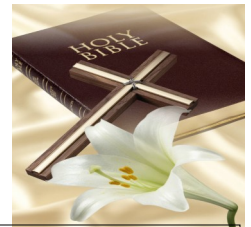


E-EMMANUEL



EDITORIAL: REFLECT CHRIST IN YOUR FAMILY

God has placed each of us into a family because He has a great plan for families. However, many of us lament about our family members and we do and say things that may cause emotional and physical hurts. When these negative actions are perpetuated, family members begin to develop a distorted view of God and how He relates to us as humans. God's ultimate plan for families is that this unit should reflect a relationship with Christ and others. God intended for members of families to show love, honour and respect to and for each other and so reflect the very nature of God.

As we approach another period that we term as "family month", I pray that each of us who name the name of Christ, will reflect Christ—His ways and His teachings—in our individual family units so that those members who are not Christians will see Christ in us and will desire to be like Christ. Let us therefore pledge to reflect Christ in our families.

*Dahlia Palmer, Chairperson
Communications Committee*

HUG A CHILD (or 2 or 3 or more) DURING CHILD'S MONTH!!

FOR YOUR ATTENTION: Start preparing for the family month activities. It will be a competition! Here is what you can start doing—get your colours:

Children shall wear green (green symbolizes growth and development)

Youths should be in red (red is a symbol of energy and strength)

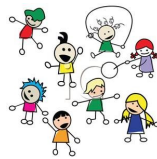
Singles are to be in yellow (yellow is a symbol of joy and happiness)

Couples must wear blue (blue reflects a calm and serene spirit)

Next week we will share details about the scheduled family month activities.

GROW SPIRITUAL CHILDREN

In 1 Samuel 3, we read about the Lord calling Samuel at a young age. In 2 Kings 22, we read about Josiah—a child of only eight years old—who became king and reigned in Jerusalem for 31 years. These two Bible stories highlight the fact that children can pursue spiritual things—they can grow to understand the principles and teachings of



(cont'd overleaf)

MAY REMINDERS

May	Child & Family Month
5th-11th	Education Week
8th	Teachers' Day
12th	Mothers' Day
18th	Emmanuel's birthday
19th	Anniversary Service (4 p.m.)
19th	Pentecost Sunday
23rd	Labour Day
31st	Sex Talk (Family month activity)

Get involved in the family month activities scheduled for May and June. Take as many family member to these activities!



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:

Port Maria Class: Sis. Audrey Maxwell; Sis. Emma Scarlette-Grant; Sis. Ionie Thomas; Trinity Class: Sis. Inez Graham; Sis. Percuss Scott; Valerie Melbourne; Sis. Loretta Reid; Mason Hall Class: Bro. Thomas Bennett Stennett Street Class: Bro. Archibald Henry Galina Class: Sis. Daphne Reid; Sis. Violet Daley; Sis. Edwards; Cox Street Class: Sis. Georgina Peart; Bro. Lucan Scott; Sis. Adassa Reddie.

May Birthdays: God's unfailing love will always be yours!



Lurline Edwards
1st



Karlane McLean
5th



Joycelyn Barnett
15th



Shanae Campbell
16th



Olivene McPherson
17th



Verona Porter
17th



Vivene Irvin
18th



Jovan Thompson
19th



Valrie Johnson
20th



Pauline Smith
22nd



Margaret McFarquhar
24th



Shakira Sinclair
24th



Gwendolyn Robinson
28th



Lucan Scott
28th



Carol Levers
29th



Louise Plummer
30th

Family Feature month

Today marks the beginning of our special family month feature. This year we will focus on persons who once attended Emmanuel. We ask them to share their fond memories of Emmanuel and to say what impact—people or programme—had on them while they were here.

DOMINIC LALOR: I spent the first six years of my life at Emmanuel. My memories of being at Emmanuel include playing the drum during different services. I learnt the drumming techniques from Bro. Bruce. I remember being an MC for a children's concert.



I felt happy about it as a child because children at that age do not always get that kind of opportunity. It also helped to build my confidence. I remember singing on the children's choir. I would go to practice on Saturdays but it was not only about practicing the

songs; I was able to play with other children like Omar and Joel. I remember my Sunday School teacher, Sis. Smith. She taught me a lot and I learned new stuff about the Bible. She allowed us to share our opinions on lessons and if she disagreed with our ideas she would tell us her idea and why she disagreed. Who are the persons that had an impact on me? I do not really want to call names because I don't want to offend anybody. I would say everybody played a part in helping me but the names that jump out at me right now are: Sis. Allen—she

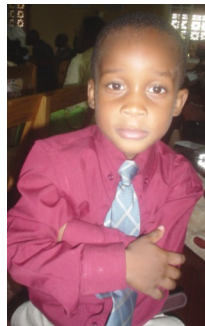


always asks if I remember her and if I remember her name. I also remember Aunty Joy—she would direct the choir. I enjoyed most of the songs that she taught. I didn't really like singing at Christmas because it felt like we were singing the same songs each year. I also remember Aunty Vivene—she used to be the one to serve me



refreshments when we had functions. Also she used to lead service a lot and I enjoyed it. Sometimes when she was leading and said "good morning" and the people didn't answer in a bright way she would say "how you sound so? You didn't eat breakfast?" and then the people would answer in a brighter way. That was funny.

And I have to say I also remember my Aunty Dahlia—there are too many things to say about Aunty Dahlia right here but she would take me to choir practice and Sunday school and got me involved in a lot of things. Well, I grew up in a Christian home and environment and Emmanuel was a part of it. Church for me started at Emmanuel. I hope Emmanuel goes on to be 1,000 years and longer and good job on 185 years of ministry and success.



God—if adults facilitate this process. To do this adults must be consistent role models both in speech and in conduct as outlined in scriptures, so that children can emulate such behaviours. Then we will be proud to say we have grown spiritual children like Josiah—as scripture records: "Never before had there been a king like Josiah, who turned to the Lord with all his heart and soul and strength, obeying all the laws of Moses." (2 Kings 23:25).

Celebrating Teachers

Teachers in all areas of life help to shape the destiny of many persons. One set of teachers that we often forget to celebrate on Teachers' Day is our Sunday School teachers. Sunday School teachers take the time to develop and hone the spiritual part of our being. They play a very important role in explaining the scriptures in a way that is appropriate to the age and stage of development of their learners. They are a critical part in God's Mission plan to evangelize the world. As we celebrate Teachers' Day this year, let us remember to celebrate our Sunday School Teachers!

Hide God's Word in Your Hearts

What kinds of things find their way into our hearts and minds? If we expose ourselves to a constant barrage of ungodly words, music or images, then we are giving way for the enemy to control us. However, if we fill our hearts and minds with good, clean music and things that are wholesome, pure, just and true, then we create a defence against some of the evil messages and plans of the enemy.

In Psalm 119:11, the writer declared "I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you." As Christians we must hide God's Word in our hearts. This means memorizing and meditating on the scriptures for it is through the scriptures that God speaks to us and show us how to live.

We have a responsibility to guard our hearts and to keep track of the things that we hide inside it. Hiding God's Word in our hearts will help us to walk closer with God and this will enable us to guard against the things that displease God.

Thought: The greatest part of our happiness or misery depends on our disposition—not on our circumstances! ~ Martha Washington

We welcome your ideas and suggestions

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