



# Welcome to SANDOWN BAPTIST CHURCH

Our Vision is to . . .  
Reach others with Christ's love as we learn to follow Him

## SUNDAY 23rd SEPTEMBER 2018

<b>10.30 am</b>	<b>Morning Worship ~ Family Service (Harvest Sunday)</b>
<b>Worship Leader:</b>	Rev. Ian Lovell
<b>Preacher:</b>	Rev. Ian Lovell
<b>Theme:</b>	Life's First Cry
<b>Reading:</b>	Genesis 3 v. 16, John 16 v. 21, Romans 8 v. 22, Hebrews 12 v. 2, Galatians 4 v. 19



We give a warm welcome to everyone who has joined us today, especially if you are new here or are just visiting us for the day.

If you are visiting then please take the opportunity to sign our visitor's book before you leave today. If you are new to the church and wish to find out more of what we do here, then please make yourself known to our Minister or one of the Welcome Team.

Please stay seated throughout the service if you prefer. Refreshments are served at the end of the service in the vestibule and you are very welcome to stay and fellowship with us.

### Our Church Text for 2018

I will praise you, O Lord, with all my heart;  
I will tell of all your wonders.  
I will be glad and rejoice in you;  
I will sing praise to your name, O Most High.

**Psalm 9 v. 1 - 2**

## BE CAREFUL WHOM YOU CONFIDE IN

### Proverbs 11 v. 13 NLT

If you need help with a problem in your personal life, your family, or your career, keep the following things in mind: **1)** Bad news is often remembered longer than good news. Long after you have resolved the issue and moved on with your life, the wrong people will continue to focus on it and talk about it. That's why God's Word says, 'Those who are trustworthy can keep a confidence.' **2)** Be careful who advises you. 'The thoughts of the righteous are right, but the counsels of the wicked are deceitful' (**Proverbs 12 v. 5 NKJV**). Be sure you reach for the right person. There are many sources of wisdom in this world, 'but the wisdom that is from above is...pure...peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality and...hypocrisy' (**James 3 v. 17 NKJV**). Note the words, 'the wisdom that is from above'. Confide only in a counsellor who walks according to the principles of God's Word. **3)** Make sure the person you trust isn't confiding in others you wouldn't trust. They say you can tell a man by the company he keeps. And it's true! The Bible says, 'Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly' (**Psalms 1 v. 1 NKJV**). **4)** 'Problem talk' can portray you as a victim instead of an overcomer. Nobody wants to back a loser. When Job lost everything, almost everybody avoided him. It was only after God doubled Job's blessings that they returned to participate in his life and bring him gifts. It's always wise to control your mouth, your thoughts, and your focus. Remember, silence can never be misquoted.

**The enemy always  
fights the hardest**

*when he knows God  
has something great  
in store for you.*

-Unknown



## ARE YOU BEING STRETCHED?

### 1 Corinthians 9 v. 25 NLT

When you're being stretched spiritually, your faith in God grows. When you're being stretched mentally, your old ideas are challenged and replaced with new ones. When you're being stretched relationally, selfishness dies and love grows. So, are you being stretched right now? God allows us to have stretching experiences that prepare us for the race He has called us to run in life - and every so often your soul will 'hit the wall'. No amount of strength and no amount of pressing will move the problem. This is soul stretch! Often, these moments aren't the real test; they are just warm-ups that prepare us for future challenges. They are points of reference designed to keep us from panicking when we're in the midst of the real race. Remember that God never allows a person to run for Him, or with Him, who hasn't been stretched in their thinking, their faith, and their ability to live and love. So, when you face a problem that just won't move, remember to take a deep breath and remind yourself that God is stretching you. It's the stretching of the soul that enables us to face situations we think will kill us, but don't; to endure times when we think we won't make it, but do. Sooner or later we will all face difficult times and relationships, but they are just the deep knee bends of life. So, when it feels like you're being stretched to breaking point, don't quit. See it for what it is - preparation for running and winning your God-assigned race in life.

## PRAYER POINTERS

- Pray for those of our fellowship who are still unwell at this time.
- Please pray for those who work in the Police Force on the Island. Pray that they will be available and responsive to those they deal with.
- Pray for the future of our fellowship here at Sandown. Pray for our Pastor Ian as he leads us, and continue to pray for the various activities that go on during the week.
- Give thanks to God for Sandown Methodist Church and their Minister ~ Rev. Francis Watson.
- Give thanks to God for the way He guides you day by day.

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