



VICTORIA

Life

Sunday 6th April 2025



FOR YOUR EYES ONLY

“But when you give to the needy,
do not let your left hand know
what your right hand is doing, so
that your giving may be in secret.
Then your Father, who sees what is
done in secret, will reward you.”

Matthew 6:1-8



The Sermon on the Mount

Matthew 6:1-18 - For Your Eyes Only

Chapter 6 begins a new section in the Sermon on the Mount and begins by addressing the problem of religious hypocrisy. The word “hypocrite” comes from a Greek word meaning, ‘one who wears a mask’.

In this section, Jesus exposes that many things appearing to be genuine expressions of worship, are nothing of the sort. Things that look like they are done for God, are really done for human applause. The prophet Jeremiah wouldn’t have been surprised. He said, “The heart is deceitful above all things” (Jer. 17:9). This diagnosis is confirmed when we begin to examine the complexity and self-serving nature of our own motives.



As we’ll see, Jesus has a devastating critique of such things as well as a wonderful promise concerning things done for the audience of One.



This morning’s service will include Communion.

TONIGHT

Please join us for our fortnightly prayer meeting at 6.30pm - the first time this year you will be able to walk here and back in daylight!

NEXT Week (13TH)

Lucy Craggs will be bringing God’s message to us at the 10am service.

At 6pm there will be an evening service, following the success of our recent trial services.

STAFF/OFFICE MATTERS

Staff movements for next week

Chris annual leave
Colin off Mon
Kevin sick leave
Tim in Wed & Fri am
Nadine in Mon & Thurs
Sandra off Thurs

Phil in Tues am, Wed, Thurs pm
Simon off Thurs
Julie in Thurs
Lucy in Wed am, Thurs, Fri am
Jez in Wed & Fri

Senior Minister

Chris Short

PA to Senior Minister

Sandra Taylor

Family Ministries

Simon Grimes - Children

Church Administrator

Colin McMahon

Caretaker

Kevin Virgo

CAP Debt Centre Manager

Phil Papps

CAP Debt Coach

Nadine Crawford-Piper

Treasurer

Mark Evason

Finance Assistant

Julie Hanks

Ministry Assistants

Tim Nunn (Discipleship)

Lucy Craggs (Women)

Life Group Coordinator and interim Youth Leader

Jez Taylor

Staff contact details:

firstname@victoriabaptist.org.uk

(eg chris@victoriabaptist.org.uk)

VBC Bank Details

Account Name:

Victoria Baptist Church Trust

Account Number: 00010297

Sort Code: 40-52-40

01323 737974

Eldon Road, Eastbourne BN21 1UE

helpdesk@victoriabaptist.org.uk

www.victoriabaptist.org.uk

- Sun 6 9.30am Prayer Meeting in Chris' Office
 10.00am Live@10 with Chris Short, to include Communion
 6.30pm Church Prayer Meeting
 7.00pm Xcav8!
- Mon 7 6.00pm Girls Brigade
 7.30pm CLT meeting
- Tue 8 7.15pm Soaking in the Spirit (ladies only)
- Wed 9 7.00am Prayer Meeting
 8.15am Community Fridge
 10.00am Vicky Bees
 6.30pm Boys Brigade
- Thu 10 7.30am Prayer Meeting (men only)
 Men's F'ship - meeting for Maundy Communion, 17th, 2.30pm
 2.30pm Women's Fellowship with Kirsty Gowing
 7.30pm Ukraine Prayer Meeting
 evening Omega 18-35 (for timing/venue contact Tim Nunn)
- Fri 11 10.00am Outreach Prayer Meeting
 10.00am Vicky Bees
 5.00pm Kids Club
 7.00pm Xpect
- Sat 12 10.00am Flow Cafe
- Sun 13 9.30am Prayer Meeting in Chris' Office
 10.00am Live@10 with Lucy Craggs
 6.00pm Evening Service
 7.00pm Xcav8!

Preaching Engagements *Please remember in prayer*

Erik Cornelisse Apr 6 Bernhard Baron, 5pm



CAP Money Coaching - starts 24th April, running for 5 weeks

Alpha Course - starts 30th April, running for 9 weeks

Man's non-Curry Night - 7th May

Ladies Away Day - 17th May



"...you also , like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood."

Victoria Baptist Church will be 100 years old in June and we are planning a weekend of celebrations. We want to honour the past, but we are also excited for the future. More details for the events below will be published shortly, but please keep the weekend free and join us if you can.

We are also planning to give away 100 goody bags to people in our community, and we would like to be able to produce a booklet of special memories from over the years. Please send in any memories of your time at VBC that you would like to share with us.

We want this to be a time where we thank God for what He has already done, bless our community and look forward to what God will do in the next 100 years.

Friday 6th
7.30pm
Quiz Evening

Saturday 7th
10.00am - 1.00pm
VBC Open Morning

Saturday 7th
7.30pm
Lou Fellingham
Concert



**You are cordially invited to
join us for a weekend of
celebrations
6, 7 & 8 June 2025**

1925 - 2025



Sunday 8th
10.00am - 11.30am
Centenary Celebration
with special guest speaker:

Rev. Peter Morden

followed by a picnic
(bring your own)
accompanied by
a local string quartet



VICTORIA

Baptist Church Eastbourne

These events are open to all

12th April
Flow Cafe

In aid of
Christians Against Poverty
10am

13th April
Palm Sunday

Service
10am

17th April
Maundy Thursday

Communion Service
2:30pm

18th April
Good Friday

Service
10am

18th April
Old Town Churches
Walk of Witness

Leaving Victoria at
11am

20th April
EASTER DAY SERVICE

10am

HE IS RISEN

VICTORIA
Baptist Church Eastbourne

Website



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YouTube



“That is why we labour and strive, because we have put our hope in the living God, who is the saviour of all people, and especially of those who believe.” 1Timothy 4:10

Monday Thank You, Father, for the beauty of Your creation and for all the new life we see around us this springtime. During this season of Lent, be encouraged to reflect on your faith and prepare to look forward to the promise of hope that Easter brings.

Tuesday Lord, we lift up to You all those living with chronic illnesses, pray Your blessing on them as they adjust their lives to restricted mobility, constant pain, and the anxiety of having to wait for tests and appointments. Pray for resilience and energy for those who lovingly care for them.

Wednesday Loving Father, during the Easter break we pray for Your protection over our children and young people. Guard them from the negative and disturbing issues that are posted on social media. Protect their hearts and minds and be with their parents and carers as they nurture their children to become rooted in faithful lives serving Your Son, Jesus Christ.

Thursday Dear Lord, we pray for Your intervention in the peace process to end the Ukrainian war. Father, we beg You to confront evil and allow acceptance and reconciliation to bring an end to the hostilities. We lift up to You all the soldiers defending the Ukraine, Father, have mercy upon them. Give them patience and hope amidst the horror, so that under Your protection and guidance they may one day be reunited with their families and live in peace and happiness.

Friday *“You who are young, be happy while you are young, and let your hearts give you joy, in the days of your youth”.* Eccles 11:9 Almighty God, we lift up to You those young adults who meet as the Omega group. Shield them, we pray, from all that can stop them seeking You out, and focus their hearts and minds on Your son Jesus Christ. Pray for the forthcoming Alpha course. May these evenings be well attended and filled with earnestness to know more about You, Father. May the lives of those that attend be transformed into taking Your son as their Saviour and Redeemer.

Saturday “I call on You, my God, for You will answer me; turn Your ear to me and hear my prayer” Psalm 17:6. Father, we thank You for being a listening God who answers our prayers. We thank You for the prayer life which underpins the worship at VBC. We lift up to you all those that lead the early morning prayer groups, the Soaking in the Spirit evening, the Ukraine prayer evenings, and those that assist after the Sunday morning services. Bless them Father and may the Holy Spirit continue to speak through them.

Sunday Father God, we come this morning to worship You knowing we are not fully prepared for the message of hope that Easter brings. May the celebration of the Risen Christ renew our minds, bodies and spirits. We ask for the Holy ...

... Spirit to come, wash over each of us, cleaning our hearts and refreshing our souls. May You speak forcefully to each of us today through the words You give our minister.

Flow Café

Please remember that our next Flow Café takes place next Saturday (12th) at the usual time of 10am. The usual craft activities and games will be available plus of course the bacon sandwiches and other culinary delights. It's always a great opportunity to catch up with people you don't get to speak to much on a Sunday so come along and enjoy some fellowship over a cup of tea. All proceeds raised will be forwarded to CAP .



The Creative Writing group, this month led by Helen Trimmings, will be meeting as usual at 10.30am downstairs. There is NO Book Club however.

Messy Church for Adults

Last Saturday evening saw 40+ church members and friends gather in the Large Hall for our first (in recent memory that is) Messy Church for Adults. This involved 5/6 wonderful volunteers taking charge of a particular activity, doing a demonstration, and then leaving it in the hands of those who gathered to produce their own work of art! We had 5 groups with about 10 in each - Ian Parratt led the Caricatures session; Amanda Pye led the Cake Decorating; Chris McMahon & Wendy Dick, Flower Arranging; Cathy Hoadley, Mosaics; and Eric Pavey, Watercolours. An added and unexpected extra was the group led by Chris Osborne, Twig Art! The evening seemed to be a great success and a follow-up in the Autumn has even been suggested as a possibility.



More photos on page 11

Seeing CHRIST IN THE BOOK OF PROVERBS WITH THE HELP OF Tim Keller

Part 12: How to get Self Control

'A man without self-control is like a city broken into and left without walls.' Prov. 25:28 *'The name of the Lord is a fortified tower; the righteous run to it and are safe. A rich man's wealth is his strong city, and like a high wall in his imagination.'* Prov. 18:10-11

'For the grace of God has appeared that offers salvation to all people. It teaches us to say "No" to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age.' Titus 2:11-12



1. One of the greatest needs today for all people, including Christians, is self control. It includes not just the obvious addictions like drugs or alcohol but those more subtle ones like impatience, gluttony, jealousy or not controlling our tongue that we battle with.

2. In the Old Testament, people depended on physical city walls and towers to defend themselves and give them peace. Today, people have their modern solutions; you only have to see the myriad of self help and counselling books and courses on offer to realise this. The Bible's answer is that only God can truly help you with those bad addictions, providing an effective answer for control and peace.

3. The verse in Proverbs 18:10-11 above and the Bible's message is to *'run to the name of God'* as opposed to depending on wealth and defences of our own making. What does this mean in practice, when we are tempted to give in to fear and lose control?

4. First we notice the imperative *'to run'*. This is so serious we need to act swiftly to stop the damage and not delay.

5. Where do we run to? The passage tells us, to *'the Name of the Lord'* for our safety. This term is pregnant with meaning for Jews and those who study God's word. The name of God conveys His different attributes and as we consider them we find help e.g. His care, His love, His truth. We have to intentionally lay hold of them in times of trial as Jesus reminded His disciples on the Sea of Galilee when they were tempted to fear and panic and He asked them, *'Where is your faith?'* Lk.8:25. They should have trusted Jesus but gave way to fear in the face of the storm. One of the greatest examples of this in English literature is to read Jane Eyre's response to Mr Rochester when he asked her to come and live with him after she discovered he was already married. It's worth reading in full but, to summarise, she was greatly tempted to yet had the courage to reply, *'I will keep the law given by God*

on this I plant my feet.'

6. The above is the short term solution. A more long term one is also needed, and that is found by learning to serve God out of love, as Jacob did for his wife Rachel. He put up with serving his scheming, hard task master of an uncle, Laban, for 7 years, *'but they seemed like a few days because of his LOVE for her'* Gen.29:20. How much more when we consider Christ's love for us, that made him put up with so much suffering, even *'outside the city wall on the cross.'* Heb13:12. The reason; it was love for us! No wonder Paul in his letter to Titus argues that such grace *'teaches (or reasons) with us... to live self controlled lives.'* The more we meditate on this and apply it with prayer it will help us to have a loving, serving, trusting attitude to God without complaint or fear even in the most difficult of situations.

To hear the full sermon by Timothy Keller got to: [A Broken Wall – Gospel in Life](#)

John Demetriou



Flower Ministry

The flowers last week were donated by
Avril Coombe
in loving memory of Brian



*Just a note to thank you all so much
for the flowers delivered
for both Rod & myself for our
Diamond Wedding Anniversary.
I shall take them down to Rod this
afternoon and put them in his room.
60 years - help! Met Rod when
I was 16, many moons ago.
God bless and thank you all. GB xx*



*Please can you thank the ladies who
arrange and deliver the flowers on
Monday as I received a lovely bunch of
flowers from them and felt so blessed -
IT*

