

Prayers.

Winifred and her family.

Trevor; Irene.

Eric and Family.

Margaret and John.

Roy and Beryl.

Joel's work in India

Joyce and her son
Keith.

Ruth

Bob And Sylvia

Shirley

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.

Address:

Summer Lane Church
of Christ, Geach
street, Summer lane,
Newtown, Birmingham.
West Midlands.
B19 2NN.

Are We Neglecting the Lord's Supper?

There is a growing sound in the brotherhood that the church has been neglecting the Lord's supper. It is asserted by some that "pinching a cracker and sipping a cup" was not the way that the Lord's supper was originally practiced and that we need reform in this area of our worship. The reformers would change the Lord's supper into a less formal and more casual meal setting where each would eat a satisfying portion of bread and drink a satisfying portion of fruit of the vine (some say alcoholic wine) until everyone had received their fill. Is this really what the Lord's supper is all about?

Jesus established the supper the night before his betrayal. In Matthew 26:26-29, Mark 14:22-25 and Luke 22:19,20 we read about this memorial meal.

First, Jesus limited and distributed the elements. He did not throw a basket of bread at the disciples and say, "Here, have your fill!" He did not keep refilling the cup over and over again until they had enough to drink. **Second**, the inauguration of the Lord's supper occurred during their Passover meal. Jesus merely takes the symbols of unleavened bread and fruit of the vine and makes use of them to

illustrate His body and blood. **Third**, it is clear from an honest reading of the text that it did not involve more than one moderate piece of bread and one moderate drink from a cup. The important thing was that it was the bread and cup that JESUS blessed and gave, just as He gave His body and blood. When all the disciples had eaten his own portion of bread and drank his own portion of the cup, the supper was done.

Fourth, Paul quite clearly forbids making a common meal out of the Lord's supper. This is exactly what the Corinthian brethren were doing. We read in 1 Corinthians 11:20-22 "When ye come together therefore into one place, this is not to eat the Lord's supper. For in eating every one taketh before other his own supper: and one is hungry, and another is drunken. What? have ye not houses to eat and to drink in? or despise ye the church of God, and shame them that have not? What shall I say to you? shall I praise you in this? I praise you not."

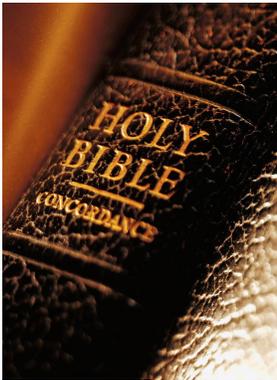
Clearly it was an abuse to use the Lord's Supper as an occasion to have a meal. Paul plainly states the pattern to them in the next verses. The Lord took bread, gave thanks, and gave it out. He did the same thing with the cup. We often use this to talk about the

pattern of the Lord's supper (and there IS one), but the instructions that Paul gave to the Corinthians were primarily to bring them back to an orderly (1 Corinthians 14:40) observance. This meaning is clear. 1) Everyone is supposed to partake of it (v.21). 2) It is NOT to be a common meal type setting (v.22). 3) It is to involve a LIMITED amount of the elements (not an UNLIMITED amount) (v.23-25). 4) It is to be a time of memorial and somber proclamation in reflection of the body and blood of Christ and His death (v.24-26). 5) It is SERIOUS business to partake in a manner that was less than worthy (v.27-32). 6) The brethren are to wait for everyone to partake before moving on to other matters of worship (v.33). 7) The hungry should eat at home because this meal is NOT about eating to satisfy hunger (v.34). People want to tamper with the Lord's Supper to make them feel better about partaking it and to "de-ritualize" it. But, it is not about how WE feel.

It is about what Christ did for us and for us to remember that event forever!

The Lord inaugurated this ritual; we should respect it. To those who don't, "What shall I say to you? Shall I praise you in this? I praise you not."

Bible Studies for the Week of March 16th 2008



AM Sermon No Details Given (**Trevor**)
 Scripture Reading for Sermon.....No Details Given
 Adult Bible Study..... The Church (**Ricci**)
 Scripture Reading for serviceExodus 15:1-19; Rev.15
 Sunday School ClassNo Details Given
 Thursday Bible ClassDaniel (**Trevor**)
 Ladies Bible Class.....No Details Given
 Men's Bible Class.....

sil ent ones

"Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, and I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations."



Even if you are quiet as a mouse With not even the noise of breath. You probably won't be able to hear The sound of the silent one in your ear.

There in that quiet protected place In the snug and warm home there Waits the silent one without a word Never knowing or even dreaming what might await.

If the silent one should realize The horror that invades some minds, They might try much harder From the warmth a sound to make!

I wonder if a sound was made If that would change the minds,

Of those who insist upon disturbing The silent ones domain!

The silent one waits quietly Without a sigh, or complaint Patiently willing to snuggle and thrive Until the special day arrives.

Then one day without warning The silent one's home is invaded.

The scream must tear at the throat But only silence is there not a word is heard!

When will we learn the price that will be paid For destroying the life of one so small?

When will we unite once and for all To fight for life of the silent ones

so small!

Jeremiah 1:5 "Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, and I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations."

"For You have formed my inward parts; You have covered me in my mother's womb. I will praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; Marvelous are Your works, And that my soul knows very well" (Psalm 139:13, 14).

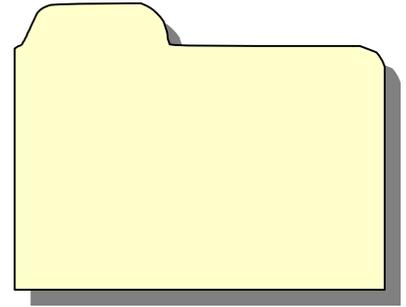
News letter No 2

We now have the new news letter printed. 1000 copies have been printed to be delivered out to those around the building. I will call a meeting after worship in the next few weeks to ask for volunteers to help in delivering these.

This new news letter will be produced every 2 months.

For The Files: Week Beginning March 9th 2008

Sunday Bible Class	12
Sunday AM Worship	27
Sunday School	2
Tuesday Night Study - Once in the Month	5
Thursday Evening Study	No details Given
Contribution	£97.00
Budget	£100.00.



Ricci's Corner. ("And Then What?")

And Then What?

"Have you given any thought to your future?" a father asked his young son. "Why sure, Dad, I've got it all figured out!" he exclaimed. "Tell me your plans, Son" inquired his father. "Well, after I leave school, I'll go to college." "Fine, Son - then what?" "After I leave college, I'll get a good paying job and buy a big house and a nice car," he replied. "Great, Son—then what?" "Then I'll marry and raise a family – just like YOU, Dad!" "Wonderful, Son - then what?" "Then, I'll continue to work until I am old enough to retire." "Excellent, Son - then what?" "Well, then I guess I'll live out my golden years travelling and enjoying my grandchildren." "Splendid idea, Son - then what?" Now feeling somewhat frustrated, his son replied, "Well, then I'll die of course!!" At this point, the father looked straight into the eyes of his son and asked one last time, "Okay, Son... **THEN WHAT??**" It is amazing how we plan so many things in our lives, yet

often fail to plan for that which is the most important. **We plan for the journey, but give no thought as to our destination!** Two things which are certain in this life are **NOT** death and taxes, but rather, **death** and the **judgment** to follow! "It is appointed for men to die once but after this the judgment" (Hebrews 9:27). Wise are those who prepare for appointments that they know they must keep. Death (unless the Lord comes first) and the judgment to come are two such unavoidable appointments (we see a preview of the judgment to come in Matthew 25:31-46, and Revelation 20:11-15 -- **Please Read!**). **It is also certain, according to the Scriptures, that beyond the judgment, eternity awaits....** Because of His great love, God sent His Son into the world that through Him we might not only be prepared for these inescapable appointments, but **ALSO that we might live eternally with Him in heaven.** "So Christ was offered once to bear the

sins of many" (Hebrews 9:28). On the cross, Jesus bore the sins of the world upon Himself; He paid the price for sin. One may receive the benefits of His sacrificial death by faith (Acts 16:30), repentance (Acts 17:30-31), confession (Romans 10:9-10), baptism for the forgiveness of sins (Acts 2:38), and then "walking in the light as He is in the light" through a life of obedience to God's will (1 John 1:7). Life is a journey, which one day will end. God's emphasis is on direction and NOT speed! When you finally get to where it is you are going, where will you be? And then what? God bless you!

Praise Afternoon.

Brethren as you are all aware next Saturday is our "Praise Afternoon". I do hope many of you will attend. Why not ask a friend to come along or a member of your family, they will be made to feel very welcome. We need volunteers to help with refreshments please?

Next Weeks Sermon.

"Time to change your name".
Genesis 35:1- 15.



*We plan for
the journey,
but give no
thought as to
our
destination!.*

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:
0121 603 0296

0121 4433 145

E-mail:
ricci.gambino@blueyonder.co.uk

trevor.ralph@sky.com

Ladies Class: 19.03.08.

1.00pm- 2.30 pm

Praise Afternoon. 22/03/08: 12.30-4.30pm

Special Collection: 30.03.08

Door Knocking In April.: Volunteers needed???

Birthday: Non Noted

Ask A Bible Question, Log onto:

ScripturesSay.com

"CLOCKS FORWARD" 30TH MARCH.

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.....	10:00 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

March 16th 2008

March 23rd 2008

Sunday Morning

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

Sunday Evening.

Flowers	Rita	Irene
Tea	Rita	Irene

Building clean for March: 08

All Please

ALL Please