

Shabbat shalom,

Thank you for joining me and my family today in celebrating my Bar Mitzvah.

There is a story I would like to tell you that is connected to my Torah portion.

An old Chinese woman had two water cans which were attached to a yoke. Each day she put the yoke over her shoulders and went down to the river, filled the cans, and walked back to her modest hut. The water can on the right side of the yoke was fine and sturdy; when she arrived home it was always full. But the can on the left had a crack in it. By the time the woman arrived home, half the water was usually gone. The water can always felt inferior and less important to its partner. It was ashamed that it was cracked and wasn't pulling its weight. One day it turned to the woman and apologized for being defective. The woman smiled gently and said, "Did you think I didn't know that you had a crack, and water dripped from you? Look at the path from the river to my hut. Do you see all the beautiful flowers that are growing on the one side of the path? Those are the flowers that I planted there, that you watered every day as I walked home from the river."

In my reading it states He shall not exchange it nor substitute another for it.

Every person was born to a mission in life that is distinctly, uniquely and exclusively their own. No one--not even the greatest of souls--can take his or her place. No person who ever lived or who ever will live can fulfill that particular aspect of G-d's purpose in creation in his stead

The idea of my torah portion that I just read is saying that everybody is themselves and no one can change that. All of you here probably have a hidden talent and even if you didn't know about it we are all still unique to ourselves and nobody can change that.

I want to take this opportunity to thank my Grandparents, my Mom and my Dad for always being there for me and supporting me in everything that I do. You guys are the best!!!!