

Beloved,

Greetings to you in our Lord's name!

It's great to be backafter a refreshing time at Quiet Corner in fellowship with the BMC family...enjoying God's presence in the midst of His creation, taking note of the little things that He created for us to enjoy that we so often take for granted in the busyness of this world. It was a time of reflection, of reality checks...of re-prioritizing ...setting things right with God....It may have been easy to make certain commitments to Him while we were out there with Him in the quietness of nature away from the pressures that the world engulfs us in...but what happens when we get back to the world and our day to day routines?! Are we still committed to those promises we made to Him at the camp? This is the hard reality! But He assures us that we can do all things as long as our dependence on Him is intact in Phil 4:13 (I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.)

Our relationship to God (if it is what it should be) helps us decide on the way we live while we are in this world. As I said last month, we shall be looking at a 3-part series regarding the 'Fruit of the Spirit' (Galatians 5:22) which transform God's children and plucks them away from the blatant absence of morality caused by the ways of the world to a system of life that is procreating a healthy lifestyle amidst the lawlessness of this present generation. The first three would be love, joy, and peace. And these are the focus of this month's study.

John Stott speaking about love, joy and peace says, "This is the triad of general Christian virtues. Yet they seem primarily to concern our attitude towards God, for a Christian's first love is his love for God, his chief joy is his joy in God and his deepest peace is his peace with God." These three characteristics of the fruit that the believing Christian is supposed to have are directly related to the person's relationship to God.

Love is of four types in Greek mythology and the word used in this passage is Agape This is the highest form of love. This love loves in spite of who or what the person who receives it may be or what s/he does. (It is not the familial love for blood relations [without choice], nor the love for best friend [choice], nor even the love between man and



wife [family as well as choice]). This love is not defined by the person we are dealing with but the God who provides this love.

Joy is again a different thing in the spiritual realm than what is made out to be in the earthly. Joy is often confused with happiness. Happiness is determined by the circumstances at the time, but joy remains inside the person at all times – whether they are conducive to happiness or not – joy remains in the person eternally. The positive feeling of exuberance remains in times of happiness as well as sorrow, and it is determined by the God who lives inside of us.

Peace also similarly is not a peace that exists only in times of the absence of war or disturbances of any kind. But this peace is the peace which passes understanding in the words of the Bible (Philippians 4:7). It is peace that remains even when we go through the toughest of circumstances. It surpasses human understanding – people are bound to ask us how we can remain peaceful in spite of our circumstances.

Now when a person displays this kind of a behavior, s/he is bound to change the lifestyle that is rampant in our ever unfulfilled world. Not just that, but the lifestyle is bound to evoke inquisitive questions regarding the mental and spiritual state of the Christian.

Are we living such lives in the world, today? Are the people around us able to notice the difference in our lives in comparison to theirs?? If the answer to that question is a 'no' then we really need to examine ourselves and find out if we have the graces of love, joy and peace in our lives, and if not, we must try and imbibe these graces soon – because this is what distinguishes us as people who belong to God, and have the normal functioning of His Holy Spirit in our lives.

Trust you have a blessed month making a sincere effort to take on these characteristics in your life.

Lots of Love, Joy and Peace to all of you,

Immanuel & Myra Theodore

Family Retreat - Experience

Praise be to God.

The place Quiet Corner is a wonderful campsite at the foothill of Ooty. We began our journey by the 9th of October early in the morning and reached there by the afternoon. There were about 9 families who attended this camp and each of us had a marvelous experience.

I firmly believe that the Lord had planned this camp on "Balancing Christian Life", as I felt His presence right from the very first session and He spoke to me through most of the messages. For me the most useful session was the sermon on "Sincerity" and the most wonderful part of the camp was that we had a chance to enjoy the creation with our creator. The guest speaker Rev. Jerome kept us attentive by His timely illustrations during his sermons. The devotion by the stream made us cherish about Jesus' preaching by the seashore and the mountains. The lively action songs by Sis. Myra kept our spirits and excitement really high.

The children had real fun climbing treetops and enjoyed to their hearts' content. The food was simple but very delicious. The campfire made us re-dedicate ourselves to the Lord sincerely.

"All good things must come to an end", and so we returned by the 11th afternoon and reached home by the night.

Hope all of us will practice what we have learnt and take care that our Christian life is not stagnant. Let us take this forward in our life through genuine and wholesome Spirituality and by being sincere and not falling into temptation.

I thank and praise the Lord Almighty and BMC from the bottom of my heart for having blessed us and our families with such a wonderful experience.

Mrs. Jachin Joel



Pulpit Calendar - Nov. 2008

MONTHLY THEME : Building Christ Like Character – Part II
Service Time: 9:30 AM

Date	Speaker	Theme
2nd Nov 08 Communion	Rev. Dr. Chris Gnanakan	Wisdom - Solomon
9th Nov 08	Rev. Immanuel Theodore	Humility - Moses
16th Nov 08	Mr. I A K Raju	Perseverance - Paul
23rd Nov 08	Mr. J S A Julius	Submission - Ruth
30th Nov 08	Rev. Immanuel Theodore	Love & Compassion - Jesus

Other Programs / Details - Nov. 2008

Combined Area Fellowship	01.Nov.08 (Sat) at 5.30pm	At BMC. For details 9731944666 (Mr.Irwin)
Women's Fellowship	09.Nov.08 (Sun) at 11.30am	After Sunday service. For details 9886426287 (Mrs. Angelin)
Combined Area Fellowship	15.Nov.08 (Sat) at 5.30pm	At BMC. For details 9731944666 (Mr.Irwin)
Sunday School (English)	8.30 am	Every Sunday at BMC. For details contact Mrs. Iris (41215655)
Weekly Prayer Meeting	6.30 pm Every Friday	At BMC
Choir Practice	11.30 am	After Sunday service. Mr.Isaac (9845232807)
Sunday School (Kannada)	3.00pm Every Sunday	At Arul's house. (9731293243)
Tamil service	7.00 am	Every Sunday

• Praise God for last month's pulpit ministry. Pray for this month's pulpit ministry, that the word of God would touch many.

• Praise God for the various departments of our church and for those who have taken responsibilities. WSCS, youth, choir, Sunday school, missions and outreach, Finance, IT, literature, Prayer, Ushering, Property management, Christian education. Pray that those who have taken responsibilities would have the vision and be committed to the responsibilities.

• Praise God for the AECS layout and Bethel nagar area fellowships. Pray that these will be places to meditate His word, pray and fellowship together. .

• Praise God for the Family camp which was held between 9th to 11th Oct 08 at Quiet corner and the blessings.

• Praise God for the weekly women's prayer fellowship at 3 places. Kundanahalli, Hoodi, and Bethel nagar. Pray that all women of the church would become part of these prayer fellowships.



- Pray for our pastors Rev. Immanuel, his wife Mrs.Myra Immanuel, and son Lemuel & Rev. Ramesh Christopher, his wife Mrs.Arulvimala, and children Helen and Dorothy.
- Pray for our mother church IMC and the Pastors Rev. Moses Mamdapur and Rev.Paul Royappa and their families
- Pray that the church would be a blessing to the neighbourhood.
- Pray for the preparations for first anniversary scheduled on 13th Dec 08 at BMC

Bible Quiz - Kings of Judah and Israel

- 1) Which king reigned the longest?
A) David B) Manasseh C) Solomon
- 2) Who established the capital in Jerusalem?
A) Saul B) Solomon C) David
- 3) Who said: "my father also chastised you with whips, but I will chastise you with scorpions"
A) Ahab B) Solomon C) Rehoboam
- 4) Who was the only queen of Judah?
A) Jezebel B) Bath-sheba C) Athaliah
- 5) How many kings were called Jeroboam?
A) 1 B) 2 C) 3
- 6) Who said to whom: "...my people as your people, my horses as your horses."?
A) Jehoshaphat to Ahab B) Saul to Jonathan C) Asa to Baasha
- 7) Who rediscovered the book of the Law?
A) Joash B) Jehoahaz C) Josiah
- 8) Who said to whom: "Have you murdered and also taken possession?"
A) Nathan to King David B) Elijah to Ahab C) Elisha to Jezebel
- 9) Zimri killed
A) Omri B) Jehu C) Elah
- 10) Who built towers in Jerusalem?
A) Hezekiah B) Uzziah C) Amaziah

Answers:

1) B) 2) C) 3) C) 4) C) 5) B) 6) A) 7) C) 8) B) 9) C) 10) B)

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