



GRACE AND TRUTH NEWSLETTER

"For we are laborers together with Him" 1 Cor. 3:9

No. 25

January – March, 2015

"Be vigilant; stand fast in the faith; quit yourselves like men; be strong. Let all things ye do be done in love." 1 Cor. 16: 13-14 JND

A Word from Brother Emanuel:

SAVED BY GRACE THROUGH FAITH IN JESUS CHRIST

Some people are convinced that they must do good works to obtain salvation. Should we do good works to be saved or for salvation? No. The good news is, that salvation is not a goal to be achieved, but a gift to be received. It is a gift, and not a reward. It is all of God. What amazing grace! "For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast. For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them." Eph. 2:8-10 NKJ.

Salvation cannot be of works because our Lord Jesus Christ in love for us, died on the cross, shed His precious blood for the forgiveness of our sins, and has completed the work of salvation at the cross. The work at the cross is finished (Jn. 17:4; 19:30). The Apostle Paul reminds the believers at Corinth, and us, "...that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the scriptures" 1 Cor. 15:3,4. We are not saved by good works plus faith, but by a faith that works.

Having been saved by God's grace through faith, should we do good works? Yes. As Christians, we do good works in contrast to works of darkness and wicked works. We should "abound to every good work" (2 Cor.9:8) and be "zealous of good works" (Titus 2:14). "It is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure" (Phil. 2:13). Our good works are evidences that we have been born again.

Would you by faith receive Jesus as your Lord and Savior today? (Jn. 1:12). Jesus has done the great work at the cross and He is willing to do a great work in your life. Jesus is still the way, the truth and the life (Jn. 14:6). If you would like to learn more about God's work for us, God's work in us, and God's work through us, please feel free to visit us at Grace and Truth Bible Chapel, Brooksville, FL.

Emanuel V. John

THE BIBLE IS THE STORY OF MAN'S COMPLETE
RUIN IN SIN, AND GOD'S PERFECT REMEDY IN

WELCOME TO THE LORD'S TABLE :

"...and the Lord added to the Church" Acts 2:47b

On Sunday, March 15, 2015, Ms. Mildred Oliver was received into fellowship at the Chapel. It was her desire to remember the Lord according to His request found in 1 Cor. 11:24 – *"This do in remembrance of Me."* Welcome Sister Millie.

Prayer Calendar:

Please pray for the following:

Physical and other needs: Bros. Emanuel John; Eddie Burrowes; Bill Hubler; Bro. & Sis. Robert Costen; Bro. & Sis. Herbert Grimshaw; Bro. & Sis. Gregory Mayhew; Edwin and Carl Ward; Sisters Virginia Grosvenor; Elizabeth Bennett; Elaine Cummings; Marjorie Weir; Joyce Morel; Ruth Daisley; Melda Gillespie; Rosie Pollard (B'dos.); Jean Smalling; Florencia Wilke (CA); Elaine McEachen; Hannah Rose Schroder; Parbattie Sukhu; Sarah Ram; Philomese Prince (Vladimir's Mom); Michael (Mick) and Bobby Ward; our unsaved family members; persecuted saints and missionaries. Pray for the peace of Jerusalem (Psa.122:6).

Looking Ahead ...

Vacation Bible School is just around the corner. Please mark the dates on your calendar (June 8-12, 9 AM – 12 NOON), and pray for the Lord's wisdom and guidance in the plans being made for it. If any of the brothers or sisters would like to volunteer some time for this event, please get in touch with Brother Bob or Sister Chris Ansted here at the Chapel.

Praise/Thanksgiving :

We thank God for the following:

- the successful surgery performed on Sister Elaine Cummings.
- Sister Jean Burrowes' improvement in health.

Local Outreach: Our Assembly is favored with many who desire to reach out in compassion to the poor and needy in our community – providing supplies for the pantry that was recently set up for the purpose, and in the distribution of clothing and other necessities for those who need them. We are thankful to the Lord for those who are involved in these efforts and give generously for the blessing of others.

Happy Birthday, Sweet Sixteen!!

Congratulations to Denaie Barrett who celebrated her 16th birthday on January 13, 2015. For those of you who are praying for Denaie, please see insert.

Recent birthdays also include Josiah Mahoney and Anthony Charles.

3.

Youth Activities – Report from Sister Chris Ansted:

Warriors for the Kingdom Youth Advisory committee met in December 2014 to plan the 2015 schedule of events. The youth including Nicholas, Denaie and Gabby Barrett would like to take a strong leadership role in WFK. Nicholas is organizing the outdoor activities; Denaie is organizing the indoor activities on the first Saturday afternoons; Gabby is checking out movies for our Friday movie night – scheduled for every 3rd Friday. We saw an excellent movie, recommended by Gabby on February 20 called *Camp Harlow*. This movie had many lessons for all of us. Colossians 1:13, 14 was the Scripture reference we discussed. Though the lead actress in the movie was a bully and controller, she was depressed with her life. While attending Camp Harlow, she realized her need for salvation in Christ Jesus. Christ delivered her from the dominion of darkness and gave her the courage to restore her broken relationships. It was an uplifting video, and we all departed feeling blessed by it. We all thank Bro. Las Barrett for transporting the youth each time, and Sis. Evadne Charles for assisting with countless behind-the-scenes responsibilities.



Some of the youth enjoying a game of soccer

A NEW KITCHEN!

For some time now, due to the growing need for a kitchen, it was decided to build one by extending a portion of the Fellowship Hall for the purpose. Brother Clive Griffith drew the initial plans for it and a Building Fund for the kitchen has been established.

WITH THE LORD:

January 19, 2015 Bro. Roger Trotzer (Orlando Assembly)

4.

THE DANIEL PLAN (introduced by Sister Chris. Ansted)

Some of our sisters at G&TBC have embarked on a journey to better health with the Lord as our Guide using the Daniel Plan (Warren, Hyman and Amen.)



Some of the ladies who participate in the Daniel Plan: (L-R. Sisters, Julie, Marcy, Pam, Chris and Evadne)

This program has five Essentials including: Faith, Food, Fitness, Focus and Friends. Our initial goal was for weight loss, but the Lord has blessed us so much more than we could have hoped for and beyond our expectations. With the Lord at the throne of our meetings together, our group is becoming very precious to each of us. We are memorizing Scripture, spending quality time together each week on Tuesday from 10:00 AM to 12 Noon, and encouraging accountability to the Lord and our sisters in the areas of health. This program is not based on what's wrong with us, but what Grace we have available to us to make the changes necessary to live a healthy, wholesome life. What a gift! What a blessing! Oh give thanks unto the LORD; for He *is* good: for His mercy *endureth* forever. Psalm 136:1
(The Plan is open to anyone who may be interested; the Sisters meet every Tuesday from 10:00 AM – 12 Noon)

Reflections from Scripture by M.S.

THE CROSS OF CHRIST

The Cross has been a symbol of Christianity since the 2nd Century, but to the child of God it is not just a symbol, but a reality. It was on the Cross our Lord Jesus Christ suffered and paid the penalty for our sins. He was scourged (beaten with an instrument intended to inflict serious bodily harm, suffering or vengeance), wounded by a crown of thorns placed on His head, crucified on the Cross at Calvary – the

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method used by the Romans to provide a slow, painful, humiliating and public death – nailed to the Cross by his hands and feet, spat upon, mocked and pierced through his side with a spear. Our sins were paid for with His blood shed on the Cross (Eph. 1:7). Sadly today the Cross has no meaning to many, and is an offence greater than it was in the early church (Gal. 5:11, 6:12). The Apostle Paul declared “...God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ...” (Gal. 6:14).

What does the Cross mean to you and me? It tells of God’s love “God so loved the world...” John 3:16; “...God loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins.” 1 John 4:10; our salvation is secure, peace was obtained through His blood shed on the Cross (Col. 1:20) and all who believe on Him have everlasting life. His grace and mercy are extended to all because of His love for us. It is no wonder that many hymn writers have been inspired to write hymns about the Cross that have touched many hearts, - such hymns as “When I survey the wondrous Cross” (*S.S. 283), “We sing the praise of Him who died...upon the Cross” (S.S.175). Let us consider the words of Jesus in Matthew 16:24 when He said to His disciples, “if any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me.” The words of the hymn “Lift high the Cross, the love of Christ proclaim, till all the world adore His sacred Name” (George Hitchin) is so applicable today.

*“Thy cross, Thy cross! ‘tis there we see
What Thou, our blessed Savior art;
There all the love that dwells in Thee
Was laboring in Thy breaking heart.” S.S. 32*

**S.S. “Spiritual Songs” Hymn Book*

A Special Presentation:

An important study on the subject of “The Eternal Security of the believer” was recently given by Bro. Pearson Mills, and was profitable in giving a better understanding of our standing in Christ.

Did You Know? ...



Christopher Columbus

that Christopher Columbus believed that his Christian name “Christopher” which means “Christ-bearer” had been given to him by God because that was his calling – to take the Gospel of Jesus Christ across the ocean to the heathen in the lands he knew he would discover. Thus the man who opened the Americas was not so much looking for a trade route to come to the Indies as he was intent on bringing the Good News of Christ into the Western hemisphere. This is his testimony:

“It was the Lord who put it into my mind (I could feel His hand upon me), the fact that it would be possible to sail from here to the Indies. All who heard of my plan rejected it with laughter, ridiculing me. There is no question that the inspiration was from the Holy Spirit, because He comforted me with rays of marvelous inspiration from the Holy Scriptures. For the execution of the journey to the Indies, I did not make use of intelligence, mathematics, or maps; it is simply the fulfilment of what Isaiah had prophesied.”

Source: Book of Prophecies

The Brothers honor the Sisters:

The Brothers at the Grace and Truth Bible Chapel (Brooksville) recently honored the Sisters with an Appreciation Dinner – *and what a dinner it was!!!* Yes brothers, the ladies felt special and enjoyed the evening of soft music, corsages, special lighting, the beautiful table settings with flowers, place cards, mementos and artistic menu list at each setting; they were amazed at the extensive choice of gourmet dishes prepared by each of you – and the excellent service!!! What made it so special? – the Lord was present. Thank you, brothers; may He graciously reward you for all the hard work done in His Name.

-Photos by Joan Esther Ramdial



GOALS

7.

Denaie

My goals education wise are not quite that clear. I know what I would like to do, but I'm not quite sure as yet if it is what God wants me to do, but all good things start from somewhere so for now my plans are to attend college, double major in Vocal and Music and minor in a foreign language. Those might seem to be an unusual major and minor to do together, but my plan is to incorporate the different languages that I learn into my music and to travel the world doing ministry or just for fun whatever the Lord sees fit. I find that it is really nice when someone comes to America from a different country and can speak English because it makes interacting so much easier and fun. I haven't yet decided what college I would like to attend but I'm surveying my options; it's much harder than I anticipated seeing that each college is different and has a lot to offer, but I am trying to let the Lord guide me to where He would like me to be.

My goals for the present are very intertwined with my goals for the future. Currently I want to get better in school, better in my music, better as a person, and most importantly, better as a child of God. God should always be first and foremost in my life although sometimes I find that things like talking to God or reading His word become more as an afterthought to me instead of being the first thing I do, not only when I'm in trouble but constantly throughout my day and life. Concerning school, I have a bit to work on, but I'm not giving up since in the long run it will help build the foundation for work ethic, schooling and other things that I might not take notice of now. Music wise I am trying to learn as much as I can "in my youth." I have been teaching myself the cello, trumpet, and on and off the recorder and the tin whistle for a few years now because my past music teacher had to change states for health reasons. It teaches me a lot of self-discipline which I have learned I lack, but it is extremely fun so I quite enjoy it. In becoming a better person I feel that I could work on my attitude towards others in the way that I act and think about people whom I have met and will meet in the future. I find for me that mental judgement of people is something that I struggle with even though it is not often I tend to make a bias in my head and I know that is not of God, so I've been working on that. I also want to be more outgoing with people whom I don't know that well or have just met. I find one-on-one outreach to be quite hard for me now, so I really want to work to improve myself in that area.

All in all I am still growing spiritually, mentally and physically and I truly appreciate all the people in my life who are helping me in that growth. My future is unknown to me but God knows all and, to quote a very well-known hymn- "where He leads me I will follow." I'll just have to keep my ears open for His voice and go at it to the best of my ability.