

Choosing to Honor God

"To the faithful you show yourself faithful." Psalm 18:25

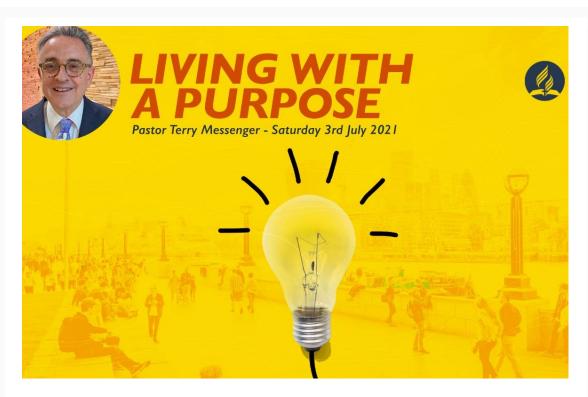
In the novella Family Happiness by Leo Tolstoy, main characters Sergey and Masha meet when Masha is young and impressionable. Sergey is an older, well-traveled businessman who understands the world beyond the rural setting where Masha lives. Over time, the two fall in love and marry.

They settle in the countryside, but Masha becomes bored with her surroundings. Sergey, who adores her, arranges a trip to St. Petersburg. There, Masha's beauty and charm bring her instant popularity. Just as the couple is about to return home, a prince arrives in town, wanting to meet her. Sergey knows he can force Masha to leave with him, but he lets her make the decision. She chooses to stay, and her betrayal breaks his heart.

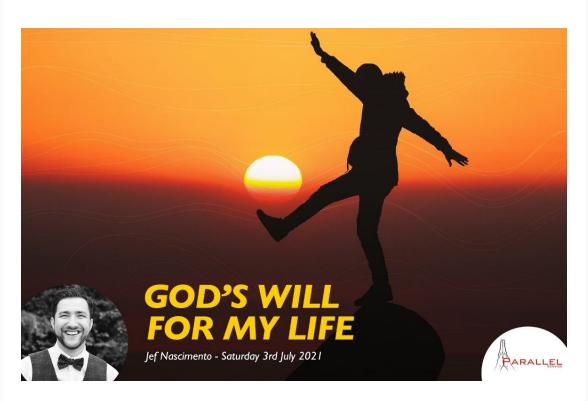
Like Sergey, God will never force us to be faithful to Him. Because He loves us, He lets us choose for or against Him. Our first choice for Him happens when we receive His Son, Jesus Christ, as the sacrifice for our sin (1 John 4:9–10). After that, we have a lifetime of decisions to make.

Will we choose faithfulness to God as His Spirit guides us or let the world entice us? David's life wasn't perfect, but he often wrote about keeping "the ways of the Lord" and the good outcomes that came from doing so (Psalm 18:21–24). When our choices honor God, we can experience the blessing David described: to the faithful, God shows Himself faithful.

By: Jennifer Benson Schuldt - Taken from odb.org



Watch the <u>Traditional Service</u> online with Pastor Terry Messenger



Watch the Parallel Service online with Jef Nascimento
At the Park, 12 noon (Weather permitting)

| Announcements / News | |
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| | The board are recommending that Massimo Molteni be elected as Adult Sabbath School Leader until the end of 2021. Please address any queries to the pastoral team. This is the first reading |
| | Please be informed that a memorial service will take place on Monday 5th July at 2pm here at the church for the late Valerie Freeman (Dust). Valerie had previously worked at Granose and been a teacher at Stanborough School after her son David Munson's father (Pastor Geoffrey Munson) passed away in 1979. During the COVID pandemic Valerie tuned in each week to the church service at Stanborough and recently donated a set of handbells to the Stanborough Music College to be used for Christian outreach. Valerie unexpectedly passed away on May 29th following a stroke. Her wishes are to be cremated and for her ashes to be interred with her husband in North Watford Cemetery. Let us keep the family in prayer at this time. |
| | Services will be live during the month of July. If you wish to attend the services please contact Audrey Balderstone (abalderstone@btconnect.com) or Roger Murphy (rt.murphy@hotmail.com) who will assist to accommodate you. |
| | Parallel Service: Weather permitting the Parallel will worship from 12 noon onwards in the park (Stanborough Park) on 3rd July. People can bring garden chairs or mats and a picnic if they want. If the weather does not allow, then Parallel will meet with Zoom as usual. Meeting ID: 840 134 7522 Passcode: 2007691 |
| | For information about Earliteen Sabbath School. please email: |

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For information about **Junior Sabbath School,** please email:

spcjuniorss@gmail.com

For information about Primary Sabbath School, please email:
ekansere@gmail.com

For information about Kindergarten Sabbath School, please email:
ishida.yvonne@gmail.com

ADRA Audrey Balderstone is almost at the half-way mark of her year of giving to ADRA UK to mark the birthdays of her family and friends. Others have joined in to celebrate their birthdays too. If you would like to join them and swell the

Cradle Roll Programme May edition Sabbath at 9:45am on <u>Youtube</u> and Facebook.

funds for ADRA UK then please go to https:justgiving.com/fundraising/Audrey-

WALK FOR ADRA: As a global humanitarian agency, ADRA has felt the impact of COVID-19 in its projects around the world. Most of ADRA-UK's overseas projects are financially challenged by the onset of the novel coronavirus. Bert Smit, CEO, stated, 'We have made commitments to complete these projects and to ease and eliminate the suffering of people in need. 'We need your help to fulfil these commitments'. As we commence this journey together, here's the process to follow in order to register to WALKFORADRA.

- 1. Register using our online form at https://adra.org.uk/walkforadra
- 2. Create your Just Giving profile/page

Balderstone1

- 3. Download the tracker, or use your phone health app/ watch to keep track of your miles walked then report your miles to us through our online form.
- 4. Remember to have fun, enjoy every moment while you WALK FOR ADRA!

| ☐ The next Church Business Meeting has been postponed to 25th | July |
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☐ The flowers in the church today have been given with thankfulness by Esther Kansere on the occasion of her 50th Birthday.

Esther writes: "I thank God for He has been my everything, He is my life! My prayer is that He continues to guide and light my path for the rest of my life's journey! Amen!"

Robert (Bobby) Kitchen, whom many will remember from his days as a young person on the Park, has been awarded an OBE from Her Majesty The Queen for his Humanitarian Aid Work during the Pandemic. Bobby and his wife Anna (nee Reichenberg) are based in New York. Bobby is Vice President of the Rapid Response Unit of the International Rescue Committee and Anna works for the United Nations.

We send our warmest congratulations to Bobby for this great honour and wish them both every blessing as they serve others.

Upcoming dates:

Members/Business Meeting: 25th July. Please note that the only agenda item for this meeting is the proposed new worship format. A regular business meeting will be scheduled at a later date to be announced.

Please be advised that **Pastor Geert** will be taking his Sabbatical during the months of August to October inclusive.

Pastor Terry will be on annual leave from 26th July to 8th August.

Communion: 10 July

Traditional Worship Service - 26th June

Welcome & Announcements - Audrey Balderstone
Meditation - 'I would be like Jesus'
Opening prayer - Audrey Balderstone
Call to Worship - 'Be Still', (02.06.2018, 5:04)
Baby Dedication
Children's Story - Lynette Allcock
Hymn of praise - ' Speak Oh Lord', (02.03.10, 44:05)
Thanksgiving - Esther Kansere

Family Prayer - Mr & Mrs Nalli Scripture Reading - Romans 12: 9-21 (NIV), Sylvia Elmadjian Special item - 'Take my life', Tony Best

Sermon - 'Living With A Purpose', Terry Messenger

Closing hymn - 'Leaning on the Everlasting Arms', (22.02.2020, 27:10) Benediction - Terry Messenger Postlude - 'He Leadeth Me'









Are our goals God's goals?



Cradle Roll Sabbath School

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www.stanboroughchurch.org

Stanborough Park Church is part of the <u>Seventh-Day</u> Adventist Church 609 St. Albans Road, Watford, <u>WD25 9JL</u>

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