

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

Shannon

Dana

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.

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Let Us Encourage The Brethren

Christianity is distinctive from any other religion or lifestyle in numerous ways. One distinguishing mark is found in Philippians 2:4: "Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others" (NKJV). Outside of the Christian faith, where can you find people who practice such selfless love?

Paul was the author of those challenging words above, and his life showed how committed he was to the principle. The book of Acts often shows him working hard to encourage his brethren. Such statements are not surprising -- until we consider the conditions in which Paul exhorted others.

Consider, for example, Acts 14:21,22: "And when they had preached the gospel to that city and made many disciples, they returned to Lystra, Iconium, and Antioch, strengthening the souls of the disciples, exhorting them to continue in the faith ..." We are impressed that Paul was con-

cerned about the spiritual strength of others. But we are astonished when we consider what happened to him just before this meeting.

Verse 19 records that in Lystra Paul was stoned to the point that his enemies considered him dead. Imagine Paul's appearance as he exhorted the brethren: His body likely still bore evidence of the rocks that bruised and tore his flesh. Perhaps his speech was affected because of swelling in his jaw or broken teeth. He might have limped as he walked to the front of the room. Seeing Paul might have argued against continuing in the faith. Thus his words had to be especially compassionate and clear.

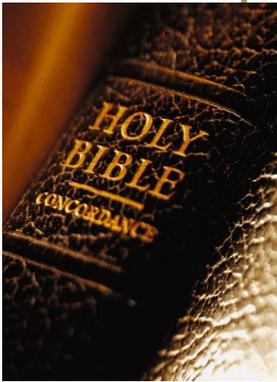
Later in Acts, Paul is found in Philippi in a familiar mode: "... and when they had seen the brethren, they encouraged them and departed" (Acts 16:40). But note again Paul's condition as he attempted to boost their spirits. Earlier in the chapter we are told how Paul and Silas were

beaten with many stripes and placed in the inner prison in stocks (Acts 16:23,24). The wounds must have been considerable, for the jailer tended to them before submitting to the command to be baptized (verse 33). Again Paul's appearance must have been unnerving. How powerful his words had to have been to encourage the brethren! How strong his love for them to make the effort!

It wasn't just Paul who believed in Christian encouragement. Peter gave this strong command: "And above all things have fervent love for one another, for 'love will cover a multitude of sins'" (1 Peter 4:8). It's a theme found in virtually every book of the New Testament, originating in the example and commands of Jesus Christ himself. This is the Christianity of the New Testament. But is it my Christianity? As I reflect on my interests and on how I spend my time, can I begin to compare myself with the saints of the first century



Bible Studies for the Week of Aug 26th, 2007



AM Sermon.....	No Details Given
Scripture Reading for Sermon	No Details Given
Adult Bible Study	No Class
Scripture Reading for service.....	Isaiah 28:5-22; Luke 20:1-26
Sunday School Class.....	No Details Given
Thursday Bible Class.....	Galatians (Trevor)
Ladies Bible Class	
Men's Bible Class	

What Good Is Doctrine?

"Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life" (John 6:68, NKJV).



Imagine we suddenly find ourselves in a foreign land where we neither know the customs nor the language. We feel frightened and alone. As time passes, we discover someone who speaks our language and volunteers to be our guide and companion as we seek to understand our new reality.

An understanding of this scenario can help us answer the question, "what good is doctrine?" As we seek to determine the truth God would have us follow, we must first find truth. Second, we must then test its validity (1 John 4:1). Third, if we have found it worthy, study and absorb its message so it can guide us to heaven. Scripture, we learn, is absolute truth that cannot be denied.

What would be the purpose of securing a guide?

First, the guide would serve

the function of education. We would stay by the guide as they lead us through the daily tasks required of us, such as shopping and securing a place to live and work. We would follow their directions explicitly because they know more about the culture than we do.

When we send a young person to the shop, we send a list so they will have guidelines in what to purchase. Likewise, God left us guidelines so we would know his message and intent for our lives and salvation. He understands far better than we do what is needed to live a good, healthy life, find forgiveness of our sins, and obtain a home in heaven. We can find confidence in his knowledge.

As Peter said, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life" (John 6:68, NKJV).

Paul wrote, "But you have carefully followed my doctrine" (2 Timothy 3:10a). The phrase "carefully followed" literally means "to accompany" and in this context means, "to follow faithfully, to conform to one's self."/1

For example, we find in Scripture that God wants us to worship him. We continue to read and see the pattern to follow so we can discover how he desires to be worshiped. We "follow carefully" the plan he has given us. As we continue to study and discover what a Christian should be in word and deed, we conform oneself to Christ as our model.

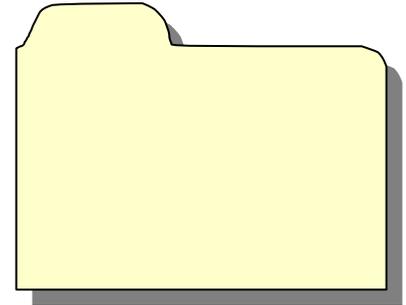
Second, the guide would serve the purpose of elucidation.

In other words, the guide would make things clearer to us as they...

CON OVER PAGE.....

For The Files: Week Beginning August 19th 2007

Sunday Bible Class	9
Sunday AM Worship.....	44
Sunday School.....	8
Sunday Prayer Time	9
Sunday Night Study - Once in the Month.....	
Thursday Evening Study	16
Contribution.....	£184.00
Budget	£100.00.



Ricci's Corner. What Good is Doctrine con:

Con:

explain the things we encounter in our new world. Likewise, Scripture makes the path to God clearer, since Christ is the "light of the world" and the path is clearly marked (John 8:12; 14:6). However, as our guide is making things clearer, deceivers are there to distort and hide the truth. Paul says, "evil men and impostors will grow worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived" (2 Timothy 3:13).

In 2 Timothy 3:14, Paul says we are to "continue in the things which we have learned and been assured of, knowing from whom we have learned them." Our guide cannot lie so he is always perfectly dependable (Titus 1:2). "Assured of" refers to that which is "worthy of trust."/2

Third, the guide would serve the purpose of emulation. Emulation refers to the imitation of someone we deem worthy. Jesus said on many occasions, "follow me." Paul said several times, in one form or another, "imitate me." The guide would be the

local expert. Likewise, Jesus is our guide, model, interpreter, and companion because he knows perfectly the world we live in. Let us always stay close to him as he leads us to life everlasting.

1/ Joseph Thayer, Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament, 484.

2/ Ibid, 514.

THE BUILDING IS NOT A CAR BOOT!

Brethren can I ask as we are now getting the building repaired that we **DO NOT** now bring our unwanted personal items to store in the rooms within the building.

When we have our next car boot sale we will ask you to bring your items in well before the date.

The building for too long has been used for peoples personal items to be stored, and nine times out of ten just left for

weeks on end and ultimately forgotten. The workmen have requested that **ALL** such items be vacated from any rooms from which they may be in so they can get on with the work of repair.

Some brethren have expressed their views to me that they do **NOT** want the building again used for unwanted items etc.

In two weeks time all unwanted/left items will be placed in the skip, so can I ask if you have anything in the building that you want, and is yours please remove them by **9th September**, or they will be placed in the skip by the workmen.

Preaching Away.

This very day as a family we are away at **EASTWOOD**. I have been invited to deliver the message. We will be back this evening for the study at 6pm.

Trevor will be our speaker tonight for your information.

God bless and see you all later.

Ricci



"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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Gospel Meeting Here
on Saturday 1st Sept;
6pm-9pm

Study Tonight; 6pm;
Speaker Trevor.

Future Date To Note;
2nd Sept study at
Great Barr

Men's Class; 04.09.07, At
7.30pm- 8.45pm

Birthday: Susan

Ask A Bible Question, Log onto;

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

August 26th 2007

September 2nd 2007

Sunday Morning

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

Duties

Flowers	Val	Blossom
Tea	To Be Arranged	Funmi

Building clean for Sept:07

ALL PLEASE

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