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Money has influenced lives for thousands of years. The Bible references money and how to handle it around 2,500 times, showing that God considers it important too.

I for one am really excited about the fact that our church is offering

the free CAP Money Course to those who would like to learn about good money management skills in a practical way that can bring a real impact to our everyday lives.

The CAP Money Course has been helping people to manage their money since 2008. There are thousands of people who are not in debt today because of what they learned on the CAP Money Course run through local churches.

Throughout the course we will learn about principles such as how to build and live on a budget. This is the cornerstone of managing your money well.

I love the quote from John Maxwell who says:

"A budget is telling your money where to go instead of wondering where it went."

Budgeting is an empowering skill to learn and apply in our lives. I do appreciate the feeling it brings of being in control of our money instead of being controlled by it. It fills me with confidence and peace to be able to manage the resources God entrusted us with.

We will also learn about the CAP Money System, that helps giving clarity about dividing your money into a three-account system, simplifying the way you keep track of your finances.

The course will run for 3 weeks on Zoom, starting on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> February. Each session will run from 7:30pm.

Please email swallownestbaptist@gmail.com, or contact the leadership team on 07536 992946, if you would like to sign up to the course. All are welcome, but places are limited and will be allocated on a first come first served basis.

God Bless You, and I hope to see you on the course.

Kriszta Bicskey

Also see our website: <a href="https://www.swallownestbaptist.org.uk/cap-money-course">www.swallownestbaptist.org.uk/cap-money-course</a>

## Is it safe to venture out... not quite yet!

Let me start by saying Happy New Year! Here we are, just getting into 2021 and almost at the end of the first month. It wasn't what we expected I guess but nonetheless we have been greatly reassured by the way people are continuing to connect together in these strange and frustrating circumstances.

I recall saying these words at the Lord's Table recently one Sunday:

"Our unity is more marked in our dispersion. Our eating and drinking together in this way is a prophetic statement to the principalities and powers, to the spiritual forces and to the watching world – the church is not bricks and mortar. The church is not a group of people huddled together in the face of an indifferent world. The church is spread through the world like seeds in the soil, like yeast in the dough, like salt in the pot, and yet crucially, it is always church. And in the rhythms of worship, and most particularly in the rhythm of our eating together in this way, we proclaim our unity."

These words and prayers are needed more than ever as we experience the worst of Covid-19 at this present time. However, we continue in this third lockdown with fresh hope as the vaccines continue to be rolled out. We give glory and thanks to God for the tireless efforts and determination of those brave heroes of the NHS delivering supplies, being a non-anxious presence in the face of chaos and administering jab after jab. We have a renewed call to persevere in prayer as Covid-19 threatens to overwhelm our health service and continues to inflict pain and loss. Therefore, let us stand together with many others and renew our commitment to sustained prayer.

Please continue to encourage and affirm each other in word and deed. Get in touch with someone to pray or to have a catch up. This will mean so much to them to know they are thought and cared for. Remember that we have a gracious God who longs for a deeper relationship with us. May I encourage you, and remind you, of how God is speaking into our church family and community in various ways and as we reach out to the least, the last and the lost. The food box project has been a great example of this. Many people got involved and together we delivered 38 parcels to families in great need. We were able to share God's provision and love, and sow a seed that we pray God will bring to fruition in new transformed lives.

Contact Us



My prayer for us all in these ever changing times is, "God of every blessing, in this new season I invite you to shape our souls with your words and inspire our lives through your works. Teach us to walk in the way of blessing. Jesus, help us to give ourselves away to others, being kind to everyone we meet. Holy Spirit, help us to love the lost,

proclaiming Christ in all we do and say. Amen."

Take great care and stay safe!





David Skeet is our Church Team Leader

If you wish to speak to the leadership team, or if you have any items of news or prayer requests that you would like the church to know about, then please contact:

07536 992946



A huge thank you to all of you who volunteered at the Food Bank drive which we held on Saturday  $12^{th}$  December at Swallownest Co-op. We collected 10 large crates of food and had £170.92 in donations on the day. Many thanks as well to everyone who donated, and to the Co-op for their continued support. We were also contacted by a lady who had fund raised £100 at work and wanted to donate this to the foodbank. This is truly amazing considering we didn't think we would be able to hold the event. This will go a long way to supporting those, in our local community, in most need.

#### What's On

Our **Sunday Services** will continue to take place every Sunday at 10:30am via our YouTube Channel. The first and third Sunday of each month will include communion. The audio from the Sunday Service is also available on our website under Bible Talks, and through our Podcast.



Feb		Mar	
$7^{\text{th}}$	Rob Joyce (Communion)	$7^{\text{th}}$	Olivia Egan (Communion)
$14^{\text{th}}$	David Skeet	$14^{th}$	David Skeet
21st	Rob Joyce (Communion)	21st	Clive Burnard (Communion)
$28^{\text{th}\ast}$	David Skeet	$28^{\text{th}*}$	Rob Joyce

<sup>\*</sup>Coffee and chat via Zoom after the service at 11:45am.

You can subscribe to our YouTube channel and click on the little bell to get notifications when we post something new. Head over to YouTube and search for Swallownest Baptist Church.



All our previous live streamed services are available to watch again on our YouTube channel. We have recently starting using the new **YouTube chapters feature**. This enables videos to be broken up into individual time stamped sections, within the video progress bar.

This makes it really easy to quickly jump to a particular part of the service, for example to re-watch the weekly notices or the sermon.





The **Prayer Meeting** takes place on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday morning of each month at 9:00am.

- 6<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> February
- 6th and 20th March

The **Midweek Communion Service** takes place on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of each month at 7:30pm.

- 3rd February
- 3rd March

A time of **Prayer & Meditation** takes place on the  $2^{nd}$  and  $4^{th}$  Monday at 9:30am.

- 8th and 22nd February
- 8th and 22nd March

We offer an open invitation to anyone who would like to join us at any of our events. Email <a href="mailto:swallownestbaptist@gmail.com">swallownestbaptist@gmail.com</a> for further information.



8<sup>th</sup> Feb 2021

3 weekly sessions

7:30pm – 9:30pm Online via Zoom

A free course to help you manage your money better and learn to budget, save and spend well.



For more info or to book a place contact: swallownestbaptist@gmail.com



"Jesus looked at them and said, 'With man this is impossible, but not with God; all things are possible with God." Mark 10:27

"The LORD is my strength and my defence; he has become my salvation." **Psalm 118:14** 

"...being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus." **Philippians 1:6** 

"The LORD makes firm the steps of the one who delights in him; though he may stumble, he will not fall, for the LORD upholds him with his hand." Psalm 37:23-24

"I can do all this through him who gives me strength."

Philippians 4:13

"...but those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint." Isaiah 40:31

# Verses of Encouragement

As we continue through the challenges of the pandemic and lockdown #3, let's take time to dwell on God's Word from which we can draw encouragement, strength and comfort.

"God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging." **Psalm 46:1-3** 

"The LORD is good, a refuge in times of trouble. He cares for those who trust in him." **Nahum 1:7** 

"I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world." John 16:33

"And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." **Philippians 4:7** 

"Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus." **Philippians 4:6-7** 

"And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose." Romans 8:28

"The LORD himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged." **Deuteronomy 31:8**  "I keep my eyes always on the LORD. With him at my right hand, I shall not be shaken."

**Psalm 16:8**