



SUMMERDALE YOUTH NEWS

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Ray Reynolds

Minister to Youth & Young Families

summerdaleyq@gmail.com

"THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT IS PEACE"

The apostle Paul wrote to the church of Galatia and said, "The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law." The message of Galatians 5:22-23 still resounds today. If we are born of the Spirit (John 3:5, Acts 2:38, Romans 8) it is natural for us to bear the fruit of the Spirit. What does that mean? In this space today, I would like for us to consider "PEACE" as a fruit of the Spirit.

The Bible uses the word peace 397 times. It conveys some wonderful concepts. Some definitions include "a state of harmony, tranquility".... Another says PEACE is "the absence of hostility, the absence of mental stress or anxiety." The Bible uses this word is translated from two very interesting words: Shalom (in the Hebrew) means completeness, soundness, welfare, PEACE. Eirene (in the Greek) which often refers to the inner tranquility and poise of one who whose trusts in someone or something. In this case, it would refer to one who trusts in God. In Matthew 5:9 called His disciples to be PEACE-maker, not a PEACE-faker! Why? As a disciple of Jesus, the Son of God, I need to emulate Him. He is called the Prince of PEACE (Isaiah 9:6). Jesus wants to reconcile us to have PEACE with God (Romans 5:1). The God of hope once to fill you with all joy and PEACE (Romans 15:33). That PEACE that God provides can surpass all understanding (Philippians 4:6-7). The Lord of PEACE gives PEACE in every way (II Thessalonians 3:16).

How many of you know atheists and agnostics? How many of you know people who have drifted from the faith? They will argue that God, if there is a God, then He is one of wrath and destruction! Heard that before? Let me tell you what kind of a God we have... The God we serve dreamed for eternity about creating humans in His image. He spent six days creating the perfect paradise so we could live in PEACE. And He only gave them one rule! Don't eat from one tree! Unfortunately humanity sinned, and yes death came into the world, but it was humanity's choice, not God's! Then, this loving God spent a few thousand years trying to make it right! He sent His One and Only Son! Why? Because He wants us to be at PEACE with Him. We sinned. We fell. But He loves us enough to bring us the PEACE we don't deserve.

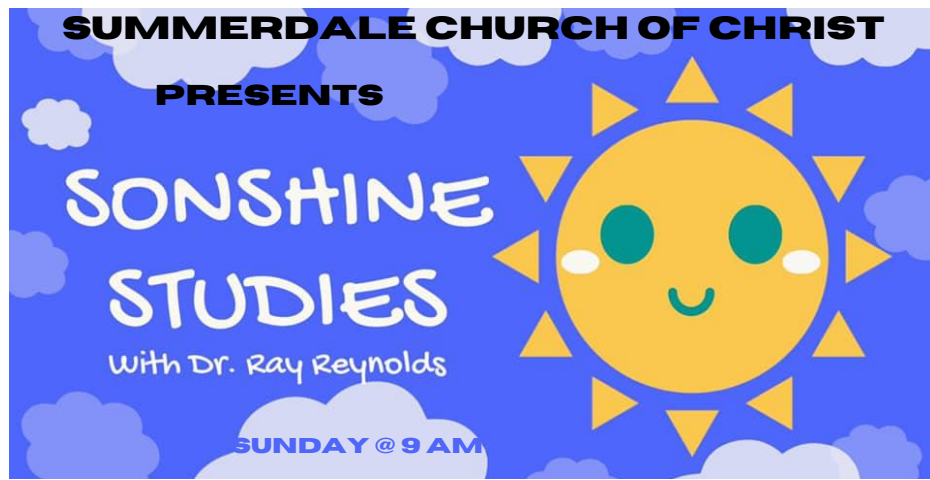
Our world is not for PEACE. The opposite is the reality. Have you watched the rioting and violence on television. We hate watching the news because of the darkness that is overwhelming in this world. You can listen to people all day long talking about PEACE and equality. But that's not what many worldly people want. You know what they want? They want freedom... they just don't want YOU to have it. Sure they want freedom of religion, as long as it's a religion of the state. They want certain lives to matter, as long as other lives are less valuable. They want to avenge the deaths of innocence, as long as we turn a blind eye to child sex trafficking and abortion. They want freedom of speech, so long as you don't offend them with what you say. They want freedom of the press, so long as you are politically correct. They want to tear down statues, as long as they can keep the ones that agree with their political point of you. And freedom of petition and the freedom to assemble PEACEfully... are you kidding me? More respect is given to corrupt politicians and looters than the victims. As we watch the violence taking place in cities all over this country it seems people have lost their minds. No, they haven't lost their minds... Just their consciences. Seared with a hot iron (I Timothy 4:2). If you want to live in slavery or under a dictatorship, that's your choice, but I'm pretty sure that's not what our founding fathers had in store for this country. And I know it's not what God wants for His people.

What does God want for His people? PEACE. A life of PEACE. A church of PEACE. Relationships and homes filled with PEACE. You and I can't have it without Him. PEACE is a product of heaven and cannot be bought, manufactured, inherited, or stolen. PEACE is a gift from God it is the fruit of His Holy Spirit, and you need it! May God bless you and keep you! Choose PEACE.

*You are loved,
Ray*

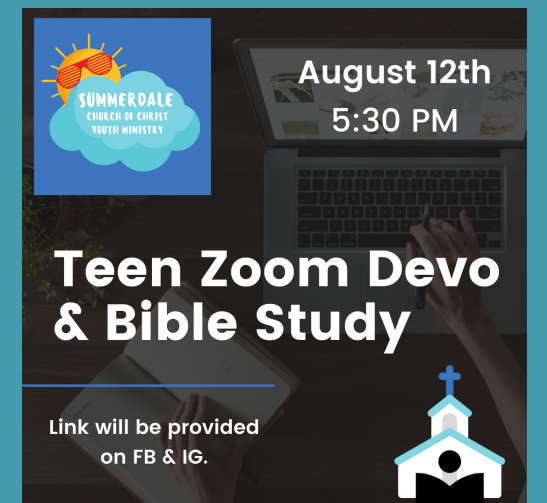


SYG NEWS & EVENTS



The "Sunshine Studies" online series is for our children and is available online at 9 AM each Sunday morning via YouTube. It is fun for the whole family and everyone can benefit from these lessons. The studies for the next several weeks will revolve around the Fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23). We will continue this series of Bible lessons until Sunday morning Bible classes resume at the building in the near future.

We will be having a Teen Zoom Devo & Bible study on Wednesday night, August 12th, at 5:30 PM. The link will be provided on Facebook and Instagram. We will also talk about some of our upcoming activities for the summer. All teens are encouraged to participate and to invite friends to join us as well. Our study will be on "The Greatest Commands." We are hoping to do these every two weeks until we can assemble again.



School supplies are being collected for Snook Christian Academy. There are two boxes in the back of the fellowship hall. One represents the University of Alabama and the other represents Auburn University. Each year we have a challenge to see which box fills faster. It is rumored that Auburn has the edge. However, we still have two weeks to collect. What can you donate? Specifically we need notebook paper (not spiral), copy paper, composition books, pens, #2 pencils, hand sanitizer, paper towels, Clorox wipes, highlighters, plastic folders, crayons, magic erasers, art supplies, washable markers, card stock, construction paper, Kleenex boxes and 3 ring binders.

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. So far we have interviewed Brady Long, Sebastian Hall, Carter Long, Zane Rider, Caryn Coxwell, and Hayden Joiner. Who will be next? Corbin Hall! Follow us and watch on YouTube.



Welcome to the church family London McDonald! He was baptized into Christ on Tuesday, July 28. London is a student at Snook Christian Academy. He and his mother Rene will be attending with us now. Their address is 2446 West Ashford Park Drive Foley, AL 36535.

Are you ready for another Game Night? All youth and young families are invited to take part in another game night on Friday night August 21st at 7 PM. It has been suggested that we have indoor cornhole tournament in addition to Charades. Bring your favorite cornhole sets. The menu is TBA but top votes are for pizza, quesadillas, or ham & cheese croissants. We encourage everyone to observe the rules of social distancing and masks will be provided if you do not have one.



TENTATIVE YOUTH CALENDAR:

- August 12 - Teen Zoom Devo & Bible Study
- August 21 - Youth & Young Adult Game Night
- August 28 - Rocky Bayou vs. SCA (Away)
- September 4 - SCA vs. Jackson (Home)
- September 11 - Pickens vs. SCA (Away)
- September 13 - Gulf Coast Area-Wide
- September 18 - SCA vs. Cornerstone (Home)
- September 25 - Youth & Young Adult Game Night



The theme of our church family for the rest of 2020 will be "It's All About the Love."

Ray Reynolds -- (251) 923-8951 -- summerdale44@gmail.com