

Prayers.

Winifred and her family.

Agnes

Trevor; Irene.

Eric and Family.

Margaret and John.

Roy and Beryl.

Joel's work in India

Joyce and her son
Keith.

Hazel.

Blossom and her Family

Those have Fallen
Away

To all our members who
are not here for one
reason or another.

That God may open
people's hearts to the
gospel and that God will
add to our number.

Study

ScripturesSay.com.

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Summer Lane Church
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Another Year Over

And it went fast, wouldn't you say? Not long ago we were wishing in 2007 and now we're just seen it out -- a year gone by in a blur. Another year that none of us will ever get back. Another year for the history books. Another year of achievements or failures recorded on heaven's ledger (which, unlike some of our books, is always accurate and up-to-date).

So, as you reflect on the past twelve months, are you satisfied with what you've done and where you are, spiritually? No feeling is so satisfying as knowing you are doing God's will. Likewise, nothing rests so uneasily in the pit of your stomach as knowing you are not giving your best to the Lord.

Did you read your Bible in 2007? Did you make it all the way through the New Testament (or, maybe the entire Bible)? If not, what stopped you? Was it too much television, or too much time in the garden, or too many trips, or too many newspapers and magazines to read? If you didn't read your Bible, are you happy with the reason why?

Did you come to Bible classes to study God's word with brothers and sisters in the Lord? Did you make every effort to worship and grow with them -- even on Sunday nights and Thursday nights?

Considering the congregation meets to worship and study approximately about 110 times per year, what percentage of those opportunities did you take, and what's the real number of how many you missed? Are you satisfied? Are you confident that God is satisfied? Could you do better?

Did you go see the brother who needed encouraging? Did you visit the sister in the hospital? Looking back over 2007, could you have done more to be a brother's keeper? Should you have done more?

Did you come in contact with someone whose soul is lost? Did you make an effort to reach him with the gospel (with a word, an invitation to study, a teaching tract, a "ScripturesSay" DVD, etc.)? If not, what hindered your light from shining in a world of darkness? Will you let it happen again, or will you determine to get to work for God?

Did you do battle in 2007 with the devil? Did you put up a fight when faced with temptation? Did you send Satan off to look for greener pastures because you refused to cooperate with him? Or did you give in to temptation too many times? Did you allow the devil to become a regular guest in your living room, in your computer, in your mind? If

2007 had its battlefield defeats, could you enlist God's help to take the devil to task next time around?

As long as the world turns, there is hope for a more faithful tomorrow. It could be that the best thing about 2007 is that it was followed by 2008 -- if we each determine to give God our all in the coming year.

None of us is perfect, and we all have our areas of needed improvement (not least, the one writing this article). Why not make 2008 the year you grow in faith like never before? It's up to you. Time is ticking. Let's make sure it's not wasting.

For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil.
2 Corinthians 5:10, ESV

May the Lord grant time, mercy, grace, and help, in proportion to our need and, in Dickens's words, "God Bless Us, Every One!"

Bible Studies for the Week of January 6th 2008



AM Sermon.....	To Have Faith (Ricci)
Scripture Reading for Sermon	Mark 5:25-34.
Adult Bible Study	The Church (Ricci)
Scripture Reading for service.....	Ezekiel 1; Revelation 5
Sunday School Class.....	No Details Given
Thursday Bible Class.....	Daniel (Trevor)
Ladies Bible Class	No Details Given
Men's Bible Class	No Details Given

"God does not consider appearance," but "looks at a man's heart"



Suppose!

"Suppose," James begins a provocative discussion, "that a man comes into our meeting wearing a gold ring and fine clothes, and a poor man in shabby clothes also comes in" (James 2:2).

Well, suppose that he does. There was a white family in Africa who walked out of worship due to the presence of a black family. Talk about standing on principle! That church faced a dilemma.

Or did it?

Apparently there were brethren in James' day who judged people on the basis of their appearance. "Why doesn't he get a job," they might have thought, or, "If she really cared, she would wear a clean dress." These

days we might look down on someone who has only a pair of jeans and T-shirt to wear, or who must walk to church.

Some might worry about the church's image. What happens if we have too many of the shabby and unkempt in our worship service? How will we attract the bank manager and the local councillor to our church if they see these people?

You may not attract them. But if you do, they will be there for the right reasons. James diagnoses his readers as being "judges with evil thoughts" (2:4).

It is humiliating to be poor. There are those letters that no longer begin with "Dear Sir," but merely, "Sir." There is

the phone that goes dead on Monday morning because the bill was not paid.

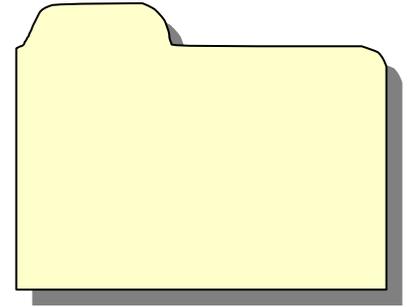
The one place where dignity should be intact is among God's people. After all, the God we worship "does not consider appearance," but "looks at a man's heart" (1 Samuel 16:7).

The irony is that, rich or poor, not one of us have the right to enter his presence. Yet he has seated us in places of honour and loves us all.

In a sense, none of us is dressed in Armani suits; we only have filthy rags to wear. The wonder is, dressed as we are, that the Prince of all the earth invites us to sit with Him!

For The Files: Week Beginning December 30th 2007

Sunday Bible Class.....	10
Sunday AM Worship.....	29
Sunday School.....	No Class
Tuesday Night Study - Once in the Month.....	
Thursday Evening Study	8
Contribution.....	£?
Budget.....	£100.00.



Ricci's Corner. (Perfect.)

"So then, be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect." Matthew 5:48 NET

Nobody's perfect. You'll hear this cliché on the lips of saints and sinners, excuse-makers and mature disciples.

Our modern definition of perfect is to be without sin. And by that the phrase, "Nobody's perfect" is correct, even though the use of it often seeks to get people off the hook and excuse sin.

In the Biblical sense, however, "perfect" does not mean to be without sin. If it did, Jesus could not have been perfected (Hebrews 5:9), since he, in all his temptations and trials, was "without sin" (Hebrews 4:16).

The Biblical sense of "perfect" means to be complete or mature.

The perfect love like the Father's means we love both friend

and enemy -- our love is as complete or all-encompassing as God's.

To say, like the NIV/NASB Study Bible, and so many other commentators, that God's perfect love is an "ideal" that we cannot fully attain in this life, misses the point of Jesus' command entirely. Not only can we love like God, we must!

Jesus himself said right before his perfect-love command, "For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have?" (Matthew 5:46). There is no reward from God for the imperfect lover! If our love is like the pagans, we have nothing in common with the Lover of all men.

We rejoice in trials, because it helps us to mature, or as James wrote, "because you know that the testing of your faith produces endurance. And let endure

ance have its perfect effect, so that you will be perfect and complete, not deficient in anything" (James 1:3-4).

This perfection happens in this life, not the next, James says, because it's the maturity of the saint who has learned to bear up under the duress of bitter trials.

So nobody's perfect? Some of us had better be. Especially if we want to reach that sinless state of eternal life.

Sunday Adult Study.

Brethren can I remind you all that I was asked to change the times of this study to **10am last year**. But its becoming quite apparent that you are not turning up on time for this important part of our worship.

If this continues, I am afraid I will stop the study class on a Sunday morning.

You've been warned, lovingly!

PAPER NEEDED

I NEED PAPER FOR NEWS LETTER!



If our love is like the pagans, we have nothing in common with the Lover of all men.

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!

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Congregation Meeting. /27/01/08

Ladies Class; 09/01/06;

Men's Class 08/01/07

Birthday: Yemi

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

Times for Worship and Study.

Sunday Morning Worship.....11:00 AM
 Sunday Morning Bible Study.....10:00 AM
 Sunday School.....10.00AM
 Ladies Bible Class Every Second Monday 12:30 PM
 Thursday Evening Bible Class.....7:30 PM
 Men's Bible Study Class.....First Tuesday in the Month 7:30 PM

Serving Each Other

January 6th 2007

January 13th 2007

Sunday Morning

President

Trevor

Roy

Preaching:

Ricci

Trevor

Opening Prayer:

Scripture Reading:

Eric

Trevor

Lord's Table

Philip

Richard

Roy

Ricci

Norman

Eric

Closing Prayer

Sunday Evening.

Flowers

Sue

Hazel

Tea

Sue

Hazel

Building clean for Jan: 08

All Please

All Please