

# Stuff You Need to Know...

**THE FAMILY ROOM** is available for parents of children who need a temporary space away during the service yet close enough to easily slip back in. The room is located on the drum-side overflow at the back of the upper auditorium. Please feel free to check it out.

## *Coming Soon!*

Small Groups:	ongoing till Nov. 4th
Clothing Loft	Oct. 27 <sup>th</sup> 10-1pm

Our Elders' Board is comprised of:

Chairman:	Scott Cushing
Vice Chairman:	Keith Piquette
Treasurer:	Andrew Smith
Secretary:	Saha Chatterpaul
Apprentice Elder:	Dave Carpenter

## **Weekly E-blast and Prayer Points!**

A listing of upcoming church events and Prayer Points is emailed to all those on the Congregational E-mail List. If you didn't receive an email on Friday, and you would like to be included in our weekly-email, please notify the church office

[office@spfamillychurch.ca](mailto:office@spfamillychurch.ca).

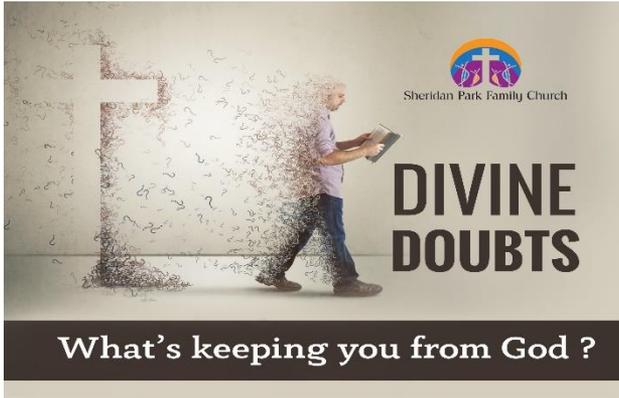
Would you like your church family to pray for you? Prayer requests may be submitted to the church office before Fridays.

**THE FOOD BANK...**is in need of **apple sauce, pudding cups and granola bars.**

**THE LOFT...**is in need of girls' and boys' clothes size 2 and up and men's clothes.



## Sheridan Park Family Church



# Why Does God Allow Suffering?

**Sunday October 21, 2018**

9:00-10:00am Prayer in the **Downstairs** Fireside Room

10:30am Service

Speaker: Pastor Keith Piquette

This month's elder is Saha Chatterpaul.

In case of need or an emergency he can be reached at 905-824-7070.

*Welcome!*

We are so glad you are joining us this morning. We would love to greet you personally at our Welcome Table. Please pick up an information sheet about our various ministries or visit our website: [www.spfamilychurch.ca](http://www.spfamilychurch.ca).

We love kids! Let us spend time with them in a safe, friendly environment while you enjoy the service. Before the service nursery is available for newborn to age 2 and Kids Connecting Jr for age 2-3. Age 4 to grade 6 begin in the service with their parents, then part way through the service kids and leaders go downstairs for their own Kids Connecting time.

**kids**

**Divine Doubts Sermon Summary: Oct 21, 2018**  
**Why Does God Allow Suffering?**

- The existence of suffering is something that troubles us all and may make us doubt God. We question not just the existence of God, but whether God is someone we can trust.
- The problem of suffering is not just a problem for the Christian, it is a problem for everybody and every worldview. However, Christian faith offers the greatest solution for dealing with the problem.
- God can still be good and allow suffering if that suffering allows a greater good to take place.
  - There are times in our lives when we do get a glimpse into God's love through our suffering.
    - Story of Joseph
- The story of the Bible helps us to process suffering
  - In the Garden of Eden, we can see that it was never God's intent that suffering exist.
  - Because He died on a cross, we know that God loves us even in our suffering.
  - Our God can understand us and comfort us in our suffering because He suffered as well.
  - At the end of the story God will put an end to all pain and suffering.
- In the meantime, Christians should follow the example of Jesus...
  - By discipling others into God's kingdom.
  - By alleviating pain & suffering when we can.

## **Small Group Discussion Questions: Oct 21, 2018**

### **Why Does God Allow Suffering?**

1. What insight, principle, or observation from this weekend's message did you find to be most helpful, eye-opening, or troubling? Explain.
2. Discuss last week's weekly challenge, "ask someone if they believe there is only one way to God and why they came to their conclusion".
3. Can you recall a time when you were in pain or suffering and you questioned why God was allowing it to happen? How did you process this?
4. The problem of pain & suffering has the power to draw people towards or away from God. From your experience, how have you witnessed this?
5. In the message it was said that "God can still be good and allow suffering if that suffering allows a greater good to take place." How do you understand this?
6. Pastor Keith used the illustration of allowing his son to be vaccinated and witnessing the hurt and confusion in his eyes. How does this illustration help us understand God and the problem of pain? Can you think of your own story along the same lines?
7. The story of Joseph provides reasoning for why one man was allowed to endure great suffering. Can you think of other stories in the Bible? In your own life, have you seen how God used particular suffering for a greater good?
8. It was argued that the Christian story (the Bible) provides the best solution(s) for dealing with the problem of suffering. What are some ways that it helps? How do other religions or worldviews deal with the problem of suffering?
9. What should be the Christian response to pain and suffering in this world?
10. How would you comfort a Christian who was experiencing great pain and suffering?
11. How would you respond to someone who says, "Look at the recent hurricanes"? "How can you say a loving God exists?"

### **This Week's Challenge:**

Find at least one way in which you can help alleviate pain or suffering from another person(s). Let them know why you are helping them.