

## The True Nature of Love

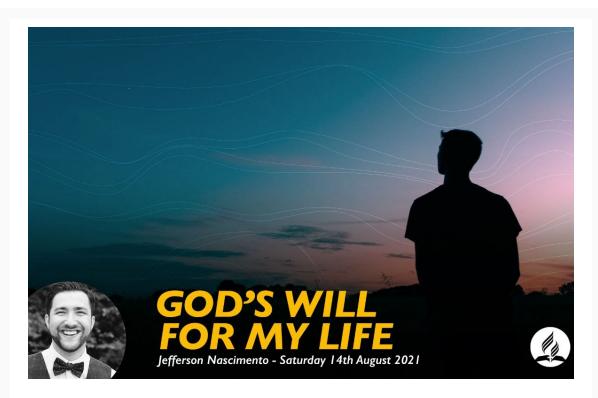
#### "They gave as much as they were able." 2 Corinthians 8:3

During the pandemic lockdown, Jerry was forced to close his fitness center and had no income for months. One day he received a text from a friend asking to meet him at his facility at 6:00 p.m. Jerry wasn't sure why but made his way there. Soon cars started streaming into the parking lot. The driver in the first car placed a basket on the sidewalk near the building. Then car after car (maybe fifty of them) came by. Those inside waved at Jerry or hollered out a hello, stopped at the basket, and dropped in a card or cash. Some sacrificed their money; all gave their time to encourage him.

The true nature of love is sacrificial, according to the apostle Paul. He explained to the Corinthians that the Macedonians gave "even beyond their ability" so they could meet the needs of the apostles and others (2 Corinthians 8:3). They even "pleaded" with Paul for the opportunity to give to them and to God's people. The basis for their giving was the sacrificial heart of Jesus Himself. He left the riches of heaven to come to earth to be a servant and to give His very life. "Though he was rich, yet for [our] sake he became poor" (v. 9).

May we too plead with God so that we might "excel in this grace of giving" (v. 7) in order to lovingly meet the needs of others.

By: Anne Cetas - Taken from odb.org



### Watch the Traditional Service online with Jefferson Nascimento

# **TESTIMONY SABBATH**

Weather permitting we will gather in the park - Saturday 14th August 2021



The <u>Parallel Service</u> will be at the park 12pm (weather permitting)

# **Announcements / News**

- COVID 19 restrictions. The church board have voted to follow these guidelines but have included the following caveats:
  - 1. For worship services to increase the capacity of numbers attending to 200

2. To recommend mask wearing, social distancing and use of hand sanitisers. (Congregational singing can occur with masks on)

3. Sabbath schools and Parallel service to be able to set numbers according to the above guidance.

Weddings and funerals to decide their own policies in accordance with legal guidelines.

- The flowers today are given by Brian & Cecilia Davison as thanks to God for His grace, leading and many blessings over the past 51 years.
- Men's group launch Have you ever felt overwhelmed by daily life and overall pressure? A new initiative is being launched named "Decompression Chamber", a men's group with a focus on brotherhood, spiritual growth mutual support, activities and some fun. For any information please contact Massimo 07501220238 or massimo.molteni@gmail.com

### Children's Sabbath School Prayer Request

Presently we are running five different Sabbath school groups: Cradle Roll, Kindergarten, Primary, Junior and Earliteen. Unfortunately, there is no leader for either the Kindergarten or Junior Sabbath schools. Cradle Roll is in need of more people to support the team. The team of people supporting Kindergarten is very small (about 2 adults and a handful of young people). The group supporting Primary is dwindling and is almost non-existent. The team supporting Junior is also very small (less than 5 and some of these are irregular supporters.) Thank you to the great team of people that are currently supporting Earliteen Sabbath school. It is not and will not be possible to continue running Sabbath school with this level of support. Please pray for our Children's Sabbath School. Please pray that God will provide the support we desperately need and please prayerfully consider whether you are able to offer support in some practical way.

**Parallel Service:** Weather permitting we will gather in the park for a "Testimony Sabbath". We will share short testimonies of God's goodness, pray together, and fellowship with one another. Please bring camping chairs, a picnic rug, food and drinks to stay for the picnic. If the weather is unsuitable, we will move the meeting to the Cedar Sycamore room.

**Outdoor Bible Games** - Organised by Sabbath School and Pathfinders 14th August 3pm to 5pm. There will be 3 Groups for the activity ages: 4 to 7 (with parents), 8-12, 13-18. Weather permitting there will be a picnic on Stanborough park before the activities for those who would like to attend.

### ADRA ANNUAL APPEAL

Audrey is thankful to God for all the donations which have been sent to her Just Giving Page for ADRA. These have been added to the donations Audrey is making on the birthdays of her family and friends throughout the year. The total raised is almost £10,000.00 - at the halfway point of the year. If you would like to acknowledge a birthday or give thanks to God by donating to ADRA please go to <u>https:justgiving.com/fundraising/Audrey-Balderstone1</u> *Thank you* 

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

**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 <u>WALKFORADRA</u>.

1. Register using our online form at https://adra.org.uk/walkforadra

2. Create your Just Giving profile/page

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!

- 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.
- The Bussue family wishes to thank the church for your kindness through the cards flowers, messages of condolence and prayers for our Matriarch; Muriel who died peacefully at home surrounded by family on 30.7.21. Mum was 88 and her funeral will take place in Sheffield on 23.8.21.
- In the absence of Pastor Terry, who is unwell, the Business Meeting scheduled for August 15 at 6pm will now be chaired by David Burgess.
  Department leads - Please send by 8pm Thursday 12th August a VERY SHORT report back to <u>bouillonbredes@gmail.com</u> covering:

1. Overview of what you've done in 2020-2021, progress, key outcomes and activities. 2. A simple statement about the plan for the rest of 2021. Will you restart and what is planned until December?

If you miss the Thursday deadline, please contact Alix at <u>bouillonbredes@gmail.com</u> as you will need to arrange to print copies in preparation for the meeting.

A Zoom facility is available for those unable to attend the meeting in person. Zoom Meeting ID: 797 018 2915 // Passcode: 532965

### **Traditional Worship Service - 14th August**

Prelude - Neilson Roberts Welcome and announcements - Florence Allen Call to Worship - NAH 592 Joyful Joyful (2 verses) Invocation - Florence Allen Hymn of Praise - NAH 596 Praise Him, Praise Him Children's story - Alison Burgess Tithes and offerings - Alison Burgess A Psalm of Thanksgiving Psalm 100 (NKJV) - Nigel Phillips Pass It On - Children's Choir Scripture reading Jeremiah 29: 11 - Jefferson Nascimento Family prayer - John Ferguson Sermon "God's Will For My Life" - Jefferson Nascimento Hymn NAH 602 - Be Thou My Vision Benediction - Jefferson Nascimento Postlude - Neilson Roberts







**The Greatest Fireworks** 

Cradle Roll Sabbath School -August 2021

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Stanborough Park Church

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