

Prayers.

Winifred and her family.

Agnes

Trevor; Irene.

Margaret and John.

Roy and Beryl.

Joel's work in India

Joyce and her son
Keith.

Fummi

Val, Daryl and family

Blossom and her Family

Roy

Summer Lane

Great Barr

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, Birming-
ham. West Midlands.
B19 2NN.

Valued Are Our Children

“Lo, children are an heritage of the LORD: and the fruit of the womb is his reward. As arrows are in the hand of a mighty man; so are children of the youth. Happy is the man that hath his quiver full of them: they shall not be ashamed, but they shall speak with the enemies in the gate” (Psalm 127:3-5).

It has been said that one of the marks of a civilized society is how they treat their children. There are places in the world where child labor is still very real; there are also those who would enslave children and sell them for all sorts of horrible reasons. I've heard gruesome stories (which I won't repeat) about children being murdered to advance drug smuggling. Even in our own backyard, so to speak, child abuse and neglect surrounds us on a daily basis. To good and decent people, one wonders how such things can be done. What are the motivations behind such behavior?

Perhaps the biggest challenge that we face today in our society is the value that we place upon life. Our society simply does not hold human life as precious as we ought. This is the reason why many

pregnancies are terminated in the grisly practice of abortion. This is the reason why many children are neglected and abused. This is why unscrupulous people in the world will enslave and employ child labor. In contrast to such an attitude, the Bible teaches the value of a child's life.

The quotation above from Psalms 127:3-5 sets forth the Bible's teaching on the value of children. They are a heritage from the Lord. The word "heritage" has reference to that which we inherit. Most know what an inheritance is and value it. Children are, in and of themselves, an inheritance; they are a blessing from God—a precious gift that we ought to treasure as we would an inheritance. If more would have this understanding of their children, then perhaps instead of neglecting them, they would do well by them knowing that a time is coming when their work, in this regard, will be returned to them.

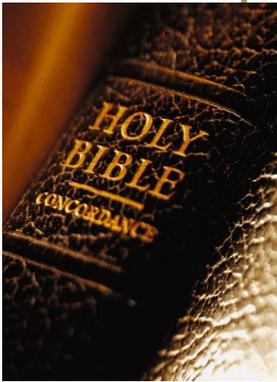
This passage also calls children a "reward." A reward is something that is given as a result of one's service to others; a reward is also a blessing. Many people, instead of

seeing children as a reward, see them as a penalty, I'm afraid. Children are rewarding in so many ways. One can gain happiness and contentment by enjoying the company and companionship of one's children. One can rediscover old truths through a child's eyes. One can also see one's influence live on into the future through one's children.

The psalmist writes that the man who has his quiver full of children is a happy man. Happiness not only comes from the joy of one's children's company, but also from the satisfaction of bringing them up "in the nurture and admonition of the Lord" (Ephesians 6:4). There is nothing more pleasant than a well behaved child and when that child grows to maturity and behaves himself in a responsible way in society, parents have much in which they may delight.

While many in society fail to place the appropriate value upon life and children, let us never so do. Let us always count them as a blessing and remember that our children's life is a precious gift to be guarded, cherished, and wisely guided for the welfare of all.

Bible Studies for the Week of Dec 9th, 2007



AM Sermon.....	No Details Given (Trevor)
Scripture Reading for Sermon	No Details Given
Adult Bible Study	Salvation (Ricci)
Scripture Reading for service.....	Psalm 2; Rev. 2:18-29
Sunday School Class.....	No Details Given
Thursday Night Class	Daniel (Trevor)
Ladies Bible Class	No Class Till Jan 9th 2008
Men's Bible Class	No Details Given (Eric)

Getting Out The Vote

“What if we in the Lord's church put out that kind of effort to save souls?”

The USA will also shortly hold presidential elections.

According to reports, one party is discouraging hostile voters from voting, and all parties are working to get voters favorable to their candidates and positions to the polls.

Politicians and parties spend millions to win elections. They chart strategies they think will win, hire specialists to spin campaigns, and build up networks to register people and get them to the polls.

No effort is spared to elect candidates. Sometimes party radicals or even government officials resort to illegal means to

guarantee (re)election. No idea or strategy is considered out of bounds if it will get out the vote.

I wonder.

What if we in the Lord's church put out that kind of effort to save souls?

We certainly won't go beyond Scripture, like some, to attract people at all costs. We will remain true to the Word in every possible detail.

But with that necessary restriction stated, what would happen if we single-mindedly put the saving of souls at the top of our agenda, made salvation of all people our priority, refused to cut corners or count the cost of preaching the

whole gospel to the whole world?

Paul wrote, "I have become all things to all people, so that BY ALL MEANS I may save some" (1 Corinthians 9:22, NET).

What would happen if we made, on behalf of souls, the same effort politicians make for votes?

After all, isn't that what we're all about?

Jesus seemed to think so. He died to make it happen.

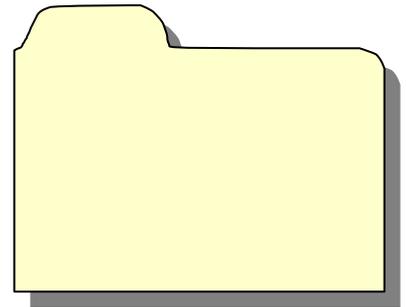
Are you listening Summer Lane??

My next sermon on the 23rd will be taken from Revelation 3:1-6.



For The Files: Week Beginning December 2nd 2007

Sunday Bible Class.....	8
Sunday AM Worship.....	25
Sunday School.....	1
Sunday Prayer Time	8
Men's Night Study - Once in the Month	This week now.
Thursday Evening Study	9
Contribution.....	Not Given
Budget	£100.00



Ricci's Corner. (Is God Calling You?)

Personal Thoughts and Actions for the week

"Stir one another unto love and good deeds". *It is never too late to start...*

"The day will come," Moses warned the people, "when your children will question your faith. Be ready to give them a good answer." That's not an exact quote from Deuteronomy 6:20, but it captures the gist of what Moses said. What should the Israelites tell their children when they asked, "What is the meaning of the testimonies, the statutes, and the judgments which the Lord our God has commanded you?" (NKJV)

From a young person's perspective, religion can appear to be restrictive. All those "Thou shalt nots" can cramp a person's style. It looks to many as if God is a killjoy, seeking only to keep us from enjoying life. With that kind of attitude, a person is not likely to remain loyal to their fathers' faith.

Moses' counsel on how to answer such questions deserves our consideration: "Then you shall say to your son, 'We were slaves of Pharaoh in Egypt, and the Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand; and the Lord showed signs and wonders before our eyes, great and severe, against Egypt, Pharaoh,

and all his household. Then he brought us out from there, that he might bring us in, to give us the land of which he swore to our fathers'" (Deuteronomy 6:21-23).

The reply Moses prescribed is positive in nature.

It doesn't focus on negatives (though there are negative statements to be found throughout scripture). Notice especially how Moses said, "he brought us out ... that he might bring us in." "In" refers to the promised land, the land flowing with milk and honey. Compared to the harsh and oppressive conditions of Egypt, this was a wonderful gift. And that helps anyone to see the true nature of God.

It's difficult when God calls us out of our comfortable and familiar lifestyles. We want to cling to old habits and pleasure-filled sins. When God commands us to come out of those, we resist and wonder why he would tell us to do something so hard. But let's not forget that God is seeking to bring us in to something better. To get us in, he must first help us come out of that which is ultimately destructive.

Is God's will calling for you to come out of an addiction? That's a hard calling. But remind yourself why God has issued such a call: So that he might bring you into freedom from that harsh master. Is God's will calling you to

come out of materialism? We're mighty fond of our things, and we don't want to heed that call. But remember that into which God is seeking to bring you:

Contentment and peace.

As you read through the Bible, notice how God's call to people of the past almost always demanded that they leave something or someone they dearly loved. If you only think on that, God doesn't look too appealing. When you read the rest of the story, though, God's love and mercy come into clear focus.

"Then he brought us out from there, that he might bring us in, to give us the land of which he swore to our fathers. And the Lord commanded us to observe all these statutes, to fear the Lord our God, for our good always, that he might preserve us alive, as it is this day (Deuteronomy 6:23,24).

"For our good always" -- there's a line you should highlight in your Bible. That's the essential nature of the God we serve.

We are in a great culture war for the hearts and minds of mankind.



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 Study; 11.12.07;

7.30pm-9pm.

Ladies Meal At The Building;

10.12.07; 6-8pm.

Fellowship Meal, 14.12.07.

At Building; 7pm

New Years Eve.

8pm at Building.

Birthday: Non Noted.

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

December 9th 2007

December 16th 2007

Sunday Morning

President

Roy

Ricci

Preaching:

Trevor

Gareth

Opening Prayer:

Scripture Reading:

Trevor

Trevor

Philip

Gareth

Lord's Table

Ricci

Roy

Gareth

Edwin

Closing Prayer

Sunday Evening

Flowers

Blossom

Hazel

Tea

Rita

Mandy

Building clean for Dec : 07

ALL PLEASE

ALL PLEASE