

## 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.

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.

## We Must Obey God

**H**ow can Mandy my wife and I walk in different places but together, "What? Different places, but together?!" Of course that doesn't make sense and if such depicted our life, my wife and I would not have much of a relationship. It takes a willingness to agree upon and move the same direction for a relationship to thrive and survive.

The nation of Israel was exhorted to WALK in God's statutes and observe His commands. If this was done God would continue to bring blessings to them. (Leviticus 26:3ff) However, if the nation WALKED "contrary" to Him, then He would be against them. (Leviticus 26:21) The Hebrew translated "contrary" carries the idea of "opposition, contrariness, encounter, contrary or hostile encounter" (Strong's Concordance), so it only stands to reason if one WALKS in opposition to God, God would stand in opposition against them. To refuse to WALK with God is to place oneself in a hostile relationship with Him. Even Jesus clearly implied there is no middle of the road in the relationship with Him. (note Matthew 12:30)

In Amos we read.

"Do two walk together, unless they have AGREED TO MEET?" (Amos 3:3 ESV

The New Living Translation reads. "Can two people walk together WITHOUT AGREEING ON THE DIRECTION?" [NLT, © 1997, Tyndale House]



Regardless of our claims, unless we are WALKING the direction God is going we are not WALKING with Him.

Obedying God is to WALK with Him and whenever we see we are not WALKING together, it is never God Who needs to change direction, but rather us! God has set the course and we need to "agree" with Him to WALK in it. To do anything else is to be found WALKING in opposition or hostility to Him. Unless we WALK with God we will find our-

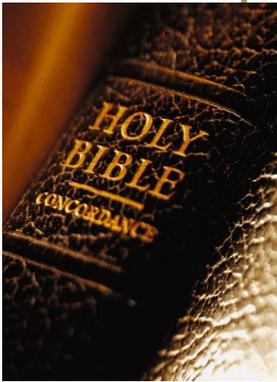
selves involved in a hostile encounter with Him. Why place ourselves in the wrath from which Jesus provided the means to deliver us? (Romans 5:9)

We don't know a lot about Enoch except that he WALKED with God and God took Him. (Genesis 5:24) May that be descriptive of our life as well so that we can be assured of God's eventual taking us home. Let us be mindful of continuing to WALK with God in the direction He has set. Such a WALK will be found to be one of sweet communion.

Have a great day AGREEING WITH GOD BY WALKING HIS DIRECTION!

**“And Enoch  
walked with God:  
and he was not;  
for God took  
him.”  
(Genesis 5:24)**

# Bible Studies for the Week of Aug 12th, 2007



AM Sermon.....	No Details Given
Scripture Reading for Sermon .....	No Details Given
Adult Bible Study .....	Fundamentals (Ricci)
Scripture Reading for service.....	Leviticus 5:14 to 6:7; Luke 19:1-27
Sunday School Class.....	No Details Given
Thursday Bible Class.....	Galatians (Trevor)
Ladies Bible Class .....	
Men's Bible Class .....	No Details Given

## "If Only The Church ..."

*"The church will never grow," they will begin, "unless we change ..."*



**"If Only The Church ..."**

The conversation usually starts out with a concern for the church's growth, or at least it seems so:

"The church will never grow," they will begin, "unless we change ..." It's the usual list -- expanded roles for women in public worship, introduction of instrumental music, teaching that baptism is optional, and so on. If only we could change the church's stand on these things, people will begin to pour into our church building. One person said it this way: "But isn't it the Lord's will that the church grow?" This al-

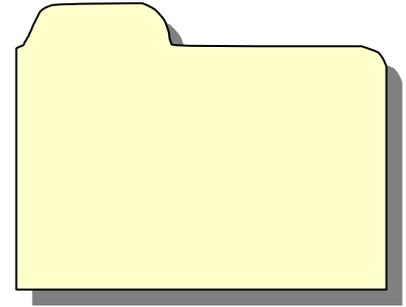
ways raises questions in my mind. For a start, what church growth studies are they looking at? I know of no church growth study in the galaxy that shows that when churches soften their conviction they begin to grow.

In fact, church growth studies tend to demonstrate the opposite: those churches that surrender conviction in order to throw the net over a wider group of lifestyles and beliefs do not grow! Look at the so-called "major" protestant religions, their big, cavernous, empty places of worship, and you will know what I mean.

Churches that stand for something, that demand allegiance of their members, repentance, and Bible learning, lifestyle changes and involvement -- they grow! Yes. The church growth studies show that! Now I have known churches (within our own brotherhood) that have been so negative they have not grown. Every Sunday a minister stands and rages about other churches, condemning them to eternal punishment, emphasizing all the things that cannot be done. An obsession with church politics will not make a church grow, but,

## For The Files: Week Beginning August 5th 2007

Sunday Bible Class .....	7
Sunday AM Worship.....	34
Sunday School.....	7
Sunday Prayer Time .....	7
Sunday Night Study - Once in the Month.....	
Thursday Evening Study .....	9
Contribution.....	£129.00
Budget .....	£100.00.



### Ricci's Corner. (Where were you? )

And beloved, note this, a stand on the Bible is not negative, it is life giving. And I have also known churches that say, in effect: "We may be small, but boy are we pure!" Being pure is no excuse for failing to reach out, to do evangelism of some kind. But there is a more fundamental question. Is it really our job to "grow" (is that grammatical?) the church? You recall the words of Paul: "I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God made it grow" (1 Corinthians 3:6). It's not God's will that we grow the church; it's his will that we be faithful to him. Live the life he requires, preach the message he gives us, stand for the truth "once for all entrusted to the saints" (Jude 1:3).

#### Work that Lasts for Eternity.

In the early days of World War II, Winston Churchill called Britain's coal miners together. A great crisis had arisen. The miners were not getting out enough coal to fuel the factories that produced the planes, ships, etc., so desperately needed.

When the Prime Minister arose he said, "I want to give it to you straight -- nothing! Two hundred guns, no more! Twenty tanks, that's all! I heard he (Hitler) was coming with a million men, and I said to myself, 'The British Navy will put five hundred thousand of them to the bottom of the channel, but what will we do with half a million of them ashore?'"

For an hour and forty minutes he outlined the desperate situation confronting Britain. Then in stirring language he said, "When at last it is all over, we'll parade these streets again and as you go by people will call out, 'And where were you?' Someone will answer, 'I marched with

the Eighth Army,' and someone else will say, 'I was in the skies over Britain.' Another will reply, 'I was in the Merchant Marines pushing the ships through the sea up to Archangel.' Then I shall be standing there and I will call out, 'Where were you?' I will hear you answer, 'We were down in the black pits right up against the face of the coal.'"

Then, thousands of coal miners arose and with tears streaming down their faces, cheered the Prime Minister, and the coal came out! They had caught a fresh vision of the importance of their work.

When at last it is all over for us, we will parade the streets of Heaven. And it may be that someone will call out, "And where were you?"

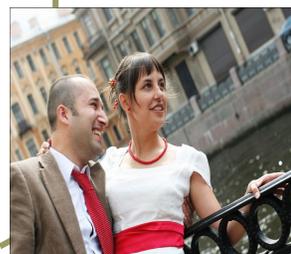
Many impressive answers may be given, but none more satisfying than to say, "I was in \_\_\_\_\_ teaching the Gospel of Christ."

"And let us not grow weary in doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart" (Galatians 6:9).

Congratulations to Suren on getting married. His wife's name is **Lena**.



**"Behold therefore the goodness and severity of God...." (Romans 11:22).**



**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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Men's Class; 14.08.07

2nd Special Collection £269.68

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: Miranda.

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 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

*August 12th 2007*

*August 19th 2007*

**Sunday Morning**

**President**

Ricci

Edwin

**Preaching:**

Trevor

Gareth

**Opening Prayer:**

**Scripture Reading:**

Trevor

Trevor

Philip

Eric

**Lord's Table**

Norman

Roy

Gareth

Ricci

**Closing Prayer**

**Duties**

**Flowers**

Khomoso

Kay

**Tea**

Val

To be arranged

**Building clean for Aug:07**

**ALL PLEASE**

**ALL PLEASE**