



# SUMMERDALE YOUTH NEWS

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## "THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT IS FAITHFULNESS"

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 "FAITHFULNESS" as a fruit of the Spirit.

How many times have you heard preachers speak of "The Steps to Salvation?" We usually expect to hear this phrase right at the end of the message. Traditionally we call this "The Invitation" or the "Lord's Invitation." It goes something like this... "If you want to be saved there are five steps you must take: Step #1 you must hear the gospel (Romans 10:17), Step #2 you must believe in Jesus Christ (John 8:24), Step #3 you must repent of your sins (Luke 13:3), Step #4 you must confess your faith in Jesus (Matthew 10:32), Step #5 you must be baptized (Mark 16:16). Sound familiar? These five familiar steps are essential to become a Christian, but do we assume that once these steps have been taken nothing else remains? If we continue to read our Bible we will see that there is much to do after we become a Christian! We cannot assume that there is nothing more to Christianity than "5 Steps to Salvation."

The Lord spoke of discipleship not as a "piece of cake" but as a daily choice. In Matthew 6:33 He said, "But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you." In Matthew 16:24 He said, "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me." Luke actually adds the word "daily" in this message (Luke 9:23). In Matthew 19:29 He said, "And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or lands, for My name's sake, shall receive a hundredfold, and inherit eternal life." It's a lifetime worth of steps down a difficult road (Matthew 7:13-14). You and I must choose... every single day... to be FAITHFUL to the Lord if we want to receive eternal life.

We are reminded throughout the Bible that FAITHFULNESS is one of the things that the Lord requires of His church. Romans 6:22 says, "But now having been set free from sin, and having become slaves of God, you have your fruit to holiness, and the end, everlasting life." Revelation 2:10 says, "Be FAITHFUL until death, and I will give you the crown of life." Who could forget the story found in Matthew 13 and the growth of the kingdom? We need to make sure that our seed grows and is not cut down when it begins to grow. This requires FAITHFULNESS.

In a way, our choice to follow Christ "daily" is a death sentence. We must remember that the devil will be working against us. I Peter 5:8 says, "Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour." When we face our enemy we need to remember that God loves us and will deliver us if we are steadfast. I Corinthians 15:58 says, "Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord." This is required if we are to be found FAITHFUL to God. Not an easy choice but a rewarding one.

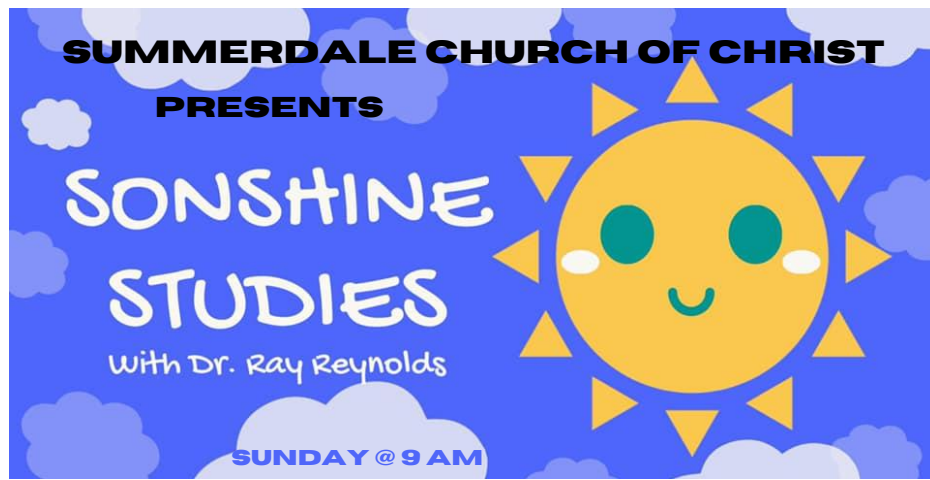
Our Lord is FAITHFUL. He expects His children to do their best to practice FAITHFULNESS.  
May God bless you and keep you! Choose FAITHFULNESS.

*You are loved,  
Ray*



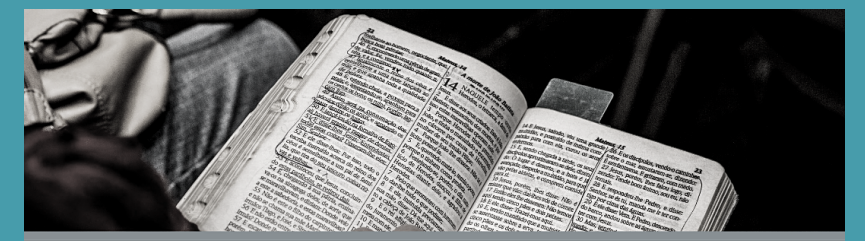


# SYG NEWS & EVENTS



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 are excited to announce that the teens will be resuming mid-week classes Wednesday, September 9 at 6:30 PM. Every Wednesday night we will be having a Family Bible Hour class in the fellowship hall for the youth and young families. All teens are encouraged to invite friends to join us as well. Our study on "The Greatest Commands" will continue from the Zoom classes. We will have a meal together and then class. Just bring a side item for the meal and your Bible. See you on Wednesday night!



**WEDNESDAY NIGHTS @ 6:30 PM**  
TEENS & YOUNG FAMILIES ARE INVITED TO  
**FAMILY BIBLE HOUR**



The Gulf Coast Area-Wide is planned for September 13th here in Summerdale. We will be doing a parking lot service with prepared food in bags for convenience. Dinner and games will begin at 5 PM. The worship service will begin around 6 PM. The guest speaker is President David Shannon from Freed-Hardeman University and guest song leader will be Casey Crawford from Scenic Hills. Please reach out to Ray for more details, to give feedback, and find out how you can help with this event.

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 "It's All About the Love."

## TENTATIVE YOUTH CALENDAR:

September 4 - SCA vs. Jackson (Home)  
September 9 - Family Bible Hour @ 6:30 PM  
September 11 - Pickens vs. SCA (Away)  
September 13 - Gulf Coast Area-Wide  
September 16 - Family Bible Hour @ 6:30 PM  
September 18 - SCA vs. Cornerstone (Home)  
September 23 - Family Bible Hour @ 6:30 PM  
September 25 - Youth & Young Adult Game Night

2020 FOOTBALL SCHEDULE		
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

Home games are played at Summerdale Middle School.

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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