

2 AUGUST 2020

SBC

# SBC BULLETIN

*What is happening at Scarborough Baptist Church?*

*PRAYER  
AND  
CHRISTIAN  
LIVING*

IN THIS ISSUE

**WELCOME**

**ACTIONS THIS WEEK**

**OUR CHURCH VALUES:  
LOVE**

**PRAYER: ASK AND  
YOU WILL RECEIVE**

**BIBLE READING**

Thank you for joining us this morning. The church is the body of believers and by coming together as believers we witness to the world that Jesus has made an impact on our lives.

We are continuing our focus on the Lord's prayer this morning and trust that we will enjoy our time together and learn more about our God.

Please pray with us for the Cafe ministry - that we can complete the building and start operations soon; the finances of the church; Krina Moore who is still suffering severe pain; Joy Watterson who cannot come to church but finds many things to be grateful about, despite being wheelchair bound.



The values of Scarborough Baptist Church fall under three action categories – Love, Know, and Go. Each category contain a series of supplementary principles that act as a guide to how we 'do' church at Scarborough.

We pray to be a church which is:

built on the person and character of God where our members are excited about who God is, love His person and character and worship him as the triune God (Father, Son and Holy Spirit), who is their Creator, Saviour and Lord

embrace his will as an opportunity to love him and others better

resist being motivated by guilt to do things for God and others but are motivated by their love for God and gratitude for what He has done for the world in Christ

## HAPPENINGS THIS WEEK

### SUNDAY

Prayer meeting before church

Sundays @ Six meal starting tonight

### MONDAY

Explorers' Bible Study 9.30 am at the church.

Bible Study at the church at 7pm.

### TUESDAY

Craft group is deciding when to start again.

Pastors' meeting

### THURSDAY

Mainly Music Outreach to carers with toddlers.

### OTHER MINISTRIES

**Brighton Kids** continuing on every day.

**Music Committee** meets today 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

"Ask, and you will receive", Jesus told his disciples. Christians have often struggled with this seemingly unconditional promise in the face of unanswered prayer. For this reason, people often start their contemplation on this passage by constructing alternative interpretations to combat Christians developing unrealistic expectations of God's response to our prayers.

## Prayer



It is, perhaps, necessary to first take this statement of Jesus at its face value. By not doing so, we are robbing the statements of its breathtaking audacity. Jesus' words depict God as someone who is just waiting to expend his riches on his children. And the only thing which seemingly blocks God's children from receiving the things they want from his hands, is their unwillingness to ask Him for it. "You have not, because you do not ask", Jesus reiterated.

Before we consider what may hinder God from keeping this promise to give us what we ask for, we must reflect on what keeps us from asking God for the things we lack or want. It may be that we have become cynical about the way life works. Life-experience has taught us that there are no free meal tickets. If there is a heavenly Santa Claus he is much more likely to steal the presents from under the Christmas tree than he is to put out new ones. Wise people have counselled us that if anything sounds too good to be true, it usually is. And so we approach Jesus' open invitation to receive things freely from God with all the scepticism our experience demands. It may also be that we want to protect our faith. We have all heard of people who have blindly believed that God will answer their prayer and who have ended up radically disillusioned when their prayers were not answered. And so we'd rather steer away from such naive faith, if only to shelter us from potential future disillusionment.

Faith is different from certainty. It offers no final guarantees. It is risky. It makes us vulnerable. It leaves us open to possible disappointment. And yet, despite these things, faith also calls us to trust that God is indeed interested in us, wanting to give us what we ask of him. The times when faith scrapes hard against reality, or becomes stranded on unmovable facts, when we are in danger of losing the solid foundation

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.



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