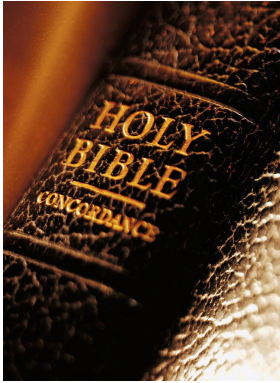




# Bible Studies for the Week of August 10th 2008



AM Sermon .....	Free Choice ( <b>Ricci</b> )
Scripture Reading for Sermon.....	Genesis 2:16
Adult Bible Study.....	Ecclesiastes ( <b>Ricci</b> )
Scripture Reading for service .....	Genesis 3:1-19; Romans 5
Sunday School Class .....	( <b>Rita</b> )
Thursday Bible Class .....	Matthew 24 ( <b>Trevor</b> )
Ladies Bible Class .....	
Sunday Night Bible Class .....	

## CON: Churches.

Accepting the opinions of men as "gospel truth" causes division and is a large part of the reason there are so many "churches"



They were not content with just being mere Christians. They wanted their own personalized, "Christian club." This lack of wanting to be merely Christians causes many "churches" to come into existence today. The third reason we have so many "churches" is because there are many who simply want their own way. And they want it enough that they are willing to allow a church to be divided over their own opinions. They confuse their opinion with what the scriptures teach. To avoid this requires that we study and know what the Bible teaches so that we do not pawn off our own opinions as Biblical teaching and so that we do not pawn off Biblical teaching as our own opinions. Either mistake is disastrous when it comes to the unity of the church. The Christians at Borea practiced this. We read in Acts 17:11 "*These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they*

*received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so.*"

They did not merely accept the preacher's opinion regarding what the Bible taught. They checked things out; they made absolute sure that what Paul was saying was the truth. They were not content to accept Paul's opinion. Accepting the opinions of men as "gospel truth" causes division and is a large part of the reason there are so many "churches" today. What is your desire my friend? Do you long for the kind of unity for which Jesus prayed? Do you desire to test the things that you believe against what the scriptures say? Do you want more than anything to be "just a Christian?" Then I offer you this challenge this very day. Find a "church." Question them regarding what they believe and practice. If the scrip-

tures do not teach it, then reject it. If they are doing what the scriptures teach and ONLY what the scriptures teach, then accept it and become part of that church today. It is my personal conviction that the church of which I am a member, the church that belongs to Christ--the church of Christ--is doing exactly this, no more and no less. The church of Christ is not a denomination as many are lead to believe. It is merely a body of Christians who meet every week to worship together and who have banded together in God's church to further the work of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

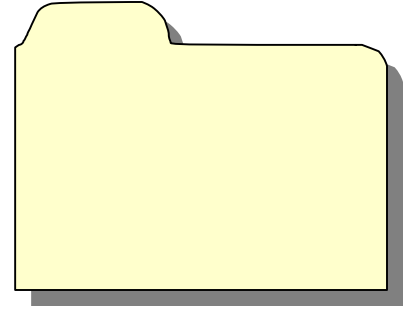
We invite you to learn more about us and lead the simple life that is called "Christian."

**Psalm to think about when you might watch the "sin box" till late.**

**Psalm 127:2**

# For The Files: Week Beginning August 3rd 2008

Sunday Bible Class .....	14
Sunday AM Worship .....	26
Sunday School .....	3
Tuesday Night Study - Once A Month .....	5
Thursday Evening Study .....	12
Contribution .....	
Budget .....	£135.00.



## Ricci's Corner.

### I cant Repay It

We, of all people, are most blessed both physically and spiritually. And when we consider how graciously and richly God has blessed us we should easily be struck with the realization there is no way to pay Him back. Acknowledging this, we accept His gifts with a humble and thankful heart.

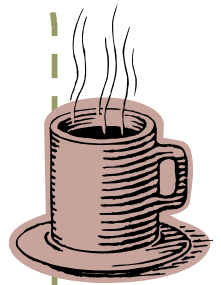
Do we feel a great sense of indebtedness to God? Seeing that we cannot possibly repay Him, does that remove us from any responsibility regarding this debt? Are we not to be good stewards of our blessings and strive to bring blessing to others?

Paul felt a deep sense of indebtedness. To the church at Corinth he wrote: "(9) For I am the least of the apostles and DO NOT EVEN DESERVE to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. (10) BUT BY THE GRACE OF GOD I AM WHAT I AM, AND HIS GRACE TO ME WAS NOT WITHOUT EFFECT. No, I worked harder than all of them - yet not I, but the grace of God that was with me." (1 Corin-

thians 15:9-10) And to the church at Rome he acknowledged, "(14) I AM OBLIGATED [or "debtor"] both to Greeks and non-Greeks, both to the wise and the foolish. (15) That is why I am so eager to preach the gospel also to you who are at Rome." (Romans 1:14-15) Paul, in magnanimous ways, reached out to others with the blessing of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. He could not buy or repay such a grace as He had received and so he, allowing God to work through his life, paid it forward, thus bringing God's blessings to others. As we read through Acts and the letters of instruction Paul wrote, we see clearly how churches and individuals were impacted by His life.

Because the Christians of Macedonia and Achaia had shared in the Gospel blessing of the Jews, even though Paul noted their being pleased to give of their material things to help the Jewish Christians in Jerusalem, he noted that it was really owed anyway. (Romans 15:25-27) And the Macedonians were ea-

ger to have the privilege to give. In fact, they pleaded to be given the opportunity in sharing with them. (2 Corinthians 8:1-5) We have been called upon to share what we have, whether it be spiritual or material, because the meeting of those needs reveals our gratitude for being abundantly blessed by God. It also reveals our awareness that we are merely stewards of those blessings. To the church at Corinth, Paul's generous spirit is noted in his words, "So I WILL VERY GLADLY SPEND FOR YOU EVERYTHING I HAVE AND EXPEND MYSELF AS WELL. If I love you more, will you love me less?" (2 Corinthians 12:15) We cannot repay the debt that Christ paid on the cross for our sins. We continue to be indebted to Him for that and every other blessing given us by God. But as we touch the lives of others by sharing generously (whether spiritually or physically) we are serving a purpose to which God has called us. As we are mindful of "PAYING IT FORWARD" we will glorify God, reveal our gratitude for His blessings, display our trust for His further provision, and will be allowing Him to continue His work of meeting needs through our life. Let it be so!



" PLEASE READ NOTICES ON THE PIN BOARD AT THE BACK OF CHURCH FOR UP AND COMING EVENTS"

## IMPORTANT INFO

We are thankful to God for this new Lord's Day. It is the day we honor His Son and the Love that He has shown us through Him. Let us worship in spirit and in truth!

**Phone:**  
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0121 4433 145

**E-mail:**  
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trevor.ralph@sky.com

Study Night at the Gambino's.  
17.08.08 Start 7pm.

Ladies Class, 13.08.08  
1.00pm-2.30pm

Special collection Sunday (2).  
31.08.08

No Sunday adult study 31.08.08

Birthday: Non Noted

Ask A Bible Question, Log onto:

**ScripturesSay.com**

## God's Salvation Plan

1. **Hear** the Gospel—Romans 10:17
2. **Believe** on the Lord & His Word—Mark 16:16; John 8:24
3. **Repent** of your sins—Luke 13:3,5; Acts 17:30
4. **Confess** Christ—Matthew 10:32,33; Luke 12:8; Romans 10:9
5. **Be Baptized** for the remission of sins—Acts 2:38; Mark 16:16; Galatians 3:27
6. Live a **faithful**, dedicated life—Revelation 2:10; 2 Peter 1:5-10

# Welcome!

Visit our web site: [www.SummerLanecoc.com](http://www.SummerLanecoc.com)

## Times for Worship and Study.

Sunday Morning Worship .....	11:00 AM
Sunday Morning Bible Study.....	10:00 AM
Sunday School.....	10:00 AM
Ladies Bible Class .....	Every Wednesday 1:00 PM
Thursday Evening Bible Class.....	7:30 PM
Men's Bible Study Class .....	First Tuesday in the Month 7:30 PM

## Serving Each Other

*August 10th 2008*

*August 17th 2008*

### Sunday Morning

President	Eric	Joe
Preaching:	Ricci	Trevor
Opening Prayer:		
Scripture Reading:	Norman	Philip
Scripture Reading:	Richard	Richard
Lord's Table	Philip	Roy
Lord's Table	Joe	Eric
Closing Prayer		

### Sunday Evening: Preacher

Flowers	Mandy	Val
Tea	Mandy	Val

**Building clean for Aug: 08**

**All Please**

**All Please**