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ARTICLE **Devotions by the Youth:** Psalm 81

**Prayer Spotlight Prayer for Youth** 







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- **MAIN SERVICE** | Physical & Youtube | Sundays 8:45am / 11:15am

YOUTH SERVICE |Physical| Sundays 8:45am

#### **SUNDAY SCHOOL**

For Ages 3 to 12 (Preschool to std 6) Physical Classes 8:45am / 11:15am

# otions by Psalm 8

#### Scripture

Psalms 81:10 I am the Lord your God, who brought you up out of Egypt. Open wide your mouth and I will fill it.

#### Observation

God was the provider but people only remember the provision and not the provider.



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#### **Application**

What can I do to not forget the provider?

Remembrance

Pictures carry memories. When we look at them from the future, we remember something nostalgic.

People can't exactly take pics with God hah. So a good practice is to jot down or type out things to remember.

Did you record down the season you went through with God?

Did you keep your devotions safe?

Do not be like the Israelites who forgot the provider because needs and provisions were fulfilled.

#### Prayer

Dear God, I remember various incidents of me taking advantage of the provisions you provided. I am sure there were many other incidents I can't remember because I don't respect nor am I grateful enough. I always think of my parents as my provider and am thankful for them but I always forget that you are the ones who provided them with provisions to provide. Holy Spirit, I pray to learn to be more grateful for what God has given- from salvation through his only Son to the water I drink daily. In Jesus' name, Amen.



**By Grace Ong**Grace serves in the Youth Ministry and attends a discipleship group under Sarah Searle

### Scripture

Psalm 81:11-12
But my people
would not listen to
me; Israel would
not submit to me.
So I gave them over
to their stubborn
hearts to follow
their devices.

#### **Observation**

Previously I have done a similar devotion. The message is the same, but it is a reminder, nonetheless. It's quite straightforward. God has done many things for Israel and helped them when they needed it. It would make sense that because of what God has done for them, Israel would obey God wholeheartedly. We can see that wasn't the case.

God gave us the freedom of choice, and the choices we make are based on our priorities. In this world, our priorities are mostly set on worldly desires, focusing on satisfying ourselves instead of God. When we find out God's plans are different than what we had in mind, we would reject it quickly instead of considering that God's intentions are for our own good.

#### **Application**

How many times have I said "No, God. I want it my way,", and how many times more will I say that? I think that's a good question to ask yourself every time a difficult decision arises.

#### Prayer

Dear God, You are a gracious God. You have planned everything for us, and all we have to do is follow whatever You have called us to do. It is difficult to do that as You know human hearts are weak and are easily misguided. I pray that in the decisions I make, I'll focus on You as the utmost priority and not anything else. Amen.



**By Joelle Chong**Joelle serves in the Youth Ministry and attends a discipleship group under Sarah Searle

#### Scripture

Psalms 81:11-16

"But my people would not listen to me; Israel would not submit to me.

So I gave them over to their stubborn hearts to follow their own devices.

"If my people would only listen to me, if Israel would only follow my ways,

how quickly I would subdue their enemies and turn my hand against their foes!

Those who hate the Lord would cringe before him, and their punishment would last forever.

But you would be fed with the finest of wheat; with honey from the rock I would satisfy you."

## **Application**

- In DG (discipleship groups), simple questions like "How have you seen God's faithfulness in the past week?" make me reflect a lot, and know that God indeed has been faithful.
- So when reflecting on the past year, it may seem very far, but reflecting on it helps me to understand that God did not leave me to my own device because of my stubborn heart.
- So to think about God's provision over me the past year!! Although my stubborn heart says otherwise, who says that God never provided for me?
- He has answered, He has listened, He has removed burdens, He has provided me with the finest.

#### **Prayer**

Dear heavenly Father, I know that if I compare myself to the Israelites, I am probably equal to them. I don't listen and I don't pray at times, but God, You have provided so much. It may be even crazier to say that I most probably cannot count how much You have provided for me. I also want to thank You, that even when my heart was so stubborn, to the point that You may have left me to my own devices, You still provided, even when I don't deserve it. Thank You, Father, AMEN.

#### Observation

- God examines the stubborn heart. In v12, I found it really interesting how it is said after "To follow their own devices". The beginning of the chapter tells us how God had removed all the burden from Israel's shoulders but still, they will not listen.
- At first glance, it seems that God has given up on the Israelites, and towards the last few stanzas it starts with "If" in v13, "If my people would listen...", then it leads to "How", which is the solution God will give them: "...subdue their enemies..."
- Then in v15 it brings about judgment IF they don't listen
- BUT in v16 God says BUT you will still be fed with the finest wheat, everything that God gives will satisfy them.
- So God did not give up on the Israelites!!
   Although they were continuously stubborn, God will still provide for THEM.



**By Amanda Lim**Amanda serves in the Youth Ministry and attends a discipleship group under Sarah Searle



# **Prayer**Spotlight

## **Prayer for Youth**

Father, please reveal yourself to each youth in FBC and remind them that salvation is your gift of grace and not by works that no one can boast. Teach them that they are your handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which was prepared in advance for us to do. Eph 2:8-10

Father we lift the youth in FBC that you will develop and convict them not to conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of their minds. Then they will be able to test and approve what is Your good, pleasing and perfect will. Rom 12:2

Lord we pray that you will strengthen our youth to stand firm when they face insults, false charges, and persecution for their hope and faith in you. Help them know and realize the joy, blessings, and great reward in heaven they will receive. Mat 5:11-12

May the Holy Spirit guide and direct our youth that they may develop their identity as children of the living God. Grow and stretch them in ways that each one will bear the fruit of the Spirit - love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Gal 5:22-23