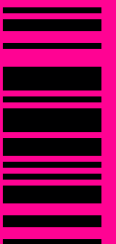
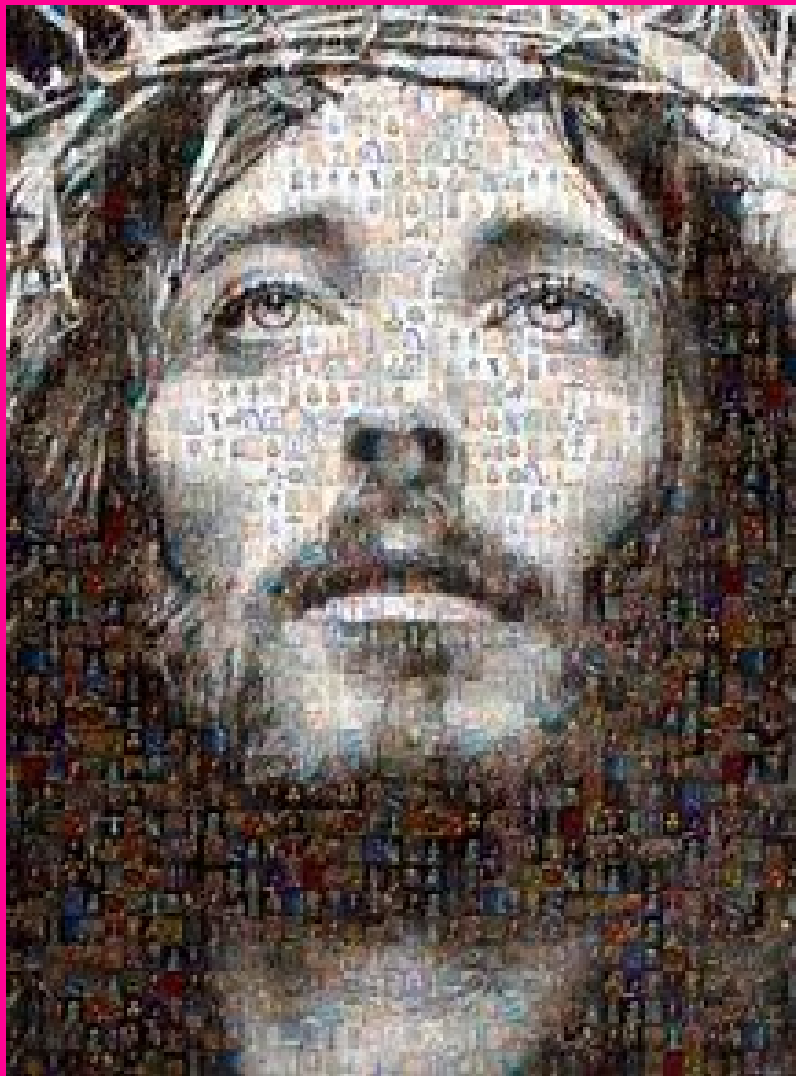


Y.I.G.S

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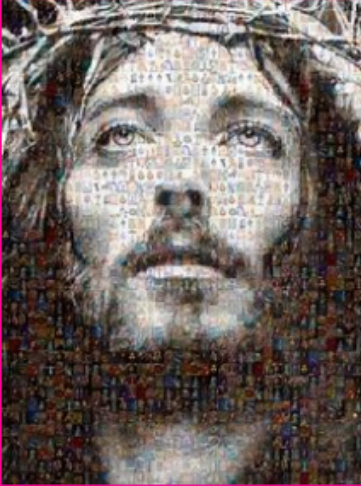


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Y.I.G.S

JULY 2024 | ISSUE NUMBER 3 | SUMMER EDITION



WELCOME TO Y.I.G.S EDITION 3

Hey Everyone,
Welcome to Y.I.GS Edition 3 , our summer edition!

Happy summer, everyone! We are excited to bring you this vibrant issue packed with fresh content and new features. We've added two special sections—one just for girls and one for boys—so keep your eyes peeled for these!

Thank you for all your support and feedback on the last two editions; your input helps us grow and improve.

Enjoy !!

Jael-Carys Caiquo

Editor-in-Chief

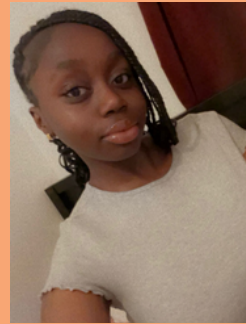
Meet the Y.I.G.S. team



JAEL:
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF & GRAPHIC DESIGNER



DAVID:
COPY EDITOR



NICOLE:
CONTENT CREATOR



NERIAH
CONTENT CREATOR



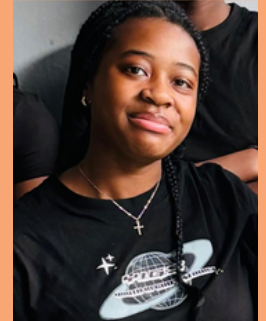
KIMBERLEY:
WRITER



PRINCESS:
WRITER



STEPHANIE
WRITER



TOSIN
WRITER



REBUILDER OF WALLS

RESTORER OF FAITH

-PERSON OF THE SEASON- NEHEMIAH-

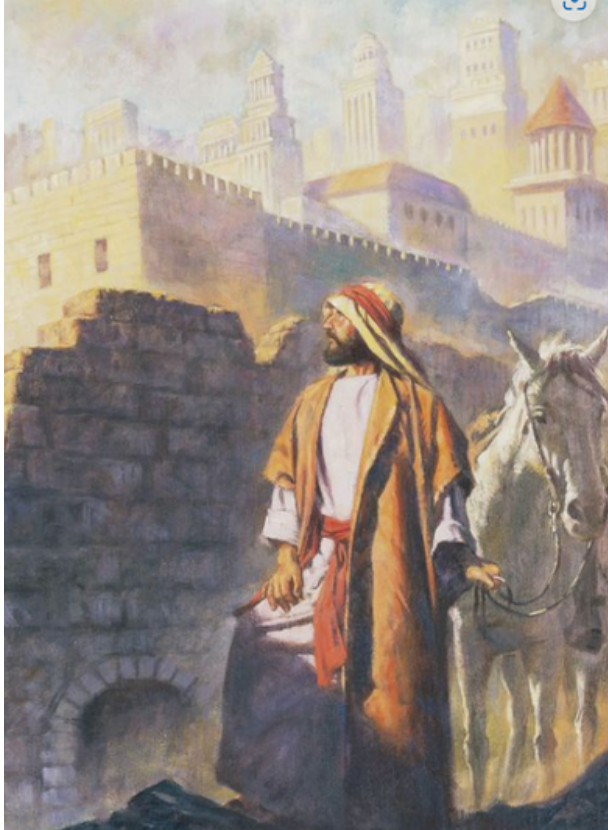


WHO WAS NEHEMIAH IN THE BIBLE?

- Nehemiah had to move from Jerusalem to Persia due to the people of Jerusalem's disobedience to God, and the burning of their city by their enemies
- Nehemiah was a trusted cupbearer to King Artaxerxes of Persia. (Nehemiah 1:11)
- He travelled back to Jerusalem to rebuild Jerusalem's walls and temple; restoring faith amongst the people of Jerusalem.
- Nehemiah faced and overcame opposition during the reconstruction.
- Nehemiah loved God and his country very dearly.

NEHEMIAH

WHAT CAN WE LEARN FROM NEHEMIAH?



- **Pray to God before any major decision.**
Nehemiah prayed before asking for the King's permission to rebuild the walls of Jerusalem.
(Nehemiah 2:4)
- **Stand strong in God's name.**
As Nehemiah was leaving Babylon for Jerusalem, some Arab men mocked him for going to rebuild the walls. Firmly, he said 'The God of heaven will give us success.' (Nehemiah 2:20)
- **Always be faithful.**
Nehemiah spent most of his life in exile in an unfaithful land, but he never wavered in faith. He continued to pray to God unconditionally.
- **Do not give up when times are hard.**
During the rebuilding of the wall, many people opposed to it desired to stop the process, yet he still went on. We can also look at the verses James 1:2-3: 'Consider it pure joy when you face trials of many kinds, for you know the testing of your faith produces perseverance.'

SPiritual SOUNDS

Meditating on His Word Through Songs

The last time we discussed music, we broke down what worship is and how it allows us to connect with God. I'm sure we can all agree that a divine interaction with God through words and melodies creates a powerful image; similarly, secular music can be very influential, so awareness of what we listen to is essential. Following on from that brief recap, in this edition of YIGS, we will dive even deeper into the power of worship.

For many Christians, the most fundamental aspects of maintaining a relationship with God are reading your bible and praying regularly. Many followers of Christ live this way because through praying, we talk to God, and by reading the bible, we hear back from Him; consequently, we learn more about Him, His presence and his promises. Engaging in both practices builds our faith (Romans 10:17) – this is extremely important as faith is one of the keys to tenaciously living for God (1 Corinthians 13:13).

Likewise, when we worship (through songs, might I add), we get a chance to speak to God; for instance, we tell God that we're grateful (Imela by Nathaniel Bassey), that He's merciful (Mercy by Moses Bliss) and that He's beautiful (Yeshua by Jesus Image) we are expressing our thoughts of Him. Worship also lets us reflect on what He says to us and what He says about us, including how He is always with us (Psalm 23 by People and Songs), and we are free in Him (No Bondage by Jubilee Worship). Meditating on His Word through music, even if that means humming to yourself on the bus to school, enables you to keep your eyes on the Father and nurture yourself spiritually. As you focus on the lyrics of worship songs alongside reading your bible, you'll also notice that many songs are taken directly from scripture or inspired by it. One example we've discussed at Friday Night Youth (FNY) is how the lyrics of "Praise" are taken from Psalm 150. Additionally, "Only Yeshua" by David Dam expresses Isaiah 40:8 and other verses that describe the futility of things in this world compared to the kingdom of Heaven.

That said, we shouldn't replace the time we spend reading our Bibles with worship – if the writers of these scripture-inspired songs did that, our church worship sessions would be much less engaging! Instead, use worship to carry the Word of God in your heart so that you can meditate on it day and night, strengthening your faith in God (Psalm 1:2). Worshipping through songs may not be everyone's cup of tea. Still, to conclude, I would like to leave you with a beautiful verse that will hopefully allow you to see worship as more than just unwillingly lifting your hands: Ephesians 5:19-21 The Passion Translation (TPT) says, "And your hearts will overflow with a joyful song to the Lord. Keep speaking to each other with words of Scripture, singing the Psalms with praises and spontaneous songs given by the Spirit! Always give thanks to Father God for every person he brings into your life in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. And out of your reverence for Christ, be supportive of each other in love."

By Princess Kwade

WISdom

WOMEN IN SCRIPTURE

Proverbs 4:6-7

*6 “Do not forsake her, and she will
preserve you;*

Love her, and she will keep you.

*7 Wisdom is the principal thing;
Therefore get wisdom.”*

Wisdom is often perceived as knowledge gained from experience; the Oxford Dictionary defines wisdom as the ‘capacity of judging rightly in matters relating to life and conduct’. The famous King Solomon was praised for putting wisdom before all else. The Bible is full of many powerful men and women like Solomon whose experiences can provide us with wisdom today so to mark the first-ever article of the WISdom section, I’m going to tell you about a powerful woman named Deborah.

The view that ‘women can do it all’ is often seen as modern. If I were to ask you, you would probably say maybe it came around after all that propaganda from WWI but not in Biblical times. Do you agree? If so, let me present Deborah who will prove you wrong. The story of Deborah can be found in the Book of Judges mainly chapters 4 & 5 (there is more mention of her as a Judge in the Book of Ruth); in summary, she was a wife, judge (Israelite leader), prophet, and poet and made herself ‘a mother in Israel’. In those days a Judge was defined as a leader of Israel and Deborah was also tasked to make sure that the people of Israel were living by God’s commands, she was one of only 3 people in the Bible who was both a prophet and judge including Moses and Samuel.

You can read the backstory to this in Judges 3, but after killing 10,000 Moabites, the Israelites lived in rest for 80 years. After their Judge, Ehud, who had led them out of the hand of the Moabites had died, they began to worship false gods, so God put them under the rule of the King of Canaan where they were oppressed for 20 years. God then called Deborah out her comfortable life to lead his people and she did, without hesitation gathering 10,000 Israelites. With these thousands of men, she strategically led the troops of Canaan into Barak’s (a commander of the Israelites) hands as prophesied. And the Canaanite commander, Sisera, thinking he had escaped, was killed in the hands of a woman named Jael as Deborah had also prophesied. This defeat eventually led to the destruction of the King of Canaan, Jabin, and the victory of the Israelites.

God called her to do this, and nothing will stand in the way of the Will of God over your life, not gender roles of the time, fear, 20 years of oppression or the 900 iron chariots the Canaanites had at their disposal. And as we see in the Songs of Deborah in Judges 5, she was ready to do what God had ordered her to. She woke up after God says, ‘Wake up, wake up Deborah!’ (Judges 5:12) and had confidence in the prophecy speaking it even to Barak- ‘Has not the Lord God gone ahead of you’ (Judges 4: 14) and it came to pass.

I hope this has encouraged you and remember to let WISdom guide you.

By Stephanie Conteh Amoah

BOYS

Brothers Of Yaweh's Service

Joshua 1:9 NIV

"Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go."

If we look back in the Bible we can see many examples of people that were courageous, for example David when he decided to face Goliath (1 Samuel v 17), or perhaps Hebrews 3; boys who didn't bow down to the king and were thrown into the furnace (Daniel 3). These young men showed great strength and courage.

In this modern day and age we might not face that same level of threat or danger, so does that mean we still need to be courageous? Of course it does!!!

Everyday we have the opportunity to be courageous, especially living in a society that opposes God, a culture that mocks Christianity, a world that indulges in sin. When you're at school it takes courage to stand up for what you believe in, because there's a high chance people will mock you or even isolate you because you're not 'fun'.

It takes a strong person not to follow the crowd or go in the same direction as everyone else.

I wish I could tell you that it is going to be easy and smooth sailing following God, but it isn't always. There will be resistance, there will be times that you can't do what everyone else is doing, there will be times you will be the only one doing something, you may lose certain types of friends, you may be called names, but as it says in Joshua "don't be afraid ... for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go".

By Matthias

SUMMER WRAPPED

2024

1 Timothy 4:12

2

VERSE OF THE MONTH (V.O.T.M)

"Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity"

3

"RADIANT REFLECTIONS"

This Season's Motivational Quote:

"Let your light shine before others that they may see your good deeds and glorify your father in heaven."

1

TOP MUSIC PICK



RESTORE
Ryan Ofei

4

BLOSSOMS OF BLESSINGS

Summer, in the context of the Bible, often symbolises a time of spiritual adulthood and ripening of faith.

Additionally, as the summer season brings happiness, make sure to bring happiness and positivity to your life and others!

You can do this by spreading the word of God, through bible scriptures and prayer.

Praying daily helps to maintain a calm state of mind as you are actively communicating with God.

Happy Summer everyone!

STUDENTS

PRAYER REQUESTS

- Please continue to pray for Ryan
- Please pray for bereaved families

DO YOU HAVE A TESTIMONY YOU'D LIKE TO SHARE OR AN NEED YOU'D LIKE TO PRAY ABOUT?

EMAIL US:

yigsinquiries@hotmail.com

NOTICES

FNY: Friday Night Youth

EVERY FRIDAY

19:30 - 21:30

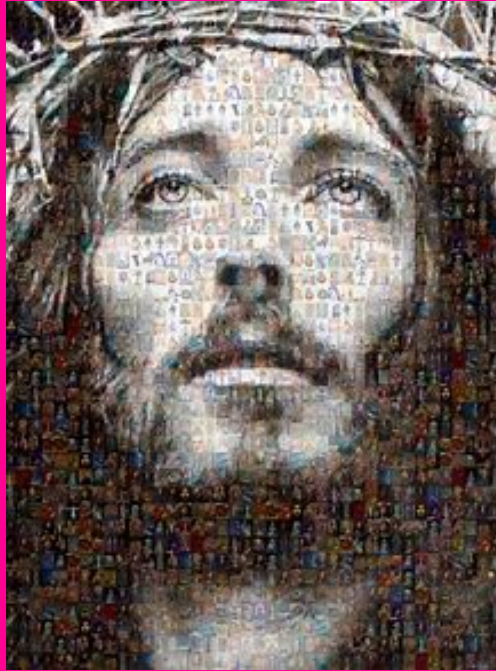
Bible Study

Wednesdays

17:30 onwards

BAPTISM SERVICE

August 18th 2024



Y.I.G.S

Youth In God's Service

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF - Jael-Carys

CREATIVE DIRECTOR - Jael-Carys

COPY EDITOR - David

WRITER - Princess

WRITER - Kimberley

WRITER - Stephanie

WRITER - Tosin

CONTENT CREATOR - Nicole

CONTENT CREATOR - Neriah

