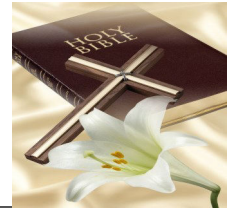


E-EMMANUEL

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EDITORIAL: HARVESTING SOULS

Each year as we make preparations for harvest, we focus on the foods, crops and monetary gifts that we can take as an offering to Almighty God. This we do as a mark of our thanksgiving to Him for His daily provisions. There is however, another kind of harvest that we must give equal attention i.e. harvesting of souls. If we want to harvest souls for the Kingdom of God then we must change how we see those who are lost—we have to look with spiritual eyes and see that field of harvest as Jesus saw it.

First we have to realize that there are many lost people. In Matthew 9: 37, Jesus said to his disciples, *'The harvest is plentiful'*. By this, Jesus meant that the world is big. The crowds are huge. The number of spiritually lost and dying people is overwhelming !! Second, we have to open our hearts to the lost and weep over their souls. In Matthew 9:36 Jesus had compassion on the people. Jesus' heart grieves over every soul. God grieves over lost souls because those who die without Christ never know how much he loves them and they are lost forever. Third, we must make harvesting of souls a priority. Jesus saw the vast number of lost persons, Jesus has compassion on their souls but He also conveyed the urgency with which the lost should be sought. Jesus said *The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field'*(Matt. 9:37-38 NIV). God needs us to bring to His altar, a harvest of souls.

As Christians we all can do more to go out into the field of the world and tell others about Christ and His saving grace so that there will be a rich harvest of

JULY REMINDERS

5th	Harvest Ingathering
6th-11th	JBU Intermediate Camp
11th	St. Mary Baptist Association Fun Day (Port Maria)
12th	Harvest Thanksgiving Service Ingathering (6:30 pm)
13-17th	Vacation Bible School
13th-18th	JBU Junior Camp
17th	Harvest Luncheon

PLEASE 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:

Sisters:

Violet Daley	Loretta Reid
Inez Graham	Keziah Spence
Emma Grant	Ionie Thomas
Hazel Allen	

Audrey Maxwell
Valerie Melbourne

Brothers:

Doris Nelson	Larkland Peart
Georgina Peart	Leonard Martin
Adassa Reddie	Thomas Bennett

WHAT SEEDS ARE YOU SOWING?

In the book of Hosea chapter 10, it is noted that the more prosperous the people of Israel became, the further they moved from God. They became self-centred and began to put their trust in things rather than God. In this way they were *"... planting and growing seeds of wickedness and crops of sin ..."* (v. 13a). God, in trying to re-establish His relationship with the Children of Israel, asked them to move from their wicked ways and to *"plant the good seeds of righteousness; then they would harvest a crop of God's love,"* (v. 12).

The lesson for us to learn is that if we engage in sinful thoughts and actions, we are planting *"bad"* seeds in our lives. The end result is that we will find ourselves on a pathway of destruction—physically and spiritually. On the other hand, when we do the will of God and live according to God's Word, we will be sowing good seeds of God's love.

July Birthdays: God's bounteous blessings are always yours



Fay Dixon 2nd	Bruce Wedderburn 4th	Olga Campbell 11th	Alva Jackson 11th	Theron Smith 16th	Fitzroy Hylton 17th	Leonard Martin 24th	Suzzette Ison 25th	Tricia Thompson 31st
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Cradle Roll Graduates



THE RAINBOW

Many people signed on to the Internet last week Friday to find their Twitter and Facebook feeds exploding with rainbows. The Supreme Court's landmark decision to make same-sex marriage a Constitutional right across the United States of America, sparked a huge volume of rainbow coloured cartoons and photos. How did the rainbow come to symbolize gay pride and rights? In 1976, Gilbert Baker started this design. Baker saw a flag as a more powerful symbol than a seal or a sign, since it is flown to represent a nation, people or country. Baker claims that the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) are "... a people, a tribe. And flags are about proclaiming power, so it's very appropriate." Baker continued to say that "the rainbow is so perfect because it really fits our diversity in terms of race, gender, ages, all of those things, plus, it's a natural flag—it's from the sky!"

Indeed, the rainbow is from the sky!! As Christians, we know that rainbows are a beautiful part of creation. After the rains, it is wonderful to see the big, colourful arc appear in the sky. It leaves people breathless and gives them relief after the period of rain. The rainbow is a significant symbol and God has told us what it means and why He created it.

Genesis 9:13-16 tells that God set His rainbow in the cloud as a sign and covenant between Him and the earth—that the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. The rainbow is God's sign to mankind; that He will never again destroy the earth by a catastrophic flood.

The implications of this sign and symbol reaches further than just God's promise. Ultimately, the rainbow reminds us of our sin. After all, the flood never would have happened had it not been for the overwhelming sin in the world. But, it also reminds us of the redemption that God offers. He allowed the righteous Noah to be saved and placed him in an Ark to do so. For believers today, God saves any who come to Jesus and accepts the free gift of salvation that has been offered. In that way, Jesus is the modern day ark, saving ALL of us from utter destruction.

So when we see the rainbow, we know and are reminded of God's design and plan to save all of humanity—males and females!!

Adapted from:

http://www.patheos.com/blogs/christiancrier/2014/12/09/what-does-a-rainbow-mean-in-the-bible/ and http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/wonkblog/wp/2015/06/29/how-the-rainbow-became-the-symbol-of-gay-pride/

Thought:

The man who sows wrong thoughts and deeds and pray that God will bless him is like a farmer who, having sown tares, and asks God to bring him a harvest of wheat!!

(James Allen)



Jacqueline & Courtney McPherson - July 25

Louise & Junior Plummer - July 27

Donna & Unes McLean - July 28

We welcome your ideas and suggestions.

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Visit our website at: www.emmanuelbaptist-jm.org

Follow us on facebook at: http://www.facebook.com/

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Advertisement for Jamaica Baptist Union Youth Department Summer Camps 2015. Includes a map of Jamaica, a logo with a cross and flame, and a yellow price tag for \$7,500. Text: 'LEVELING BY TARGET MISSION POSSIBLE'. Venue: JBU Conference Centre, Dumcans, Trelawny.

Table with 3 columns: Age Group, Dates, and Age Range. Intermediate: July 06 - 11, Age 13-16 Years. Junior: July 13 - 18, Age 9-12 Years. Youth: July 27 - August 1, Age 17-20 Years.

CALL THE JBU OFFICE 989 2228 / 989 9335 EMAIL AT jbuyouth@gmail.com / info@jbu.org.jm

FIND THESE WORDS RELATED TO HARVEST

Blessings, Cheerful giver, Christians, Church, Contributions, Deuteronomy, Exodus, Firstfruits, God, Hebrew, I Corinthians, II Chronicles, Ingathering, Israelites, Leviticus, Lord, Moses, Nehemiah, Nisan, Offerings, Omer, Passover, Pesach, Plentiful, Produce, Sow, Tabernacle Feast, Weeks Feast, Wheat harvest

