



# SUMMERDALE YOUTH NEWS

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## "THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT IS GOODNESS"

The apostle Paul wrote to the church of Galatia and said, "The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law." The message of Galatians 5:22-23 still resounds today. If we are born of the Spirit (John 3:5, Acts 2:38, Romans 8) it is natural for us to bear the fruit of the Spirit. What does that mean? In this space today, I would like for us to consider "GOODNESS" as a fruit of the Spirit.

One of my best friends, Travis Creasy, reminds the TITUS Campers each year that the book of Romans is a life-changing book. A few years ago we studied it through the duration of the camp week. One of the things he spoke of that year was how people need to be reminded of Romans 8:28 which says, "And we know that all things work together for GOOD to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose." This passage is easy to quote to someone else, but what about when your sour or when you are down? Is there comfort in this passage? I can't think of a better passage to deal with GOODNESS. There are some important things that we must consider as we read Paul's words here in Romans 8:28.

All things work together for GOOD but not all things are GOOD. The death of a family member, the betrayal of a friend, loss of income, having a tyrannical boss, dealing with a physical illness, weak marriages, or experiencing family troubles are not GOOD. In fact, often they are the direct result of evil. This is important to observe. We often forget that believers are never promised immunity from the problems and pains of the world. Every day we must put up with much that is not GOOD. However, GOOD can come out of bad!

This verse promises that God can use all the circumstances of our lives—both the GOOD and the bad—to shape outcomes that accomplish His purposes for us. And His purposes can only be GOOD, because He is GOOD by definition (James 1:17). This passage is such a beautiful one that can give us comfort, especially during this pandemic. How can you make this verse work for you as you face tough, troubling times, or sad times? I want to share three things with you:

(1) Affirm your trust in God's presence. Whether you do this by continuing your faithfulness to him, or renewing your faith, you need to affirm your trust in Him. Let people know that you are leaning on God when trials come to you. Let God know that you are dependent upon Him and Him alone. Give Him glory in spite of your pain. Remind yourself that God is GOOD and He is working for your own GOOD.

(2) Align your goals with God's purposes. Remember that God created us to be GOOD, but we find ways to be evil (Ecclesiastes 7:29). If you want everything to work out for GOOD, and you want to appreciate it, you need to realign your priorities and see the GOOD in your life. If you see everything that you're doing is not working, start asking for God's intervention. Then study the Bible to see what God has planned for your life. You may be surprised by what will happen. GOOD things come from the heart and mind of God.

(3) Accept the reliability of God's promises. Read Psalm 145:9, 1 Chronicles 16:34, James 1:17 and other Bible passages that tell us about God's GOODNESS. God has never failed to keep His promises. He never will fail you! God will always do what He says. If you will put your faith in Him, understand His purposes, and then accept His promises you will appreciate your circumstances.

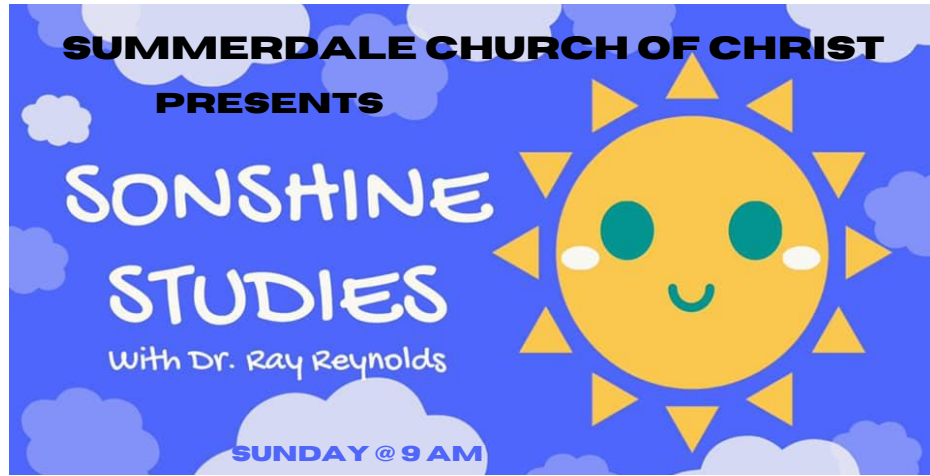
Our Lord is GOOD. He expects His children to do their best to practice GOODNESS.  
May God bless you and keep you! Choose GOODNESS.

*You are loved,  
Ray*





# SYG NEWS & EVENTS



The "Sunshine Studies" online series is for our children and is available online at 9 AM each Sunday morning via YouTube. It is fun for the whole family and everyone can benefit from these lessons. The studies for the next several weeks will revolve around the Fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23). We will continue this series of Bible lessons until Sunday morning Bible classes resume at the building in the near future.

We will have a Teen Zoom Devo & Bible study every Wednesday night at 5:30 PM. They last about 40 minutes. The link will be provided on Facebook and Instagram. All teens are encouraged to participate and to invite friends to join us as well. Our study is on "The Greatest Commands." Parents are welcome to watch the program too. See you on Wednesday night!

## Teen Zoom Devo & Bible Study

Link will be provided on FB & IG.

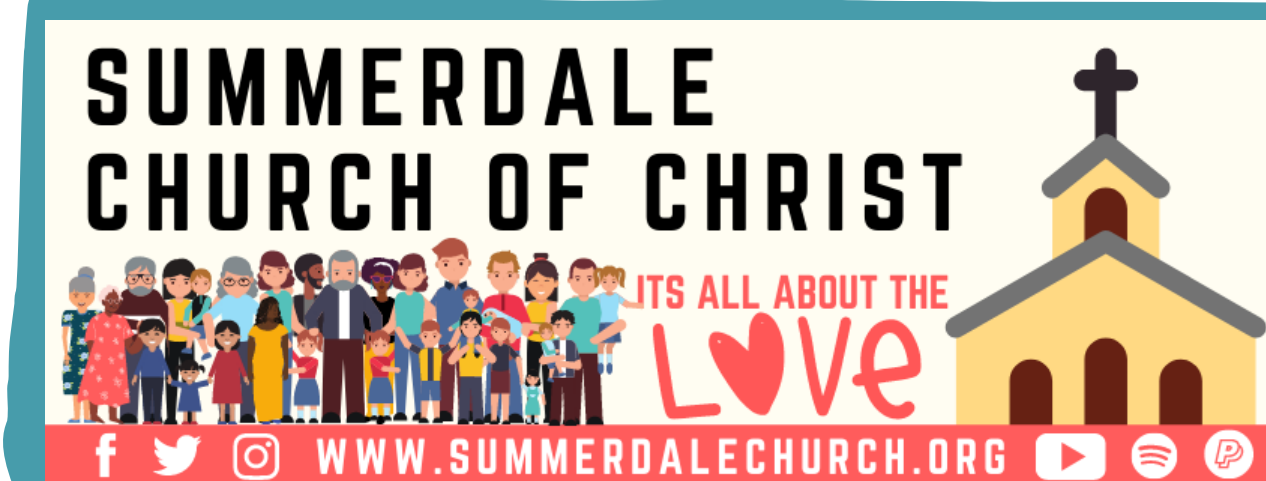


The Gulf Coast Area-Wide is planned for September 13th here in Summerdale. We are looking for some feedback on this event. COVID-19 and social distancing will hinder us from meeting in the auditorium. We are considering doing a parking lot service with prepared food in bags for convenience. The service would begin around 6 PM but we will have games & Karaoke prior to the event. The guest speaker is President David Shannon from Freed-Hardeman University. Please reach out to Ray for more details and to give feedback.

We've got questions. You've got the answers. Don't throw us shade. It's time to spill the tea. Each week one of our teens will be asked a series of random questions. We call it "7 Groovy Questions." You can find it on Facebook, Instagram or YouTube. So far we have interviewed Brady Long, Sebastian Hall, Carter Long, Zane Rider, Caryn Coxwell, and Hayden Joiner. Who will be next? Corbin Hall! Follow us and watch on YouTube.



Welcome to the church family Tyler, Haley, Kelsey Koen and their mom Lauren Williams! They placed membership with us last Sunday. This is a wonderful family and we are so blessed to have them with us. Please spend some time getting to know them.



The theme of our church family for the rest of 2020 will be "Its All About the Love."

## TENTATIVE YOUTH CALENDAR:

September 2 - Teen Zoom Devo & Bible Study  
 September 4 - SCA vs. Jackson (Home)  
 September 9 - Teen Zoom Devo & Bible Study  
 September 11 - Pickens vs. SCA (Away)  
 September 13 - Gulf Coast Area-Wide  
 September 16 - Teen Zoom Devo & Bible Study  
 September 18 - SCA vs. Cornerstone (Home)  
 September 23 - Teen Zoom Devo & Bible Study  
 September 25 - Youth & Young Adult Game Night

2020 FOOTBALL SCHEDULE		
August 28	ROCKY BAYOU	Away
September 4	JACKSON ACADEMY	Home
September 11	PICKENS ACADEMY	Away
September 18	CORNERSTONE CHRISTIAN	Home
September 25	OPEN	
October 2	WILCOX ACADEMY	Away
October 9	MEADOWVIEW	Home
October 16	SPARTA ACADEMY	Away
October 23	SOUTH CHOCTAW	Away
October 30	OPEN	
November 6	AISA PLAYOFFS	TBA
November 13	AISA SEMIFINALS	TBA
November 20	STATE CHAMPIONSHIP	Troy

Let's support our hometown Eagles! There are three home games on September 4, 18 and October 9. We should pack the stadium.

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