

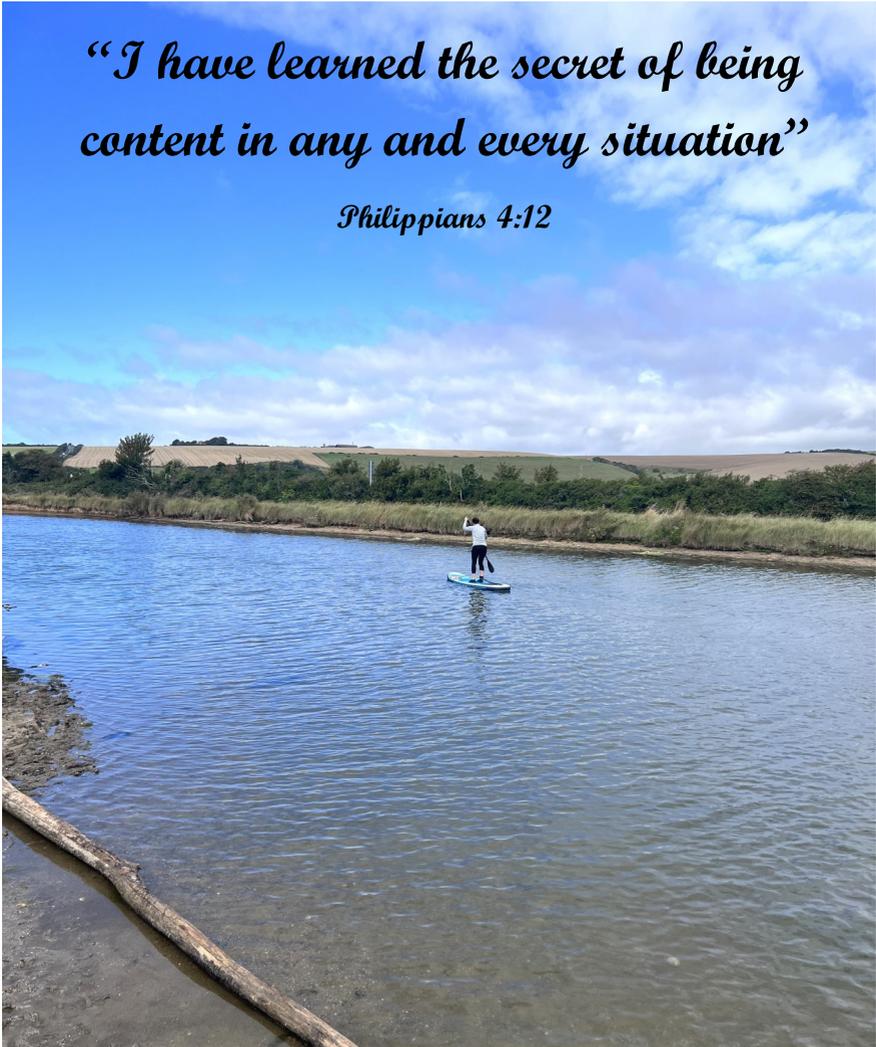


Sunday 22nd/29th October 2023

VICTORIA Baptist Church News

“I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation”

Philippians 4:12



Live in church and online



VICTORIA BAPTIST CHURCH
to see Jesus Christ honoured in Eastbourne and beyond

HOME JESUS ABOUT SUNDAYS FAMILIES CHURCH LIFE CONTACT US

Live at Ten with
**CHRIS SHORT AND
Ian Coffey**

latest
ons

CURRENT SERIES



ABOUT US



VBC on Facebook

DISCOVERING THE SECRET OF CONTENTMENT

Philippians 4:4-20

Ian Coffey retired at the end of 2022 after 15 years on the teaching team at Moorlands College. His final post was as Acting Principal. He has also been extensively involved with Saltmine Trust, the Evangelical Alliance and Spring Harvest. He was the senior minister at Mutley Baptist Church in Plymouth for a number of years and has had a number of books published.



Ian and Ruth live in a small village in Dorset and continue to travel extensively serving local churches.

BEHOLD THE MAN SESSION 10 - 6.30PM TONIGHT

The Divine Messiah



Some Bible scholars suggest Jesus was initially uncertain about His identity as the Messiah. In this session, Dwight Pryor shows how Jesus always knew He had to be about His Father's business; and how He gave many indications He is the Messiah, the Son of Man and the Shepherd of Israel. Do join us if you can. *Robin*

Next Sunday

Jez Taylor will be leading the service at 10am and preaching on a famous parable from Luke 10.

STAFF/OFFICE MATTERS

Staff movements for the coming week (week comm 23rd).

Chris annual leave
Sandra off Thursday
Erik off Thursday
Simon off Tuesday
Julie in Thursday

Colin annual leave
Kevin off Saturday
Tim in Wed & Fri am
Jez in Wed & Fri am
Helen in Mon
Nadine in Mon, Thurs

And next week (week comm 30th):

Chris off Tues Colin off Mon
Sandra off Thurs Kevin off Sat
Erik on leave Tim in Wed/Fri am
Simon off Tues Jez in Wed/Fri am
Julie in Thurs Helen in Mon
Nadine in Mon/Thurs

Senior Minister

Chris Short

PA to Senior Minister

Sandra Taylor

Family Ministries

Simon Grimes - Children

Erik Cornelisse - Youth

Church Administrator

Colin McMahon

Caretaker

Kevin Virgo

CAP Debt Centre Manager

Helen Diplock

CAP Debt Coach

Nadine Crawford-Piper

Treasurer

Mark Evason

Finance Assistant

Julie Hanks

Pastoral Team Leader

Tim Nunn

Life Group Coordinator

Jez Taylor

01323 737974

Eldon Road, Eastbourne

BN21 1UE

helpdesk@victoriabaptist.org.uk

www.victoriabaptist.org.uk

VBC Bank Details

Account Name:

Victoria Baptist Church Trust

Account Number: 00010297

Sort Code: 40-52-40

Staff contact details:

firstname@victoriabaptist.org.uk

(eg *chris@victoriabaptist.org.uk*)

*This coming week (Mon 23rd to Fri 27th) is the school half-term,
hence a quieter week re activities at the church.*

Sun	22	9.30am	Pre-Service Prayer Meeting in Chris' Office
		10.00am	Live & Online with Ian Coffey
		6.30pm	Behold the Man
		7.00pm	Xcav8
Mon	23		
Tues	24		Soaking in the Spirit (Ladies only)
Wed	25	8.30am	Community Fridge and Cafe
Thu	26	7.30am	Prayer Meeting (Men only)
			Men's Fellowship next meeting 2 nd November
		2.30pm	Women's Fellowship with Jez Taylor
		7.30pm	Ukraine Prayer Meeting
Fri	27	10.00am	Outreach Prayer Meeting
Sat	28		
Sun	29	9.30am	Pre-Service Prayer Meeting in Chris' Office
		10.00am	Live & Online with Jez Taylor
Mon	30	6.00pm	Girls Brigade
Tues	31	6.45pm	Alpha - "How can we have faith?"
Wed	1	8.30am	Community Fridge and Cafe
		10.00am	Vicky Bees
		6.30pm	Boys Brigade
Thu	2	7.30am	Prayer Meeting (for men only)
		10.00am	Alpha (Ladies only) - "Why & how do I pray?"
		10.15am	Men's Fellowship - Rev. Joth Hunt (SEBA)
		2.30pm	Women's Fellowship with Rev. Joth Hunt
		7.30pm	Ukraine Prayer Meeting
Fri	3	10.00am	Outreach Prayer Meeting
		10.00am	Vicky Bees
		5.00pm	Kids Club
		7.00pm	Xpect
Sat	4	9.00am	Ladies' Breakfast
Sun	5	9.30am	Pre-Service Prayer Meeting in Chris' Office
		10.00am	Live & Online with Chris Short to include Communion
		6.30pm	Prayer Meeting
		7.00pm	Xcav8

Two Weeks Ahead

BIBLE READING NOTES

Encounter with God and Daily Bread

Could those of you who receive these notes from me please pay for next year by Friday Nov 3rd? The cost for 2024 is £23. Please pay by bank transfer if possible, marking your

payment **Bible Reading Notes**. Otherwise, cash or cheque to the office please. Many thanks - Sandra

LADIES PRAYER BREAKFAST

The next Saturday morning prayer breakfast will be on 4th November, 9am-10.30am. The event will comprise a light breakfast followed by a talk from VBC member, Anakarina Rothe, and prayer.



LADIES ITALIAN NIGHT



Please sign up on the sheet in the Welcome Centre if any of you ladies would like to join us for an evening at *Pomodoro e Mozzarella* in Cornfield Terrace on Wed 15th Nov. We will meet at 7pm and would remind you that you are of course paying for your own meal!

CONGRATULATIONS!

George Ebdy will be celebrating his 21st birthday on Monday (23rd). I'm sure George, currently working in Devon, would appreciate your prayers as he reaches this milestone.



BRITISH SUMMER TIME ...

... sadly comes to an end at 2am on Sunday (29th) so don't forget to put your clocks back an hour. No excuses for being late to church!

PRAYER DIARY 23RD - 29TH OCTOBER

In these times of terror and dreadful atrocities, we often don't know what to pray. **Psalm 72** was written for or to Solomon. As we read we can pray for leaders of the world and pray for Christ the King to be acknowledged as ruler of the nations.

Monday *Psalm 72:1 - God, give the king the ability to judge fairly. He is your royal son. Help him to do what is right. 2 May he rule your people in the right way. May he be fair to those among your people who are hurting.* Lay before the Lord world leaders who need God's wisdom to deal with the desperate situations. Pray that prejudices will melt away and justice and peace will prevail. Believe that God has His hand on His appointed leaders.

Tuesday *Psalm 72:3 - May the mountains and the hills produce rich crops, because the people will do what is right. May there be plenty of grain everywhere in the land.* Pray for all those in Gaza, Israel, Ukraine, Sudan and elsewhere whose livelihoods have been destroyed and who face hunger and homelessness because of the attacks on their fields, towns and cities. Pray for ongoing planners to have these desperate people in the front of their mind.

Wednesday *Psalm 72:4 - May the king stand up for those who are hurting. May he save the children of those who are in need. May he crush those who treat others badly. The king will save needy people who cry out to him. He will save those who are hurting and have no one else to help.* Pray for those who are mourning the loss of loved ones, ask God's mercy on those who have been injured. Seek God's comfort for the children and elderly people who have lost contact with families. Pray for all those in hospital and for the people working frantically to help alleviate their pain.

Thursday *Psalm 72:14 - He will save them from people who treat others badly. He will save them from people who do mean things to them. Their lives are very special to Him.* Pray that the United Nations and other agencies will be effective and well governed. Commit to God the Red Cross, Red Crescent and other relief agencies. Ask God to ensure that humanitarian supplies will get through to the needy quickly. Give over to God those that have shown no respect for sanctuaries and pray that there will be justice.

Friday *Psalm 72:13 He will take pity on those who are weak and in need. He will save them from death.* Seek God's prompting to give generously, to speak up compassionately and to pray in line with His will. Give thanks for the love of Jesus to all people and that His kingdom will end all need.

FUEL FOR PRAYER

Saturday *Psalm 72:5 May the king rule as long as the sun shines and the moon gives its light. May He rule for all time to come. May he be like rain falling on the fields. May he be like showers watering the earth.* Pray that families, neighbours and nations will come to know the true Creator, Eternal King. Pray that those you know and our governments will realise that the Provider, Sustainer and Comforter is the true King and how He grieves over His people. Pray that God will refresh and cleanse any of your own thoughts, anger and prejudices.

Sunday *Psalm 72:11 May all kings bow down to Him. May all nations serve Him.* Give thanks for the God of Nations who we worship today. Give thanks for the liberty to do so in safety and comfort and pray for those who cannot do that today. Pray for those who know our Lord but whose circumstances prevent public worship, may they still acknowledge the King. Pray for those who don't yet know Jesus as King, pray particularly for world leaders to turn to God.

Preaching Engagements *Please remember in prayer*



Francis Bates	22 Oct	Halland Chapel, 11am
Brian Wightwick	22 Oct	Broadway United, Hampden Park, 10am
Francis Bates (Wed)	25 Oct	Gordon Rd Evangelical, Hailsham 2.30pm
Robin Lane	22 Oct	Golden Cross Chapel. 10.30am

Erik Cornelisse 31st October - 30th November in India (see back page)

Brian Wightwick - Brian is travelling to Bulgaria for two weeks, leaving here mid-week next week. Whilst this isn't a structured visit this time round, he is hoping for ministry opportunities and has a confirmed preaching engagement at Kazanlak on Sun Nov 5th. Please remember him in prayer for these opportunities to materialise - and of course I'm sure he would appreciate prayer for safety in his travels!

Flower Ministry

Many thanks to those of you who responded to the appeal for people to donate flowers later this year. All the dates advertised have now been filled.

As the end of the year gets ever closer though, perhaps you could give some thought to donating flowers in 2024. We already have most of January filled so if you have specific dates you would like to commemorate via the Flower Ministry, do contact Chris McMahan asap to ensure you get the date you would like, or as near as possible to it.

WEDDING OF THE YEAR!

Rachael Knights and Simon Grimes - Sat Oct 14th



Photos courtesy of Erik

Flower Ministry

The flowers on display this week donated by the Grimes families following the wedding on Saturday.



*Wedding Car
courtesy of
Adrian Attwater*



PRAYER DIARY 24TH OCTOBER - 5TH NOVEMBER

I glorified you on earth by completing down to the last detail what you assigned me to do. John 17:4

Monday Let's pray this week into serving God, thinking both of ourselves and others. Today please pray about our MPs, those in government and in our local councils. Also, pray for candidates for a possible general election in 2024 to return to the basic principles of politicians being there to serve the country for the good of the country and the world at large, and that they will be people of integrity and not prioritising self-gain and position.

Tuesday Please pray for CEOs, trustees, and staff employed in charities, especially Christian charities, to be humble, honest and caring people whose servant attitude will bring joy, practical support and a heart full of gratitude to God for the benefits they receive. And pray that they will be protected from the shame of financial irregularities.

Wednesday Please pray for God's blessing on the many people who serve God in our community, for example with Foodbank, community fridge, chaplains at the hospital. Pray that the recipients will know, through the power of the Holy Spirit, that they are being supported because of the love of Jesus Christ.

Thursday Please pray today for Christians you know of in the work place who are praying to be guided by God as to when to share the love of Christ with colleagues. Christians all around the world are using the workplace as their main outreach to serve God, as this is where God has placed them. This is a delicate area of witness. Please pray for discernment, wisdom and for Christians to remain always in the presence of the Lord.

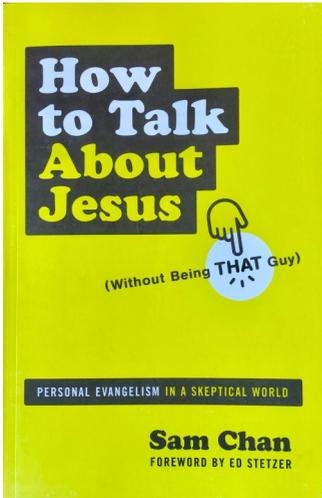
Friday Please pray for Christians serving God as missionaries around the world, some places are very dangerous to serve and reach out to people of other faiths. Please pray that they will be guided wisely and pray for their physical protection.

Saturday We serve God in our families as we teach our children about God's love, as we try to negotiate the hostility of non-Christian adult family members, and as we give our time to elderly parents who can be wearing on our patience if they have dementia or other problems - not meaning to sound negative, but the practical reality of family life can make it a tough place to serve. Please pray for all who you know who need God's strength to serve Him well in these situations.

Sunday Matthew 7:16 "You can tell what they are by what they do" Ask God to make His will for your service to Him clear to you as you wait in His presence with this verse from Matthew.

FUEL FOR PRAYER

Book Review - by John Demetriou



I usually avoid books on evangelism because I find they don't work for me, they make me feel guilty or they overemphasise technique. This book written by a Chinese Australian doctor evangelist in Sydney (interesting in itself) has some of the above but nevertheless makes some interesting observations and suggestions on the subject that are insightful, realistic, practical, biblical and helpful.

His main premise is that evangelism is a **lifestyle choice** and not something we should add on or have to force ourselves to do in our already busy lives, especially on your own. Instead, it is best done with Christian friends and requires investing time with non-Christians as part of our calling to spread the Good News of Christianity.

We need to be willing to go to their events/places and really listen to what they believe, and interests them, so as to earn the right to give a Christian response and be in a better position to invite them to our events where they can meet other Christians and be exposed to the gospel. Too often, non-Christians don't have Christian friends and Christians don't have non-Christian friends which means both have lopsided views of each other's beliefs and makes witnessing less effective.

Sam Chan gives practical examples of how to listen effectively, then know when and how to respond with language appropriate for today, using the Bible to provide us with a rich source of story and teaching material to help us. He shows how we can avoid unnecessary arguments of 'I say', 'You say', by using Jesus' teaching and the Bible as an objective resource to witness with. This could be in defending Christianity, or offering **positive reasons** to explain concepts that matter to people such as hope, purpose, meaning, love and human rights, as Tim Keller does in his book, 'Making Sense of God'. This is especially applicable to our modern post-Christian western culture where there is ignorance and misunderstanding of Christianity, and what people often depend on has no solid basis.

The book is not long, comprising easy-to-read chapters with practical examples, and has a depth based on sound social research and Bible teaching, getting the balance right between God's sovereignty and our responsibility in evangelism.

Paul told the Thessalonians, 'You know how **we lived among you** for your sake.' (1Thess.1:5). Our Lord gave us numerous examples of mixing with unbelievers whether at weddings, in their homes, or elsewhere, as did Paul - eg at the market place surrounded by many pagan temples in Athens. This book encourages us to cultivate a lifestyle where we also make an effort to do the same and to be effective witnesses for Him.

- Erik India Trip -

Thank you for journeying with me on this road to India. Your prayers have thus far carried us, especially dealing with the whole VISA palaver (*love that word, say it slowly ... palaver*). A lot of patience was needed. A fair few trips to London, but I now have it, praise the Lord. Have had my jabs, and I'd better start packing a few items. Your prayers will be appreciated as the local police could stop me doing anything and, although some time with friends is also amazing, I would truly want to engage with every opportunity that will arise.

My rough itinerary:

29th October, overnight at Heathrow with a 10.00am **flight on 30th**.

All being well, I'll land in Delhi, 31st at 00.40 (local time) to wait for a connecting flight to Kolkata (08.45am). Then I'll change for a flight to Jorhat. This is followed by a winding five hour drive, through forests and mountains to Mokokchung. After registering my presence at the local police station I hope to get involved in a few school assemblies (school is run by the local Baptist church). I also hope to assist in a cross cultural bible school, speak on both Sundays at a Baptist church as well as a cross denominational church, (both are English speaking).

14th or 15th November I will fly back to Kolkata. I will stay overnight in Kolkata with Biduytas' brother and fly from

there to Visakapatnam to be with Biduyta for the final two weeks.

There I will be re-united with the school I volunteered at 10 years ago as well as the day-care centres and local, rural churches. Please pray as Orissa state is hostile to the gospel.



29th November I will fly to Delhi where I will connect to the flight that will take me back to home to Paula (landing 5.00pm on 30th).

Give thanks:

- * for this trip to be possible
- * support from friends and church

Prayers:

- * connections (flights and people)
- * outreach opportunities
- * Paula

Thank you so much. God Bless, Erik

"If I say, "I will not mention Him, or speak any more in His name," there is in my heart as it were, a burning fire shut up in my bones, and I am weary with holding it in, indeed I cannot."
Jeremiah 20:9