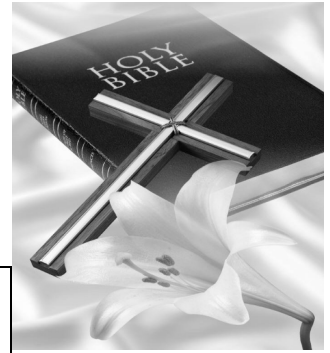


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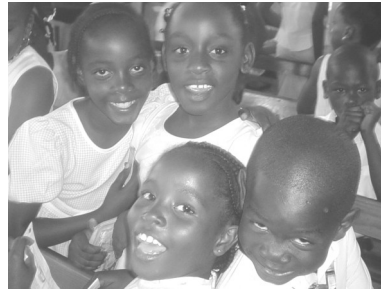


## EDITORIAL: SPECIAL EDITION – SUNDAY SCHOOL DAY

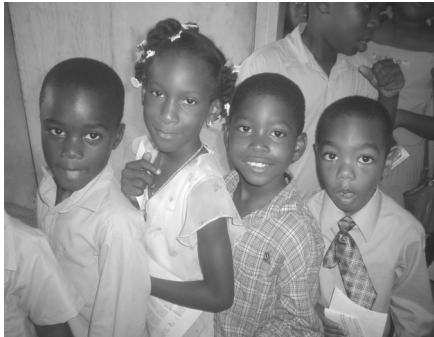
### GOD'S CHILDREN: Hope for the future

God always direct our course towards a good future. One way that He does this is through our non-adult children (all of us who name the name of Christ are God's children). This is particularly evident within the scripture where God instructs us adults in how to deal with children.

Firstly, he insists that we must "wholeheartedly repeat [His commands] over and over again to the children" (Deut 6:7), and secondly, God warns us not to harm the children—that if any one causes one child, who trusts God, to lose faith in Christ, it would be better for that person to be thrown into the sea with a large millstone tied around his/her neck (Matt 18:6).



These two instructions from God are not mere words. They are instructions for our children's future. "And what might such a future look like?" you may ask—well these instructions, if carried out, will ensure us of a godly and stable generation for the future—a generation knowledgeable about God's word and a generation with a strong faith and trust in God. What a wonderful future!



Indeed, hope for the future rests in God's children!

*Dahlia Palmer,  
Chairperson, Communications*

### March Birthdays

Gregory Walsh	1st
Doris Nelson	3rd
Esther Sahti	8th
Dahlia Chambers	11th
Louise Scarlett	12th
Adassa Reddie	15th
Alpha Hibbert	17th
Loretta Reid	20th
Ena Rhoden	20th
Shamar Brown	23rd
Tanisha Holness	23rd
Suzai Scott	27th
Trevelyn Williams	28th
Steve Hamilton	31st

### Sunday school children celebrating birthdays in March

Shadel Brown	1st
Gregory Walsh	1st
Raheem Campbell	19th
Shamar Brown	23rd
Tanisha Holness	23rd

THOUGHT:

**NEVER DEPRIVE CHILDREN OF HOPE,  
IT MIGHT BE ALL THAT THEY HAVE!**

### Message from the Sunday School Superintendent

The Emmanuel Baptist Church through the Jamaica Baptist Union Christian Education Department, continues to make every effort to promote the Sunday school as one of the methods of fostering discipleship and training to all. As a Sunday school, we see everyone as children of God, and as such the **theme "God's Children: Hope for the Future"** was decided on for our anniversary celebration. The church continues to open its doors for Sunday school every Sunday morning from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. All age groups are catered to in the Sunday school throughout the different classes namely beginners, younger children, older children, youths and adults. So what do you think? Is the Sunday school ready to die or to be re-born? Does the Sunday school have a future or just bury the carcass? We welcome a flood of new ideas and innovative concepts for the Sunday school revitalization and discipleship ministry of the church. What do you think? My brothers and sisters, the Sunday school is a most important arm of the church so let us rise and give God the glory as we prepare and present "God's children: our hope for the future."



*Maureen Cunningham*

### Celebrate with the Sunday School .. and help the Sunday school

Today, as a church we celebrate with all the members of the Sunday school—from beginners to adults—as they reflect on the past year.

Let us endeavour to pray for the continued growth and development of the Sunday school. This growth can happen through your contribution of time in working with a class or simply helping to provide refreshments, or conducting devotions or closing off the sessions, or helping to record the attendance or ... so many other things.

Your input WILL make a difference.

## Words from some Sunday school children ...

### Hope in the Lord Toni-Ann Townsend (Younger Children)

I too have hope in the Lord even though I am eight years old. When I attend Sunday School, my teacher Mrs. Corey reminds all of us to have hope in the Lord. At times when things are going wrong, I pray and ask God to help me. Having hope allows me to wait on His answers.

### Importance of the Sunday School Shadel Brown (Youth 1)

Sunday School is an important arm of the church. This arm allows for an upward, downward interaction between students and teachers. It provides information on the Christian faith and growth. I believe that the Sunday School embodies all the other arms of the church. It requires a lot of hard work and dedication on the part of teachers and other workers. For some people, going to church is unnecessary, however if the church could reach out to these persons through the Sunday School they may just be able to help these people learn about God and the Bible.

### How the Sunday School has impacted my life Tamoya Young (Youth 1)

As the years pass by, being a part of the Emmanuel Baptist Sunday School has changed my life completely. Drawing close to God has helped me to prove the devil and others wrong - that I cannot be a child of God. If it wasn't for my Sunday school teachers I wouldn't have learnt so many things about God and how good He is. Being at Sunday school over the years has shown me how I can be committed as a child of God. Of course, being involved in church has not been easy but with God's help all things are worth the time. The Sunday school has changed my life in many ways such as help me to:

- ◆ pray about things in my life for example in my school work
- ◆ Stay committed and draw closer and closer to the presence of God
- ◆ Learn to forgive persons who have done me wrong

### WHY OUR CHILDREN NEED TO BE AT SUNDAY SCHOOL:

Research has shown that children who "actively participate" in a "faith community" will be more likely to:

- increase their average life expectancy by 8 years
- significantly reduce their use of drugs and lower their risk of suicide
- help them rebound from depression 70% faster
- dramatically reduce their risk for committing a crime
- improve their attitude at school and increase their school participation
- reduce their risk for rebelliousness
- reduce the likelihood that they would binge drink in college
- improve their odds for a "very happy" life
- provide them with a life-long moral compass

[http://www.ladiesforjesus.com/PDF\\_Files/KTD\\_Articles/Importance\\_of\\_Sunday\\_School.pdf](http://www.ladiesforjesus.com/PDF_Files/KTD_Articles/Importance_of_Sunday_School.pdf)

We welcome your ideas and suggestions

Please e-mail us at: [emmanuel\\_baptist\\_1828@yahoo.com](mailto:emmanuel_baptist_1828@yahoo.com)

### God's children: Hope for the future Regina Bernard (Youth 1)

The Sunday school of Emmanuel Baptist Church is one of great hope and faith for all of us children for the future. In Sunday school, we are inspired by the small voice of Jesus through our teachers, to move forward into the future with the aid of God. Our Sunday school encourages us from a tender age through to teenage years then to adults, for us to remain in God's never ending love.

This year, we build our focus around Revelation 21:1-7 which reminds us of the new earth where we will sit with God in a world of joy—not sorrow; a world of peace—not war; and a world of happiness—not pain; a future that we can hope for.

The Sunday school teaches all of us about God and he has a plan for us. We are reminded that we are the future leaders of God's great plan. It warms my heart when I see children who have attend Sunday school from a tender age, grow up to accept Jesus and to be a part of His family. This shows one of the greatest by-product of Sunday School as children move from one class to another to accept Jesus at a point when there is full understanding of what Jesus wants.

As we have come towards the end of another Sunday school year, sincere gratitude is being expressed to the teachers and workers who have made this year a success. As we look forward to a new pastor and his family, we ask for God's continued blessing to shine on Emmanuel as we go forward into 2010 and beyond.

### The Emmanuel Baptist Sunday School Team

Maureen Cunningham	- Superintendent
Leroy Corey	- Asst. Superintendent
Winsome Johnson	- Secretary
Tanya Johnson	- Beginners
Pauline Smith	- Beginners
Janet Corey	- Younger Children
Janet McCarthy	- Younger Children
Joycelyn Barnett	- Older Children
Vivene Irvin	- Older Children
Margaret McFarquar	- Youth 1
Alva Jackson	- Youth II
Violet Daley	- Adults (Female)
Sean Campbell	- Adults (Male)
Leroy Corey	- Adults (Male)