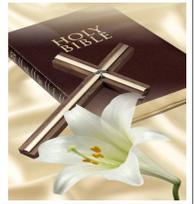


E-EMMANUEL

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EDITORIAL: GIVE THANKS TO THE LORD OF THE HARVEST

Harvest is a time for testimonies—testimonies of the goodness of God in giving us our daily bread and for daily giving us bread. Many of us can look back and chart the myriad of pathways that God paved for us over the years, in supplying our daily needs. The acknowledgement of God’s goodness through our testimonies comes when we sincerely reflect on the fact that we are totally dependent on God for our daily sustenance. This deep reflection should lead us to offer, from the depths of our being, thanks to Almighty God for His providential care of us. And

... as we celebrate the God of the harvest—the God who has showered blessings in our lives—I pray that we will use the opportunity to share what we have with others, so that they too will experience the God of the harvest in their lives. This will certainly demonstrate our love of/for God with all that we have and all that we are. Then together, the prayer of our hearts will be:



*Thanks!, Thanks! We give You thanks,
For all You’ve done.
We are so blessed, our souls are at rest,
Oh Lord, we give You thanks.*

*Dahlia Palmer, Chairperson
Communications Committee*

Using your talent(s)

In Matthew 25: 14-30, we read about the parable of the talents, where it tells of a master who was leaving his home to travel, and before going entrusted his property to his servants. One servant received five talents, the second two talents, and the third one talent, according to their respective abilities. Returning after a long absence, the master asked his servants for an update of what they received. The first two servants explained that they had each put their money to work and doubled the value of the property they were entrusted with, and so they were each rewarded. The third servant, however, had simply hidden his talent in a hole in the ground, and was punished for being lazy. There is much that we can learn from this parable.

First, we are all given a different starting position. Some of us are born into abundance (five talents). Others are born into scarcity (one talent). But what matters is not what we are given—it is what we do with it that matters. So Jesus acknowledges the unfairness of life, but he also suggests that our starting conditions are irrelevant. One person earns five talents, another earns only two, but both are congratulated equally because both achieved a 100% gain.

This is also a good lesson in how to deal with other human beings. Deal with other people based on their starting positions, and evaluate yourself by your own starting position. If you happen to be one of those who receives five talents, don’t pat yourself on the back that you’re already above average. If you have abundant talents, you should expect even more from yourself. Similarly, there may be times in your life where you only have one talent and do the best you can with it, and even though your gains appear small from an external standard, by Jesus’ standard you’ve still made a notable accomplishment.

Another lesson from this parable is understanding that our talents are entrusted to us, like a master putting money into the care of his servants. We are stewards of our talents. If you can write and speak fairly well, those are talents that have been entrusted to you. You can bury them in the ground out of fear, or you can push out of your shell and strive to create increase for all. God wants us to use our talents for His glory. In the parable, the third servant was punished because he hid his talent—not because he did not earn profit on it. Not activating or using your talent is tantamount to the action of the third servant where he was referred to as “a wicked, lazy

JULY REMINDERS

7th	Funeral Service for Sis. Daphne Lewis
9th	St Mary Baptist Association Fun Day at Mango Valley Community Centre
10th	Harvest Service
11th-16th	Vacation Bible School
11th-16th	Intermediate I Camp
15th	Harvest Supper
18th-23rd	Intermediate II Camp
25th-30th	Junior Camp

Upcoming August Events

1st	Emancipation Day
1st-6th	Youth Camp
6th	Independence Day

July Birthdays

Fay Dixon	2nd
Bruce Wedderburn	4th
Olga Campbell	13th
Hilda Lewin	16th
Yvonne Brown	17th
Leonard Martin	24th
Suzette Irvin-Ison	25th
Tricia Thompson	31st

UPCOMING NEWSLETTER FEATURE

Beginning in the new church year (i.e. October 2011), the newsletter will feature the wedding anniversary dates of members. Please submit this information in writing at the church’s office or to Sis. Dahlia Palmer. You can also submit photos of you and your spouse.

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Remember to pray
... for the sick and shut-in members of the church and in our surrounding communities. Here is a list of our sick and shut-in members:

- Sis. Adassa Reddie
- Sis. Audrey Maxwell
- Sis. Emma Scarlett-Grant
- Sis. Inez Graham
- Sis. Percess Scott
- Bro. Thomas Bennett
- Bro. Jeremiah Dalhouse
- Bro. Archibald Henry
- Sis. Roslyn Walters
- Sis. Daphne Reid
- Sis. Georgina Peart



HISTORY IS VERY IMPORTANT!!

The Communications Committee is seeking to archive as much information about the history of the Emmanuel Baptist Church (and the circuit)—her former pastors, members, significant events, photographs, sermons, stories and other memoirs. If you have any information and/or documents, please pass these on to Sis. Dahlia Palmer. Also, if you wish to be interviewed in this regard please also indicate this. This is urgently needed. Thanks.

(Photo retrieved from: <http://school.discoveryeducation.com/clipart/images/history-color.gif>)

Thought:

he that has a good harvest, must be content with a few thistles!

(Quote by - Spanish Proverb)

servant!” Later the master referred to that servant as “worthless” and had him physically thrown out. If you do nothing with your talents... if you hide them in the ground and hoard them, you are choosing to be wicked, lazy, and worthless. The first two servants were praised. The master praised them for being “faithful.” The praise is given for their faith, not for their results.

Another lesson that we can learn from the parable is the lack of competition. The servants were not competing with each other for their master’s favour. Although Jesus did not explicitly say it, it seems obvious that the first two servants did not get to keep the money. The two successful servants were not working for their own increase. It was not their money. They were working for the increase of their master, and they shared in the increase to his estate. Their true reward was to share in their master’s happiness.

Adapted from: <http://www.stevepavlina.com/blog/2006/03/the-parable-of-the-talents/>

Harvest Thanksgiving

To make it simple – harvest is about saying thanks. How many things (words) can you list from the two words that you can give God thanks for?

- | | |
|----------|-----|
| 1. earth | 6. |
| 2. | 7. |
| 3. | 8. |
| 4. | 9. |
| 5. | 10. |

KEEPING HYDRATED DURING THE SUMMER

Most of us enjoy the summer because we get the opportunity to visit many places. However, we do not like the heat – the high temperature that usually comes with the summer. Excessive heat can make us uncomfortable and in addition dry us out. The following are a few ways that you and your family can **remain hydrated this summer**.

- Drink plenty of water – As a large part of the body is composed of water, it is a necessity to replenish what is lost through urination, sweating and cellular processes. A reality is that when you feel that you are thirsty enough for a drink, it is already beyond the point of normal thirst. To remain on top of hydration, drink a minimum of 8 glasses of water per day at regular periods. The simple way to do this is by carrying a reusable water bottle that will hold at least 32 ounces of water.
- Have water filled foods – A lot of wholesome foods contain water. You do not have to get your whole hydration each day from drinking water. This is a great news for those who do not like to drink plain water. Consider melons, berries and vegetables like celery and carrots.
- Drink cool water – Cooler water absorbs into the body more easily. You may even feel that coolness travelling throughout your body. It requires warmer water longer to do its job therefore store a jug of water in the refrigerator to drink during outdoor activities and workout.
- Avoid caffeine – Having plenty of caffeine e.g. in coffee, tea and carbonated drinks can dry you out. You are actually reversing your hydration by sucking them down in hot weather. Stick with water just as much as you can.
- Avoid plenty of salt – The human body requires sodium but not in the amounts that the majority of us consume it. An excessive amount of sodium can result in bloating and increased thirst.

Adapted from: <http://www.healthierways.com/staying-hydrated-during-the-hot-summer/>

JAMAICA BAPTIST UNION MISSION AGENCY (JBUMA) Disaster Awareness & Emergency Response (DAER)

HURRICANE SURVIVAL CORNER

The ODPEM has recommended a set of 6 Hurricane Survival Kits. We share these with you for the next 6 weeks. The Kits consist of six basic sets of items you should stock for your home:

Water	Food	First aid supplies
Clothing and bedding	Tools and emergency supplies	Sanitation

Gather the supplies that are listed.

Survival Kit #1: Water

- Store water in plastic containers such as soft drink bottles.
- Store one gallon of water per person per day
- Keep at least a seven-day supply of water per person.
- Do not forget water for your pets. They are also members of your family.

Remember also to keep items that you would most likely need during an evacuation in an easy to carry container such as a large, covered trash container or a duffle bag.

*- DAER Committee
JAMAICA BAPTIST UNION MISSION AGENCY*