

Pastor Moses Kwek

Offering

Postlude

Pianist: Gabrielle Wan

MY NOTES

13 SEPTEMBER 2025

“A MAN IN WHOM IS THE SPIRIT”

NUMBERS 27:12 - 23

WORSHIP SONGS

Lord, Reign In Me

By Brenton Brow

Over all the earth,
You reign on high,
Every mountain stream,
Every sunset sky.
But my one request,
Lord, my only aim
Is that You reign in me again.

Chorus:

Lord, reign in me.
Reign in Your power,
Over all my dreams
In my darkest hour.
You are the Lord of all I am,
So won't You reign in me again?

Over every thought,
Over every word.
May my life reflect
The beauty of my Lord;
'Cause You mean more to me
Than any earthly thing,
So won't You reign in me again?


Chorus

(end)




Jesus We Place Into Your Hands

By Sam Brewster, Tom Brewster, Abi Marthinet-Glover
& Jake Marthinet-Glover




Jesus, we place into Your hands
The things we cannot do.
We lack the strength to walk in Your ways,
O Lord, we cry out to You.



Every godly hope and dream
Lies far beyond our reach.
Lord, in our striving help us to seek
The grace that meets every need.

Jesus, we give to You
The things we cannot do.
We turn away from our own strength,
O Lord, we turn to You.

Jesus, we place into Your hands
This cross we cannot bear.
We lack the strength to carry its weight,
O Lord, we cry out in prayer!



Is Your grace enough for us?
You promised it is so.
Lord, in our hurting send from above,
Your strength for our trial below.

Jesus, we give to You
The things we cannot do.
We turn away from our own strength,
O Lord, we turn to You.

Jesus, we place into Your hands
The unseen days ahead.
Fearful they seem but You know all things,
And never have failed us yet.

Jesus, it's enough for us
To know You know the way.
Lord, in our waiting help us to trust
Your will for each passing day.

Jesus, we give to You
The things we cannot do.
We turn away from our own strength,
O Lord, we turn to You.
O Lord, we turn to You.

(end)

REVIEW OF GOD'S WORD

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

YWS MESSAGE - 6 SEPTEMBER 2025

“BEHOLD, I GIVE TO HIM MY COVENANT OF PEACE”

NUMBERS 25:1-18

INTRODUCTION

1. Balaam's attempts to curse Israel failed spectacularly
2. But the influence of Balaam in other ways was perhaps even more harmful

This was noted in the following comment:

But I have a few things against you, because you have there those who hold the doctrine of Balaam, who taught Balak to put a stumbling block before the children of Israel, to eat things sacrificed to idols, and to commit sexual immorality.

Revelation 2:14

- a. Balaam had taught Balak
- b. How to stumble Israel
 - i. To eat things sacrificed to idols
 - ii. To commit sexual immorality

BAAL OF PEOR

¹ Now Israel remained in Acacia Grove, and the people began to commit harlotry with the women of Moab. ² They invited the people to the sacrifices of their gods, and the people ate and bowed down to their gods. ³ So Israel was joined to Baal of Peor, and the anger of the LORD was aroused against Israel.

⁴ Then the LORD said to Moses, “Take all the leaders of the people and hang the offenders before the LORD, out in the sun, that the fierce anger of the LORD may turn away from Israel.”

⁵ So Moses said to the judges of Israel, “Every one of you kill his men who were joined to Baal of Peor.”

⁶ And indeed, one of the children of Israel came and presented to his brethren a Midianite woman in the sight of Moses and in the sight of all the congregation of the children of Israel, who *were* weeping at the door of the tabernacle of meeting.

¹⁴ Now the name of the Israelite who was killed, who was killed with the Midianite woman, *was* Zimri the son of Salu, a leader of a father’s house among the Simeonites. ¹⁵ And the name of the Midianite woman who was killed *was* Cozbi the daughter of Zur; he *was* head of the people of a father’s house in Midian.

Numbers 25:1-6, 14-15

1. Israel had succumbed to the wiles of Moab
 - a. Israel was invited to the worship of Baal
 - b. The people became involved in the worship of Baal
 - c. Part of the activities involved sexual immorality
2. The anger and judgement of the Lord
 - a. He addressed the leaders of the nation
 - b. They were to address the offenders
 - c. These were to be executed by hanging
 - d. The leaders functioned as judges

3. The people grieved when the executions took place

a. The people were weeping for the loss of their family members

b. They were grieving that this disaster had taken place

4. Zimri, from the tribe of Simeon

a. He came to the Tabernacle where the people were weeping in grief

b. He had brought his girlfriend, Cozbi, the daughter of a Midianite leader

c. This act was:

i. Insensitive

ii. A blatant disregard of the deep grief of the people

iii. Offensive

iv. Defiant and Shocking

THE CURBING OF THE PLAGUE FROM GOD

⁶ And indeed, one of the children of Israel came and presented to his brethren a Midianite woman in the sight of Moses and in the sight of all the congregation of the children of Israel, who *were* weeping at the door of the tabernacle of meeting. ⁷ Now when Phinehas the son of Eleazar, the son of Aaron the priest, saw *it*, he rose from among the congregation and took a javelin in his hand; ⁸ and he went after the man of Israel into the tent and thrust both of them through, the man of Israel, and the woman through her body. So the plague was stopped among the children of Israel. ⁹ And those who died in the plague were twenty-four thousand.

¹⁰ Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying: ¹¹ “Phinehas the son of Eleazar, the son of Aaron the priest, has turned back My wrath from the children of Israel, because he was zealous with My zeal among them, so that I did not consume the children of Israel in My zeal. ¹² Therefore say, ‘Behold, I give to him My covenant of peace; ¹³ and it shall be to him and his descendants after him a covenant of an everlasting priesthood, because he was zealous for his God, and made atonement for the children of Israel.’”

Numbers 25:6-13

1. A plague from the Lord struck the people
2. 24,000 people died in this plague
3. The zeal of Phinehas
 - a. He was the grandson of Aaron
 - b. His father was then the high priest
 - c. He slew both Zimri and Cozbi
 - d. The plague ceased immediately
4. God’s commendation of Phinehas
 - a. Phinehas had turned God’s wrath away from Israel
 - b. His zeal was noted and applauded
 - c. He was given high commendation
 - i. God gave him “a covenant of peace”
 - ii. This was an “everlasting priesthood”
 - iii. This was a reward for his zeal
 - iv. He had managed to turn away the wrath of God
 - v. He had made atonement for the children of Israel

THE MIDIANITES

¹⁶ Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying: ¹⁷ “Harass the Midianites, and attack them; ¹⁸ for they harassed you with their schemes by which they seduced you in the matter of Peor and in the matter of Cozbi, the daughter of a leader of Midian, their sister, who was killed in the day of the plague because of Peor.”

Numbers 25:16-18

1. They had harassed Israel
2. They used schemes to entrap Israel
3. They used women to seduce the men of Israel

OUR CHALLENGE

1. To be on guard at all times
2. To reject idolatry and its influences
3. To guard ourselves that we might be able to shepherd the flock well

REFLECTIONS

YOUTH WORSHIP REFLECTIONS

VERA KANG

Welcome back to Youth Worship! Last week, we learned about the need to be zealous for the Lord and to cultivate a sense of righteousness and morality.

A blatant disregard for the people's sorrow and the Lord's house

When I first read Numbers 25, I was stunned by how Zimri and Cozbi could have committed such an act that was clearly offensive, insensitive and disrespectful towards the people and the Lord. Furthermore, the anger of the Lord had already been aroused at that point of time. In their arrogance and pride, Zimri and Cozbi thought they were entitled to do anything, taking for granted that they both came from prominent families who were leaders of the people. While their actions were extreme, it is a reminder to guard against such an arrogant and prideful spirit.

“Because he was zealous for his God”

Conversely, Phinehas's example is something we can learn from! As he witnessed the offensive act in front of his eyes, he could not stand by and do nothing. His zeal for the Lord gave him the courage to address the situation, doing what was good and right in the sight of the Lord.

It is such zeal to do what is good and right that makes atonement for our sins. For the Israelites, the giving of a peace offering alone was insufficient to make atonement for sins. Similarly, the mere confession of our sins in words does not mean that we have been truly forgiven by the Lord.

Pastor Charlie posed this question to us, “If there is no zeal, is there true forgiveness?” This question made me reflect on how I have been dealing with the problem of sin. Admittedly, I realise that I may sometimes stop at confessing my sins to God in words without truly seeking to deal with them.

I was reminded of Psalm 32:5, which reads,

*“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.”*

This is a verse I often look back to as a reminder of the need to seek forgiveness from the Lord. However, this lesson helped me recognise that true forgiveness cannot be found through mere words – “I will confess my transgressions to the Lord”. Instead, we need to seek forgiveness with an earnest heart and have the righteous zeal to deal with sin. Hence, we cannot simply continue in our sinful ways!

The Lord's commendation: "I give to him My covenant of peace"

Because Phinehas was zealous for the Lord, he received the Lord's covenant of peace. This was a special promise of an everlasting priesthood that would come from his line.

Through this lesson, I am challenged to cultivate a strong sense of righteousness and morality, just as Phinehas possessed it. This is especially needful in a world where the line between what is right and wrong often appears to be blurred. As it reads in 2 Timothy 3:13, "Evil men and imposters will grow worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived." In such a world, I am reminded that ultimately, it is the Lord's commendation that matters rather than what the world may try to persuade us to think.

Pastor Charlie also highlighted that it was Phinehas alone who addressed the situation, although the offensive act had been witnessed by the congregation. This made me ask myself, if I had witnessed the scene, would I have been part of the congregation, or would I have had the zeal and courage to stand up for what is good and right in the sight of the Lord?

Other than learning to have a strong sense of what is right and wrong, may we seek to learn what it means to be zealous for the Lord, so that we may have the courage to act upon a sense of righteousness and morality, and learn to truly live for the Lord!

Ryan Quek

Last week, we learnt how the people of Israel succumbed to the stumbling block placed by Balaam and Balak. They were enticed by the women of Moab and they turned away from the Lord. Judgement was issued upon the children of Israel who were consumed because of their sin. However, a demonstration of zeal for God by Phinehas, son of Eleazer, curbed the plague and the wrath of God. As a reward for his zeal, the Lord gave a covenant of peace to Phinehas.

Personally, this message struck a chord in my heart as it pointed out areas in my life which I needed to work on with regards to having a personal zeal for righteousness in my life.

Understanding the dire need to cultivate a personal zeal for righteousness

Initially, I thought that having a zeal for what is right was just about having a strong sense of righteousness within me. However, Pastor shared with us that our zeal for righteousness reflects whether we have truly understood God's forgiveness of our sins. The Lord had to teach the children of Israel that atonement could only have been made because of Phinehas's zeal. We learnt that the Lord does not accept any kind of prayer for forgiveness and if we truly understand what it means to ask for forgiveness, we should have a zeal for righteousness within our hearts.

This struck me as it showed me the limited view and understanding that I had about seeking forgiveness. As I reflected further, I recognise that I am guilty of offering shallow prayers while asking the Lord for forgiveness at times. With a greater understanding of the spiritual view on repentance, I now recognise that a mere confession is insufficient when asking for forgiveness. If I was truly sincere, there should be a natural zeal accompanying this desire to seek repentance. Moreover, the knowledge that the Lord can and will reject our prayers for forgiveness was a frightening wake-up call for myself. I do not want to take this privilege of having forgiveness from the Lord for granted and I want to have a true and sincere zeal for what is good and right.

Staying sensitive to sin in a sinful world

As I ponder further on the need to have a zeal for righteousness in my life, I am also reminded of the importance of maintaining a sensitivity towards sin. We live in a world of moral ambiguity, where the line between right and wrong is often a blur. It is important that we do not let the world's view affect the way we view sin. Personally, I've caught myself getting swayed by the world's views at times. Sin would often creep into the lifestyles of many of my friends and seem to become a "normal" thing to do. However, I am trying to be more conscious of the severity of sin and the wrath it incurs from God. I am also reminded that I must always remember that there is no excuse for any sin and that I must always be battling against the sins in my life.



Having a greater appreciation for God's salvation plan for us

However, there is still much hope in these things! I am thankful for our God who not only judges in truth, but has also graciously crafted a salvation plan for each and every one of us! In contrast to the many sin problems in my life, God's plan of salvation for me has become so much more precious to me and Romans 3:23-24 comes to mind. It reads:

'For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus.'

Even though we inevitably sin and fall short of the glory of God, the Lord graciously and lovingly provided a propitiation for our sins through the Lord Jesus Christ! A greater appreciation for the Lord's wonderful salvation plan inspires me to develop a stronger zeal for righteousness in my own life. As we seek to ask for forgiveness in the times when we stumble and sin, may we be so much more conscious of the manner in which we repent!

The Bush Was Burning With Fire

Moses had faithfully tended the flock of Jethro;
For forty years he walked the terrain to and fro.
Moses' personal fortune was still at an ebb;
He was still caught up in life's uncertain web.

Moses had come to Horeb, which means "desolation;"
Amidst the vast wilderness he found some consolation.
He saw a sight that was bewildering to comprehend;
A bush was on fire but it was not consumed at the end.

God had heard the cries of the children of Israel;
He had chosen a man who had the right principles.
The burning bush had caught Moses' attention;
He sought to understand this strange phenomenon.

Everything had been carefully planned by the LORD;
The children of Israel struggled to understand God.
God was going to set His divine plan in motion;
Moses would serve the Lord with deep conviction.

Charles Tan
Exodus 3:1-3



ANNOUNCEMENTS

YOUTH CONFERENCE 2025: "Reconciled to God"

2 Corinthians 5:20

The much anticipated Youth Conference is around the corner! As we learn about being reconciled to God, may we appreciate our salvation so much more, and may it inspire us to live for Him in every aspect of our lives.

Details

Dates: 1-4 Dec 2025 (Monday - Thursday)

Venue: Bethany IPC

Time: 9.00am to 5.00pm daily

Age

Open to youths aged 13 and above.

Fellowship Lunch

Lunch will be provided every day. It would be an opportunity for us to relate to and fellowship with one another.

Fees

\$25.00

Do sign up early to assist in the planning of the programme.

If there are any queries, please feel free to contact Joshua Phang at 8028 6194.

You can register online by scanning the QR Code:





Greetings

FROM PERTH

Pastor Charles Tan sends greetings from Perth. He is ministering in Bethel as they celebrate her 31st Anniversary this Sunday.

Pastor will be returning home on Monday, 15 September 2025.

NEXT YWS



20 SEP 2025

“You saw how the LORD your God carried you”

Text: Deuteronomy 1

We begin the study of a new book at Youth Worship next week. The book of Deuteronomy records Moses’ final words to the next generation of Israel, rallying them for the conquest of the Promised Land. He reminded them of the lessons learnt as a nation through the wilderness, and the commandments of God that they would do well to observe. May the LORD bless our endeavour to understand the book of Deuteronomy!



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