

SBC BULLETIN

What is happening at Scarborough Baptist Church?



PRAYER
AND
CHRISTIAN
LIVING

IN THIS ISSUE

WELCOME

ACTIONS THIS WEEK

**OUR CHURCH VALUES:
GO**

**PRAYER AS A
PERSONAL
RELATIONSHIP**

BIBLE READING

How great is our God! How great is his mercy! How great is the love that He has shown for us! We gather together this morning in wonder at the character of the God we worship - the God who is holy and glorious and beyond everything, but who was willing to enter into the brokenness of human existence for our sake and even die for us.

Matt will continue our reflections on the Lord's prayer today. Last week we looked at the invitation to participate with God in his rule breaking into our world. This week we will be looking at the invitation to come to God with our personal needs.

Please continue to pray for Krina Moore who is still suffering severe pain. Pray also for Malcolm and Iris whose health is not too good.



WE PRAY TO BE A CHURCH THAT GOES

A church where the members are focused on the Kingdom of God, and

- are called to serve the Kingdom and not themselves
- are willing to step out in faith and hope and expect the impossible to happen as it strives to reflect God's love and justice in this world
- are engaged in setting up signs of God's Kingdom of love and become agents of change in this world; members of the church focus on the world and its needs, and
- work towards reconciliation, justice and support for the neediest in society.

HAPPENINGS THIS WEEK

SUNDAY

Prayer meeting before church
Sundays @ Six meal starting 2 August if no WA outbreaks of the virus

MONDAY

Explorers' Bible Study 9.30 am at the church.

TUESDAY

Craft group is deciding when to start again.

Pastors' meeting

THURSDAY

Mainly Music Outreach to carers with toddlers. Starting date to be determined.

Bible study at Andre and Anne's home at 7pm. All welcome.

OTHER MINISTRIES

Brighton Kids continuing on every day.

Music Committee meets next Sunday after church.

Saturday Prayer Meeting 8am every third Saturday of the month on zoom

Mentoring at Primary School - to be decided when to restart

Finance Meeting - once a month

Management Meeting - once a month

Elders' meeting - once a month

Worship Leaders' Meeting - first week of the month

Prayer: Mark 14:32



We read multiple times in the gospels that Jesus prayed. There is something quite odd about this. The Jehovah's witnesses see in this proof that Jesus could not be God. "How can God pray to God?" they argue. In so doing they miss the mystery of the person of Jesus. Jesus is the mediator between humans and God. He is God who has become fully human. As the unique God-human he represents God coming to be with, and speak to humans as well as humanity responding to God's invitation to enter into his presence and to speak with him. Jesus, the truly human, speaks to His Father on behalf of humanity, just as Jesus, the divine Son of God, speaks to humanity on behalf of God.

Jesus prayed. His prayers were not that different from our prayers. In his prayers, Jesus opened himself to God. In the Garden of Gethsemane Jesus revealed to his Father that he did not want to go through with the mission his Father had entrusted to him. In saying this, Jesus represented every human being who has ever balked at God's calling; everyone who has ever turned from doing what they knew God wanted, because the cost just seemed too high. In this prayer, Jesus represented the rich young ruler who walked away because God demanded too much; the priest who chose to look the other way when he passed the victim on the road; the older brother who refused to come into the house to join the feast for the return of the youngest son.

There is something amazing to become transparent and open in our prayers to God. We often are not. We hide our true feelings from God, often because we have hidden it from God. We would find it difficult to tell God that we really do not want to obey him. And yet, by coming to God, the one who knows us better than we know ourselves, there is no place to hide our deepest thoughts and feelings.

Jesus prayer was however also radically different from our prayers. In his communion with God, he not only shared his human feelings, expecting God to change the situation, he prayed in such a way that God could change him. Jesus' affirmation, that God's will should be done was not simple resignation before the inevitable, but a transformation by which his will was transformed to align with that of his Father. In Jesus' prayer we see the new, transformed human praying.

You should pray like this:

Our Father in heaven,
help us to honor
your name.

10

Come and set up
your kingdom,
so that everyone on earth
will obey you,
as you are obeyed
in heaven.

11

Give us our food for today.

12

Forgive us for doing wrong,
as we forgive others.

13

Keep us from being tempted
and protect us from evil.

14 If you forgive others for the wrongs they do to you, your Father in heaven will forgive you. 15 But if you don't forgive others, your Father will not forgive your sins.



Please pray for wisdom when to restart these vital ministries of the church.



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