

Emmanuel Community Church e-Newsletter

From the desk of the Pastor...

Volume 003
03/28/2013

Christians and their Relationships



Loving God: Our love for God expresses itself in our obedience to His commandments (Deuteronomy 6:5; John 14:15, 21). Obedient submission to God and His Word is the key to success in all our relationships. This will cause us to follow his instructions regarding starting and maintaining a family. This will cause us to discover our spiritual gift and bless the church with it. This will also cause us to be the right example in our community so that our light can draw men to Christ (Matthew 6:14-16).

Loving the family: God created the family before He established the church. Family was God's idea, not man's (Genesis 2:18). He gave us rules for ensuring that our family would function properly. Failure to follow God's rules causes the family not to function as it should. Believers are told in 1 Timothy 5:8 that we are to provide for our family; and when we do not provide for our family we are behaving worse than unbelievers. The provision includes protection, security-both physically and emotionally, financially and spiritually. Family is to be nurtured-mentored and monitored with passion and compassion.

The primary trouble in the believer's life usually has to do with their relationships.

The main problem with relationships is usually a lack of love. Even when we think we are being loving, we often fall short because of a lack of understanding of what love is. Love is not a feeling; it is not just words; it is not just wishing someone the best. The New Testament Greek word for love is "*agapao*" which literally means, "to take pleasure in, and to actively do good for." Love is known by the action it prompts based on a deliberate choice. Our order of priority in loving should include the following: 1) Loving and honoring God; 2) Loving and nurturing family; 3) Loving and serving the church; and 4) Loving and blessing the community.

Love defined: Love is the "action of self-sacrifice, based on a commitment, according to need, without anticipated reciprocation". John 3:16 tells us that God loved a sinful and undeserving world unconditionally. We must desire His love and accept His free gift of everlasting life and be blessed.

Love demonstrated: True love does not wait for change or encouragement, but it is given based on need and a desire to see the one loved improved. This was God's attitude towards sinners as Paul explained in Romans 5:8. God did His action before mankind gave any positive reaction.

Loving the Church: Upon salvation each new believer becomes a part of the body of Christ, the church (1 Corinthians 12:27). The Holy Spirit places us in the body and gives each a spiritual gift so we can be a blessing to Christ's church (1 Corinthians 12:4-7). We are to submit to discipleship by the local church, and by prayer and with spiritual guidance we will discover our gift. Then we should come together with our local assembly as often as possible for worship, service, fellowship, and mutual edification.

(Continued on page 2)

Special points of interest:

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Christians and their Relationships *cont'd...*

Loving the community: Since Scripture says that believers are the salt of the earth (Matthew 6:13), this means that our righteousness preserves and flavors the world. Therefore, it is important that we ensure our effectiveness by being living epistles, seen and read of men. In the church, we are in the saltshaker. In the community, we should get out of the saltshaker and spread our flavor into the world. We must not lose our saltiness (Colossians 4:5-6). The neighborhood should be better because we live there. Our lives should invite inquiry because of our walk of love.

Original sin was passed to everyone born after Adam and Eve transgressed in the Garden of Eden. Sin is the ailment that affects all relationships.

Love is the cure!

Dr. Frederick L. Holmes
Senior Pastor



*BLESSED IS THE ONE WHO
READS THE WORDS OF THIS
PROPHECY, AND BLESSED ARE
THOSE WHO HEAR IT AND TAKE
TO HEART WHAT IS WRITTEN IN
IT, BECAUSE THE TIME IS NEAR.*

REVELATION 1:3

Emmanuel Community Church
teaches

The Book of Revelation

Learn
Things That Have Been Seen
Things That Are
Things That Are to Come

Sunday Service - 10:30 A.M.
Bible Study - 9 A.M.

Small Group Bible Study:
Sundays 9 a.m. (Sanctuary)

Wednesdays 7 p.m. (Sanctuary)

Fridays 7 p.m. (Sanctuary)

Intercessory Prayer:
Tuesdays 6-7:30 (Sanctuary)
Minister Mollie Jelks

Thursday Night Prayer Line:
9 p.m. Call: 218-844-3377
Code 7262001#

F.A.
(Food Addicts in Recovery Anonymous):
Sundays 7-8:30 p.m. (Sanctuary)
Mary Dotie

Sunday Worship Services:
10:30 a.m. (Sanctuary)

ECC Nursery:
Sunday 10:30 a.m. (Nursery)

Bible Study Lessons
The Book of Revelation

Week 39: God's Messenger Angels	14:6-11
Week 40: Blessedness in Death	14:12-13
Week 41: The Final Judgment	14:14-20
Week 42: Review & Discussion <i>(Things That Are to Come)</i>	12:1-14:20

⇒ **Fundamentals of Faith - E.C.C.'s New Member's Course begins Sunday, April 7 at 3:30 p.m. Register in the lobby.**

Emmanuel's 3rd Annual Praise Out



If you did not make this year's praise out, you missed a blessed time in the Lord. We enjoyed dominos, Bible trivia, song, prizes and food. Friends and family alike had a wonderful time. Praise out is held annually on New Year's Eve. The event always starts with fellowship, food, and games in the Emmanuel Conference Center. Then, the celebration moves to the main Sanctuary, where we worship through prayer, song and poetry. The night always ends with a competitive round of Bible trivia, song and prayer for God's direction and blessings on the New Year. This year's questions were created from our weekly Bible Study Lessons. We missed you if you were not there.

3rd Annual Praise Out Winners:

Bible Trivia: Pat

Dominos: Norfee



Women's Fellowship Day at Tea Rose Garden

Emmanuel Women's Fellowship had a wonderful and relaxing outing at the Tea Rose Garden in Pasadena. The fellowship planning committee did a magnificent job with planning this outing. From the choice of venue, to the guest speaker, and photography, it was an extremely blessed time in our Lord. Words cannot express enough the importance of fellowship with other Christian women. Our guest speaker was Ms. Elizabeth Jenkins, mother of our very own, Kevin Dunigan. Ms. Jenkins inspired us by conveying her life's journey which was mixed with much happiness but some hurt. She helped all to see that though we have



some valley balance needs to be paid in full by July 1, 2013. Deposits and payments are made payable to Emmanuel Community Church. Please get ready and do not miss this wonderful retreat. Her years of wisdom and insight proved to be a blessing to all in attendance. The next major Women's Fellowship outing will be the 1st Annual Women's Fellowship Retreat. It will take place on the first weekend of August 2-4, 2013. The Retreat will be held at Calvary Chapel Conference Center in Murrieta Hot Springs. The cost is \$200 per person payable in installments with a \$35 deposit. However, the

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Men's Fellowship Breakfast at Marie Calendar's

The Men of Emmanuel enjoyed a morning of fellowship at Marie Calendar's Restaurant in Torrance, California. A morning of prayer, food, and fellowship surely blessed those in attendance. During the meeting, the men of Emmanuel discussed fellowship outings and social events, group book studies for growth and encouragement, outreach and fund raising opportunities. Men were encouraged to serve in the church wherever they are needed. Newer members of the church shared new ideas for the Men's ministry. One of the questions asked during an interview with newest member, Charles Harris was, "How well do you feel like you are connected to the men of Emmanuel Community Church?" He responded, "Since being in the presence of the men of ECC, I am convinced that I am in the right place." He added, "These men have no idea how they have helped me with my spiritual warfare. I am amongst mighty men that I can trust and truly know they are here for me when I need them." The Men's Fellowship meets on the 3rd Saturday of every month in the ECC sanctuary at 11 a.m. If you have not yet joined the men of ECC for a Saturday of fellowship, please come out and join them, all are welcome. For more information, see Brother Kevin Dunigan, Director of the Men's Fellowship.



Food for Thought Mark 16:6 (NIV)

"Don't be alarmed," he said. "You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who was crucified. He has risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid him."



Insight: He is not dead, He is alive. He has risen and is sitting on the right hand of his Father, making intercession for his children.

Press Release Troy Goss

Troy Goss, frontman for the group *Christ eXalted Inside (CXI)*, has released a Christmas single, **The Christ of Christmas** on <http://www.cdbaby.com/cd/troygoss> The video can be viewed at <http://www.godtube.com/watch/?v=KGDYLNXX> "It's a departure from my youth oriented music, but hopefully it's holiday peaceful and spirit-filled. It's about a person coming to terms with what Christmas is really all about." His production company, IZRI Media, has it available for .99 download



and twenty percent of the proceeds from sales of this single (after CD Baby distribution costs) will go to bless Emmanuel. "I want to help spread the Word, by spreading the word about CXI. Our fourth album and next video **Living for Jesus** comes out in 2013. I pray everyone has a safe and blessed Christmas."



Food for Thought 1 Corinthians 13 (NIV)

And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.



Insight: Stand firm on your faith, hope for the things that are not yet seen and love one another as Christ loves us. With action not emotion we can display the love of God which is in each of us.

Upcoming Events



<u>Name of Event</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>
Job Fair	To be determined	Emmanuel Community Church
ECC's Nursery Shower	Sunday, April 7, 2013	Emmanuel Community Church <i>See "Wish List" outside of nursery for items needed</i>
New Members Class <i>If you have not completed New Member's class, please register in the lobby. See Ms. Juanita for a list of your unfinished courses.</i>	Sunday, April 7, 2013 at 3:30 p.m.	Emmanuel Community Church
Single's Ministry Outing	Saturday, April 13, 2013 at 7 p.m.	Gable House Bowl 22501 Hawthorne Blvd, Torrance, CA
Health Fair	Saturday, May 25, 2013 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.	Emmanuel Community Church
2Twenty Summer Talent Show	Sunday, June 30, 2013	Emmanuel Community Church
Women's Fellowship 1st Annual Retreat	Friday, August 2 - Sunday, August 4, 2013	Calvary Chapel Conference Center Murrieta Hot Springs, CA

ECC's 1st Community Outreach Day



Emmanuel Community Church held its first Community Outreach Day on Saturday, February 23, 2013 from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. Each of the 16 ministries displayed visuals and handouts explaining the mission and vision of that ministry. Children had fun in the space jumper as well as in the dunk tank while their parents received enlightenment on the tutorial ministry, which is spearheaded by Troy Goss and his hands-on



approach to Math and English. Still others stopped to receive prayer and encouragement from our Intercessory Prayer Leader, Mollie Jelks. As people stopped to browse at each ministry table, they were able to observe the wealth of resources that awaited them. All 16 ministries and their leaders and assistants represented Emmanuel beautifully as it successfully reached out to the community.

2Twenty hosts "The Gathering" A Night of Youth Talent

On January 20, 2013, Emmanuel Community Church's own youth, "2Twenty" hosted "The Gathering." A night of talent that included singing, praise dance, Christian rap, and poetry all performed by the youth and young adults of Emmanuel Community Church and their affiliates. 2Twenty and their guests were truly on fire for the Lord. Through the talents of the youth who performed, the name of the Lord was glorified. To see so many youth performing in honor of God, ministering to God's people both young and old through poetry,



music, dance and song, in the words of many who attended "The night was one to be remembered". Jeffery Thomas and Calvin Divinity II were in charge of the event with assistance from members of our Emmanuel family. From the flyers and programs to the designing and building of the backdrop, it was obvious that it was the Lord's will that this event be a success. Time and effort was definitely a factor in planning and executing the success of this program. If you were unable to attend, we pray that you will be a part of the next event.





Birthdays and Anniversaries—*November 2012*



Birthdays and Anniversaries—*December 2012*



Birthdays and Anniversaries—*January 2013*



Birthdays and Anniversaries—*February 2013*



A Garden

There is a Garden in my life with good ground and flowers galore.

A bouquet of brilliance, but it wasn't like before.

The gate was wide open, and weeds were everywhere,
the ground was hard and dry, and no one seemed to care.

There is a Garden in my life, with flowers where dirt use to be.

There is a sweet, sweet song of God's peace and serenity.

The colors may vary, and the types are numerous,
but there is one that stands alone, a rose that is truly glorious.

There is a Garden in my life with a flower that is spectacular.

Its petals contain beauty and fragrance, which surround its strength and character.

It is perched a top a stem of thorns that will prick your skin when touched,
but when properly handled, this rose will yield so much.

There is a Garden in my life by comparison quite unique,
because I am blessed with a rose that others aimlessly seek.

Alluring as a royal violet, stately as a bird of paradise,
precious as romance, dipped in candle and moonlights.

There is a Garden in my life that on this I will celebrate.

For a rose that is stunningly brown, only a loving God could create.

In my life there is a Garden where no other flower is needed,
because with the presence of my brown rose, my Garden has been completed.



by Kevin Dunigan

Emmanuel Community Church presents...

“Jesus Speaks from the Cross”

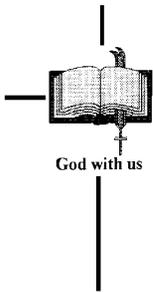
(The Seven Last Words of Christ)



Friday, March 29, 2013 at 7:30 p.m.

Worship & Praise
Soloists and Praise Dance

Seven Dynamic Bible Teachers



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Senior Pastor, Dr. Frederick L. Holmes, Sr.

