



# SUMMERDALE YOUTH NEWS

OCTOBER 18, 2020

Ray Reynolds

Minister to Youth & Young Families

summerdaleyq@gmail.com

## "LOVE IS THE ANSWER TO MOST QUESTIONS"

When I was a child, I remember singing a song in Bible class that went like this "Love, Love, Love, Love... The gospel in a word is LOVE. Love thy neighbor as thy brother. Love, love, love." The song can be found in our hymn book (#696). In I Corinthians 13 Paul the apostle speaks of how love hopes, endures, bears, and believes AND how three great things abide: faith, hope, and love, but the greatest of these is love!

If you have read your New Testament you already know that Jesus's words are very clear: "If you love Me, keep My commandments" (John 14:15). Really this sentiment was echoed throughout the Old Testament as well, but it is made clearer in the New Testament. The disciples of Jesus tried to teach this to the church with the same zeal and enthusiasm. I John 3:23 says, "And this is His commandment: that we should believe on the name of His Son Jesus Christ and love one another, as He gave us commandment." To believe in Jesus Christ is essential but the evidence of a changed life is seen when we love one another.

I Corinthians 13 is widely recognized as the "chapter of love" among Christians, but there is a deeper message within this passage of 1 Corinthians. Paul doesn't just say we should love one another; he described love in detail then reveals why every noble thing done by a Christian (i.e. good works, giving, serving, ministry, and even martyrdom) are nothing without love as the motivation for such action. This chapter is undoubtedly crucial for Christians because, unfortunately, the English language has one word for love. The word love can be used to describe how much we love our coffee, our phone, our donuts, our pet, our favorite sports team, or our family! The point is that while the people in Bible times had many different words to describe love, Paul is compelling us to not think of the words we use, but our actions! What love produces is much more valuable to those around us than what we might think or express with our words.

Paul discusses the motivation of love and the power of love in this chapter. He hopes we will all see the need to plug-in to the power of love... God, who is the eternal source of love (I John 4:8)! Because when we truly love the Lord, we want the best for everyone, including ourselves. We will exemplify Christ by loving our God, our neighbor, and ourselves.

I love how at the end of this chapter Paul reminds us that LOVE never fails. The fact that love endures forever reminds us that it is not a feeling. Love is much deeper than that! If you are to summarize the gospel in one word it would be LOVE. If you were to summarize the Christian walk in one word it would be LOVE. If you were to summarize God's characteristics in one word it would be LOVE. John, the beloved apostle, tells us that "God is Love" (I John 4:8). In other words, He is the embodiment of that concept. You can't talk about love, without recognizing God. Love is God and God is LOVE. Don't let Satan, or demons, or humans convince you of anything else. THE LORD.... LOVES... YOU!

God loves you! It's true! Look no further than the cross at Calvary (John 3:16). He loves you with an unwavering, jealous, and unfiltered love! Nothing you do, or say, or think, can ever change the FACT that He loves you with an unconditional love.

We also need to consider how to love others with that same authentic and genuine love. We need to love like God. John said, "And this is His commandment: that we should believe on the name of His Son Jesus Christ and love one another, as He gave us commandment" (I John 3:23). If you have accepted God's love, and walk in the faith, you should share love with others.

Here is the bottom line... First, know that God loves you. Second, know that God loves everyone around you. AND... Third, share the love of God with everyone you meet. Be God's hands and feet. Let's show the world the love of God! Have a GREAT week!

*You are loved,  
Ray*





# SYG NEWS & EVENTS



Every Wednesday night we will be having a Family Bible Hour class in the fellowship hall for the teens and young families at 6:30 PM. All teens are encouraged to invite friends to join us as well. Our study is on "The Greatest Commands." We will have a meal together and then class. Just bring a side item for the meal, a mask, and your Bible. See you on Wednesday night!

The Area-Wide will be hosted by the Pace Church of Christ but will be held at the football stadium at Mobile Christian School. NO meal will be provided, so Worship will begin @ 5 pm tonight (Casey Bearden singing & Jared Criswell speaking). MCS asks that all groups sit together with their group, socially distance from other groups, and bring masks. We will use the Ministry League app (previously AIM app) for singing. The bus and carpools will leave the building at 3 PM. We will stop on the way home to eat. Bring money for the meal.



We will be having a "Drive-Thru Trunk or Treat" on Halloween October 31, from 5-7 PM. The trunks will be set up on the Southside parking lot. There will be prizes for the first, second, and third place trunks. Visitors will enter from Highway 59 and exit onto Highway 71. Please let Ray know if you will be setting up a trunk. We will provide space for social distancing and deliver treats to each car as they pass through. We would love to have tons of participation! Bring lots of candy! Come join the fun.

"Teen Retreat Weekend" will begin on Friday night, November 13. We will leave the building at 5:30 PM, eat dinner along the way, and stay in Mobile at a hotel. The next day we will attend FUEL on Saturday, November 14th. This event is open to 6-12th graders. Parents and adult chaperones are welcome. FUEL begins at 8:30 am and ends at 8:30 pm. We hope to be back at the church by 10:00 PM on Saturday. This is a group registration process, so register with Ray by the 21st. Everyone who attends is required to bring a mask and will go through a COVID screening process upon arrival.

**SYG Teen Retreat Weekend**



We realize that this has been an unorthodox year for worship, Bible study, and service projects. However, we want to encourage parents to keep track of service hours for Good Samaritan. Also, any public speaking, song leading or other stats should be given to Ray as soon as they are completed.

L2L  
BUILDING GODLY LEADERS

We've got questions. You've got the answers. Don't throw us shade. It's time to spill the tea. Each week one of our teens will be asked a series of random questions. We call it "7 Groovy Questions." You can find it on Facebook, Instagram or YouTube. The next video will be with Tay Lyle. Follow us and watch on YouTube.



## TENTATIVE YOUTH CALENDAR:

October 18 - Area-Wide @ Mobile Christian School  
October 21 - Family Bible Hour @ 6:30 PM  
October 23 - SCA vs. South Choctaw  
October 28 - Family Bible Hour @ 6:30 PM  
October 30 - Girls Night Out (6-8:30 PM)  
October 31 - Drive Thru Trunk or Treat (5-7 PM)  
November 4 - Family Bible Hour @ 6:30 PM  
November 13-14 - Teen Retreat Weekend & FUEL

We have one remaining football game in this regular season. Would you like to carpool to the game? Be sure to reach out to Ray.

2020 FOOTBALL SCHEDULE		
September 4	JACKSON ACADEMY	Home
September 11	PICKENS ACADEMY	Away
September 18	CORNERSTONE CHRISTIAN	Home
September 25	OPEN	
October 2	WILCOX ACADEMY	Away
October 9	MEADOWVIEW	Home
October 16	SPARTA ACADEMY	Away
October 23	SOUTH CHOCTAW	Away
October 30	OPEN	
November 6	AISA PLAYOFFS	TBA
November 13	AISA SEMIFINALS	TBA
November 20	STATE CHAMPIONSHIP	Troy

Ray Reynolds -- (251) 923-8951 -- summerdaleyq@gmail.com