

Prayers.

Winifred and her family.

Agnes

Trevor; Irene.

Margaret and John.

Roy and Beryl.

Norman.

Joel's work in India

Joel's Father.

Joyce and her son
Keith.

Hazel

Yemi and family

Val, Daryl and family

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

Summerlanecoc.com
ScripturesSay.com.

Address:

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

A Proper Look Down

Those who have too lofty a view of themselves are generally found to "look down" on others. They often have difficulty understanding why others can't pick themselves up like they have done and so treat them with contempt for their evident weakness. Besides the development of an improper view toward others, holding a self-righteous attitude also tends to distort the view of self, making it difficult to see what one's own needs and failings truly are. Jesus came face to face with some who had placed their trust in their own selves (Luke 18:9) and therefore told a parable to draw attention to the HEART condition that aids the eye in looking in the right direction.

Note Jesus' contrast between two who prayed. "(10) Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. (11) The Pharisee, standing by himself, prayed thus: 'God, I thank you that I am not like other men, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. (12) I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I get.' (13) BUT THE TAX COLLECTOR, standing far off, WOULD NOT EVEN LIFT UP HIS EYES TO

HEAVEN, but beat his breast, saying, 'GOD, BE MERCIFUL TO ME, A SINNER!' (14) I tell you, this man went down to his house justified, rather than the other. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but THE ONE WHO HUMBLER HIMSELF WILL BE EXALTED." (Luke 18:10-14 ESV)

As the Pharisee "looked down" upon this tax collector, perhaps he would have viewed him as one without a prayer. After all, he was seen as utterly sinful while the Pharisee viewed himself as having risen high above such. However, we might say the Pharisee didn't have a prayer.

What he offered appears to have been more of a brag session than a prayer. He did not appear to feel a need for the mercy of God. The Pharisee took an outward look, comparing his life to others, and then stood before God straight and tall in his own high estimation of himself.

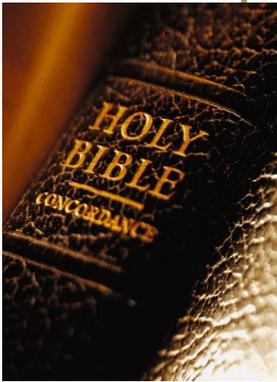
In great contrast, though the Pharisee stood up, the tax collector could not even look up. Instead, he took a "look down" within himself and HUMBLY BOWED before the One Who could grant him the forgiveness he

needed. In HUMILITY he confessed his sinfulness and need for the mercy of God. Thus it was the HUMBLED HEART of the tax collector Jesus drew the attention toward as making it possible for him to go home justified.

Someone has said, "The prayer that ascends highest comes from the lowest depths of a humbled heart." [source: list of sentence sermons] I think we can see the truth of that statement in Jesus' parable. "LOOKING DEEP DOWN" WITHIN OURSELVES, our best prayer to God will be offered from the HEART HUMBLED before Him, as we trust Him to do what we know we cannot do ourselves.

Have a great day LOOKING TO BE LIFTED BY GOD!

Bible Studies for the Week of July 29th, 2007



AM Sermon..... No Details Given (Gareth)
 Scripture Reading for Sermon No Details Given
 Adult Bible Study Fundamentals (Ricci)
 Scripture Reading for service..... Deut.33:1-11; Luke. 18:1-27
 Sunday School Class..... No Details Given
 Thursday Bible Class..... Galatians (Trevor)
 Ladies Bible Class
 Men's Bible Class

Can You See Me Now?

Even though I do not have stained glass windows in my home, I have learned a wonderful lesson from this illustration."



"The sunrise, of course, doesn't care if we watch it or not. It will keep on being beautiful, even if no one bothers to look at it. It illuminates and blesses our lives, expecting nothing in return." -

"No one really sees the real story of the gospel or the great drama of Christianity until one sees it from the inside. It is like stained glass windows. One cannot get an idea of the beauty of the windows by standing on the outside looking at them. From the street, they look dull. Only from the inside do the marvels show up in all their beauty. The same thing is true of Christianity. We never see its wonder until we see it from the inside."

Even though I do not have stained glass windows in my home, I have learned a

wonderful lesson from this illustration. As most people pass by my house, they have no knowledge of my purpose, nor do they know that I am concerned for them (Romans 10:1-15). I cannot expect them to become faithful believers in Jesus simply because I'm a Christian.

My concern for them can only be communicated when I get involved with them (Matthew 5:14-16). When's the last time you've had a heart-to-heart talk with your neighbor?

When's the last time you've invited someone into your home for a meal? Have you shared your story? Brethren, saints at Summer Lane, are you up for this task?

"Let the beauty of Jesus be seen in me, All His wonderful passion and purity; May His spirit divine all my being

refine, Let the beauty of Jesus be seen in me."

IMPORTANT!

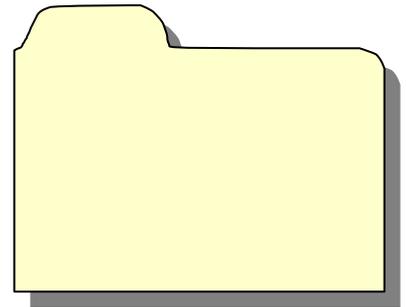
Brethren today we started our second lesson in the series "Fundamentals". The first topic discussed was "Biblical Faith". We now come onto the topic, "The Existence of God".

I pray as I stated in last weeks news letter that you will attend these studies. At Summer Lane we have many studies throughout the month and I for one would like to see more brethren attend at least one of these studies.

"Come and be blessed in the WORD"

For The Files: Week Beginning July 22nd 2007

Sunday Bible Class.....
 Sunday AM Worship.....
 Sunday School.....
 Sunday Prayer Time.....
 Sunday Night Study - Once in the Month.....
 Thursday Evening Study
 Contribution.....
 Budget £100.00.



Ricci's Corner. Five Pounds Lighter.

Personal Thoughts and Actions for the Week

“So be humble under God’s powerful hand. Then He will lift you up when the right time comes. Give all your worries to Him, because He cares for you. Control yourselves and be careful! The devil is your enemy. And he goes around like a roaring lion looking for someone to eat. Refuse to give in to the devil. Stand strong in your faith. You know that your Christian brothers and sisters all over the world are having the same sufferings you have. Yes, you will suffer for a short time. But after that, God will make everything right. He will make you strong. He will support you and keep you from falling. He is the God who gives all grace. He called you to share in His glory in Christ. That glory will continue forever. All power is His forever and ever. Amen (1 Peter 5:6-10)”. Do I remember this in the heat of the battle?

It is never too late to start Anon

A lady discovered that her bathroom scales registered five pounds lighter if she stood on her left foot instead of her right foot. It made no difference to her that outside scales confirmed the right-foot weight. She wanted to be lighter than she was, so she took comfort in standing on her left foot.

One of the most amazing features of the human psyche is the ability to delude ourselves. People frequently believe what they want to believe regardless of the truth. Believing something does not change a lie into the truth. Shifting her feet on the scale did not really change her actual weight.

The New Testament provides a number of passages that remind us of the folly of deceiving or deluding ourselves. The Scriptures urge us, "Do not be deceived." It says that because we are all so prone to fool ourselves

into thinking that we are the exception to the rule or that the consequences won't really fall on us. The Scriptures urge us, "Be not deceived," and affirm these truths:

1 Cor. 6:9 "the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God." 1 Cor. 15:33 "Bad company corrupts good morals." Gal. 6:7 "God is not mocked; whatever a man sows, this he will also reap." James 1:15-16 "when sin is accomplished, it brings forth death."

In addition to these warnings, James spoke of those who delude themselves by merely hearing the Word but fail to make the needed changes (James 1:22-25). John said the person who claims he has no sin actually deceives himself (1 John 1:8).

Don't twist things around trying to make them seem different than they really are. Be honest with yourself and with God. Live a life that pleases Him.



“As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith.” (Galatians 6:10)

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

Sunday Night Study Tonight

Special collection;£

Ladies Day Out; 08.08.07.

26th August "NO" Adult Study; Study will still be at

6pm:

Future Date To Note;

1st Sept 6-9pm Gospel Meeting Here at SL.

Birthday: Blossom.

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.....10:00 AM
 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

July 29th 2007

August 5th 2007

Sunday Morning

President

Norman

Trevor

Preaching:

Gareth

Ricci

Opening Prayer:

Scripture Reading:

Norman

Eric

Gareth

Ricci

Lord's Table

Roy

Edwin

Ricci

Philip

Closing Prayer

Duties

Flowers

Miranda

Margaret

Tea

Khomoso

To Be Arranged

Building clean for Aug:07

ALL PLEASE

ALL PLEASE