

WELCOME TO DRIVE-IN CHURCH AT SOUTHLAND!

Thanks for joining us! July 4th, 2021

Note: Song lyrics on the back pages!

Updates & Announcements:

1. Current Health Order Update:

- During this service, you may now use the church washrooms that are immediately inside the Retreat Centre doors to your right.

2. Day Camp

- We're excited that we can have Day Camp! You can sign-up your kids online for the 3 camps running for grades 3-8.
- We also need volunteers to run the camps and especially more male leaders to sign up...
- We currently have 243 campers signed up and 37 volunteers of which only 3 males (Basically we need 25-30 more guys)
- Check the website for more details and to sign up your students and/or volunteer.
- All students are put on a waiting list until we can confirm availability according to provincial health orders and number of volunteers.

3. Baptism

If you are interested in being baptized, there is a Baptism class on July 22 in the evening followed by baptisms on Sunday July 25th. You can sign up at mysouthland.com

4. Membership:

- If you have completed the steps for membership and are interested in becoming a member, please contact the church office. Please visit our website for membership info!

The Book of Matthew Part 4:

A. **Intro:** Each of the 8 Beatitudes which Jesus teaches at the beginning of what has become known as the Sermon on the Mount begins with the word, "Blessed." Which leads us to the question – what exactly does blessed mean.

- The first and highest use of the word 'blessed' is when it refers to something set apart or consecrated by God or for God.
- The second use is when we use a 'blessing' to speak well of something or someone.
- The third and most common use of blessed is simply a combination of the other two most commonly expressed as 'happy'.

B. **Happiness:** The classic chapter on the search for happiness is Ecclesiastes 2. Solomon, in verse 1 said, *"I decided to enjoy myself and find out what happiness is."*

- Solomon walked down a lot of roads and they all led to three dead ends: accumulating things, experiencing pleasures, achieving success and concluded *"All of it is meaningless, a chasing after the wind."* Eccl.2:17
- Happiness biblically defined is the right attitude that leads to spiritual joy and satisfaction that remain regardless of circumstances.
- A better phrase to use in place of 'happy' is "favoured by God".

C. **"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven." Matthew 5:3**

- Poor in Spirit = Total dependence on God. (versus "rich in pride")

- The Cause of being rich in pride = Playing God
 - The Cure is admitting we need God's help.
 - *"We were crushed and overwhelmed beyond our ability to endure, and we thought we would never live through it...But as a result, we stopped relying on ourselves and learned to rely only on God, who raises the dead."* 2 Corinthians 1:9
- D. "Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted." Matthew 5:4**
- *"Grieve not as those who have no hope."* 1 Thessalonians 4:13.
 - Society's Phi'loss'sophy:
 1. Bury your feelings. 2. Replace the loss. 3. Grieve alone. 4. Time heals. 5. Never trust again
 - God's Perspective:
 1. Feel your feelings: *"Jesus wept."* John 11:35
 2. Review the loss. *"The Israelites grieved for Moses in the plains of Moab thirty days, until the time of weeping and mourning was over."* Deuteronomy 34:8
 3. Grieve in community. *"My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death. Stay here and keep watch with Me."* Matthew 26:38
 4. Holy Spirit's PRESENCE. *"And I will pray the Father, and He shall give you another Comforter, that He may abide with you for ever"* John 14:16
 5. Trust in Jesus. *"Be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age."* Matthew 28:20
- E. "Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth." Matthew 5:5**
- Internal: *"You have heard that it was said, 'Eye for eye, and tooth for tooth.' But I tell you, do not resist an evil person. If anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to them the other cheek also."* Matthew 5:38-39
 - External: Power under God's control = Gentleness
 - Vertical: a trusting attitude before God. *"Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need."* Hebrews 4:16
- F. "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled." Matt.5:6**
- Righteousness = "straight" / integrity, moral uprightness, being just.
 - Our righteousness = to do everything right and being right before a holy God.
 - *"For I say to you that unless your righteousness surpasses that of the scribes and Pharisees, you shall not enter the kingdom of heaven"* Matthew 5:20
 - *"You are those who justify yourselves in the sight of men, but God knows your hearts; for that which is highly esteemed among men is detestable in the sight of God."* Luke 16:15
 1. **Recognize Our Real Hunger.** *"God humbled you, causing you to hunger... to teach you that man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the Lord.."* Deuteronomy 8:3
 2. **Stop Eating Junk Food.** *"Why spend your money on what is not bread, and your labour on what does not satisfy?"* Isaiah 55:2
 3. **Look To Jesus For Our Satisfaction.** *"I am the Bread of Life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty ... If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever!"* John 8:35, 51
"Whoever drinks water will get thirsty again; but whoever drinks the water I give will never be thirsty again ...It will become in him a spring of living water" John 4:13-14
 - *"Seek first His kingdom and His righteousness..."* Matthew 6:33 *"The LORD detests the way of the wicked, but He loves those who pursue righteousness."* Proverbs 15:9 *Flee evil desires and pursue righteousness."* 1 Timothy 6:11

G. Reflection:

- Do you consider yourself among the blessed? Why or why not?
- When was the last time you needed to be comforted because of your sin?
- Has anyone ever described you as meek? Why do you think that is?
- Are you living rightly? Pursuing righteousness? Encouraging others to do so?

It's not too late to start!

Song Lyrics:

Blessed Be Your Name

Blessed Be Your Name
In the land that is plentiful
Where Your streams of abundance flow
Blessed be Your name

Blessed Be Your name
When I'm found in the desert place
Though I walk through the wilderness
Blessed Be Your name

Every blessing You pour out, I'll
Turn back to praise
When the darkness closes in, Lord
Still I will say

Chorus:

Blessed be the name of the Lord
Blessed be Your name
Blessed be the name of the Lord
Blessed be Your glorious name

Blessed be Your name
When the sun's shining down on me
When the world's 'all as it should be'
Blessed be Your name

Blessed be Your name
On the road marked with suffering
Though there's pain in the offering
Blessed be Your name

Bridge:

You give and take away
You give and take away
My heart will choose to say
Lord blessed be Your name
You give and take away
You give and take away
My heart will choose to say
Lord blessed be Your name

I Want To Know You

I've tried in vain a thousand ways
My fears to quell, my hopes to raise
But what I need, Your word has said
Is ever, only, Jesus

You died, You live, You reign, You plead
There's love in all your words and deeds
This weary heart finds all it needs
In ever, only, Jesus

Chorus:

*I want to know You, Jesus my Lord
King of the Heavens, King of my soul
I trade my treasures and all my rewards
Jesus to know You, then know You more*

Though some should curse me for Your name
I have no fear, I have no shame
You stand with me for all my days
My ever, only, Jesus

Bridge:

Like wave after wave on the ocean
Like all of the sand on the shore
Your beauty and glory are endless
O Jesus I must know you more

Good Good Father

Oh, I've heard a thousand stories of what they think You're like
But I've heard the tender whisper of love in the dead of night
And You tell me that You're pleased and that I'm never alone

Chorus:

*You're a good, good Father
It's who You are, it's who You are, it's who You are
And I'm loved by You
It's who I am, it's who I am, it's who I am*

Oh, and I've seen many searching for answers far and wide
But I know we're all searching for answers only You provide
'Cause You know just what we need before we say a word

Bridge:

Because You are perfect in all of Your ways
You are perfect in all of Your ways
You are perfect in all of Your ways to us
You are perfect in all of Your ways
Oh, You're perfect in all of Your ways
You are perfect in all of Your ways to us

Oh, it's love so undeniable
I, I can hardly speak
Peace so unexplainable
I, I can hardly think
As You call me deeper still
As You call me deeper still
As You call me deeper still into love, love, love