

October 08



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Greetings to you in our Lord's name!

It has been wonderful to be in BMC for the last month, (although the month has flown past before we could really savor it).

We are surely looking forward to spending time with you all at the family camp that we hope to have this month... I do hope that you all are as excited as we are. We trust that this camp will be not just one program in our calendar, but one where we truly come together as a church and bond as the people of God, ready to do His work.

We focus on the theme of Building Christ-like Character this month, and I thought one aspect of Christian life that is often slighted, but utterly important is regarding the Fruit of the Spirit. We often overlook this BASIC REQUIREMENT in Christian character. Many people give a whole lot of importance to the matter of the Gifts of the Spirit, and forget to talk about the fruit. However, Jesus says, "No good tree bears bad fruit, nor does a bad tree bear good fruit. Each tree is recognized by its own fruit..." (Lk. 6:43-44a) The fruit we bear qualifies the faith that we have. It is interesting to note that it is not the fruits of the spirit but the FRUIT in singular!! (also cf. Gal. 5:22; Eph 5:9; & Php. 1:11) It is not nine different fruits that we should all bear, but the nine characteristics of the one fruit – ie. Each of the characteristics is not optional, but necessary to qualify us as Christians. (Not that we all don't take time to grow into it, but we have no option but to bear all the mentioned characteristics)

John 15:1-16 is a very important passage that talks about fruit bearing (I think it refers both to the fruit of the Spirit as well as the Fruit of Witness). Jesus says some very important things about fruit-bearing there. First, He says that he either prunes or cuts off each branch based on its fruit-bearing. (nb. both painful actions – one leads to death and the other to greater

abundance of life); Second, we need to remain in Him (apart from Him we can do nothing); Third, we bear much lasting fruit by showing ourselves to the world as His disciples.

One of the best analysis on the Fruit of the Spirit that I have come across is made by Dr. John Stott who puts the nine characteristics into three segments of three each in their order. We will hopefully look at these in next month's pastoral letter.

I do hope that these will open our eyes to God's requirements in us as we seek to be worthy of our calling as Christians.

Here are the NINE characters of the ONE Fruit of the Spirit listed out for us so we can self-examine:

LOVE, JOY, PEACE, PATIENCE, KINDNESS, GOODNESS, FAITHFULNESS, GENTLENESS & SELF-CONTROL.

Love,
Immanuel & Myra Theodore

Family Retreat

Get ready for a time of spiritual revival and fellowship at the Quiet Corner camp Center. This is a three day program starting from the 9th of October 08. For further details, contact Mr. Isaac (9845232807)

Pulpit Calendar

MONTHLY THEME : Building the Christ Like Character
Service Time: 9:30 AM

Date	Speaker	Theme
5th Oct 08 communion	Rev. Immanuel	Purity - Joseph
12th Oct 08	Mr. Gladson Anchan	Patience – Job
19th Oct 08	Rev. Immanuel	Courage & Confidence- Esther
26th Oct 08	Mr. Selvin	Commitment - Daniel



Other programs / Details – August 08

Bethel nagar area fellowship	04.Oct.08(Sat) At 6.30pm	At Mr.Sanjay's house. For details 9902010658 (Mrs.Rita Publius)
AECS layout area fellowship	04.Oct.08(Sat) At 5.30pm	At Mr.Irwin house. For details 9731944666 (Irwin)
Women's fellowship	12.Oct.08 (Sun) At 11.30am	After Sunday service. For details 9886426287 (Angelin)
Bethel nagar area fellowship	18.Oct.08(Sat) At 6.30pm	At Mr.Sanjay's house. For details 9902010658 (Mrs. Rita Publius)
AECS layout area fellowship	18.Oct.08(Sat) At 5.30pm	At Mr.Selvin's house. For details 9886771163 (Irwin)
Sunday School (English)	8.30 am	Every Sunday at BMC. Iris (41215655)
Tamil service	7.00 am	every Sunday. Contact Rev.Ramesh Christopher(9448803830)
Sunday school(Kannada)	3.00 pm	Every Sunday at Hoodi Arul (9731293243)
Choir practice	11.30 am	After Sunday service. Isaac (9845232807)

- Praise God for all the youth who had attended the Evangelical program and were blessed.
- Praise God for all the programs of the church.
- Praise God for the unity and the vision of the members of the church.
- Praise God for the church website and Nirmal who manages it.
- Praise God for various wings of the church and its ministries.
- Pray for the Christians in Orissa, Karnataka and Kerala as there is continuous violence against Christians.
- Pray for the Family camp that it would be blessing for each one of them who is attending it.



- Pray for the members of our church who are sick.
- Pray for new Bible study area groups
- Pray for our new pastor Rev. Immanuel.
- Pray that the church would be a blessing to the neighborhood

Charles Wesley

Born on 18 December, 1707 in Epworth, Lincolnshire, England, Charles Wesley was the 18th and last child of Samuel and Susanna Wesley. They had three sons who survived, the eldest, John Wesley, was born in 1703. At 15 months, the old Rectory at Epworth was totally destroyed by fire, and Charles, like John, had to be rescued from the inferno.

Charles was first educated at home by his parents and later enrolled in the Westminster School, London, UK in 1716. He went on to Christ College in Oxford with a Westminster scholarship, and received his BA in 1730 and his MA in 1732. While there, he and his brother John formed the Oxford Holy Club in 1729 for the purposes of worship, and by often visiting the sick and imprisoned, its members soon received the nickname 'Methodists'. While John later became leader of the little group, it was started by Charles, who was therefore the 'First Methodist'.

In 1735, Charles was ordained as a deacon in the Church of England, and sailed with John to Georgia, USA as a missionary to the new colony. He actually served as the secretary of the Governor there and became disillusioned. Emotionally exhausted, Charles left Georgia, landing in England on 3 December, 1736, and John returned a year later. In May 1738, the Wesleys were in London. Charles was recovering from his illness in the home of some Moravians in Little Britain, near St Paul's Cathedral. Through the humble concern and sincere testimonies of his hosts and others, Charles was deeply affected. On the following day, Sunday, 21 May, 1738, he wrote his first hymn, 'Where Shall My Wondering Soul Begin', which was the first of over 6,000 hymns. Charles' strength began to return immediately. Exactly a year later, Charles wrote the more famous hymn, 'O for a thousand tongues to sing'.

Charles Wesley's new spiritual life was seen via his deep compassion for everyone. His preaching was transformed. He moved to Bristol in 1749 where he married Sarah Gwynne on 8 April. They had eight

children, but only three survived to adulthood. Their sons, Charles and Samuel, were both musical prodigies. Charles was just as involved and instrumental in spreading and sustaining the Methodist movement as his brother, John Wesley, and the belief that Charles was the poet and John was the organizer and preacher is not really true. A selection of Charles Wesley's hymns was first published in 1739, and these became instantly popular.

No one can deny that the Wesleys and the Methodist Movement had an effect on Britain at this time. In 1740 his public appeals and preaching subdued a riot amongst the colliers occasioned by the high price of corn. Historians generally agree that the brothers had a profound effect on stemming a revolutionary tide in the country. Conditions were improved by changing the hearts of the people; many of the wealthy became more caring towards the workers, and the artisan working classes acted more respectfully and civilised.

More than 4500 hymns by Charles Wesley was published during his time and some 3000 others were in manuscripts. Even today many of his timeless hymns are sung around the world, "And Can It Be That I Should Gain?", "Hark! the Herald Angels Sing", "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling", "O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing" and so many many others which we all love. When he lay dying in March, 1788, worn out from toil, he dictated these last lines to his beloved wife, Sally:

In age and feebleness extreme,
Who shall a helpless worm redeem?
Jesus, my only hope Thou art,
Strength of my failing flesh and heart,
O, could I catch a smile from Thee
And drop into eternity!

Children Bible Quiz

- 1) Who is the only woman mentioned in the Old Testament whose age is given?
A) Esther B) Hagar C) Sarah D) Eve
- 2) Who dwelt in the land of Nod?
A) Nimrod B) Gomer C) Abram D) Cain
- 3) What city was known for its "purple" dye?
A) Tyre B) Pergamos C) Thyatira D) Philippi
- 4) Whose borders were described as being "in the midst of the sea"?
A) Grecia's B) Tyre's C) Ephraim's D) Egypt's

5) Who saw in a dream an angel and many rams
A) Daniel B) Jacob C) Isaiah D) Zechariah

6) In his letter, James mentions two people as examples of those were "justified by works". Who were these two?
A) Noah & Job B) Noah & Abraham C) Moses & Sarah D) Abraham & Rahab

7) In what city were eighty-five priests massacred?
A) Shiloh B) Nob C) Ramah D) Gilgal

8) Which of the following was one of David's brothers?
A) Hophni B) Eliab C) Bani D) Jachin

9) What disciple was a tentmaker by trade?
A) Aquila B) Barnabas C) Peter D) Silas

10) Where can the following words be found? "For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night."
A) 1 Thessalonians B) Ephesians C) Romans D) Galatians

Answers

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

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