

Grace Bulletin

February 2010

Grace Baptist Church Dorchester

This month we are producing the Grace Bulletin in a new format. We hope you like it!

Getting What we Ask For

"This is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, he hears us. And if we know that he hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him." 1 John 5: 14,15

Imagine what it would be like to approach God in prayer and to receive from Him **anything and everything** we asked for. I'm sure we would do a lot of asking if that were the case. We would come to the throne of grace much more often than we do at present.

However, God **doesn't** promise to give us anything and everything we ask for. But He does make an astonishing promise to those who pray that is even better! He promises to give us whatever we ask that is "according to His will."

To ask for what is according to His will is to ask for the very things God wants for us. These are the things he knows we need, the things that are truly good for us.

To understand this principle, it might be helpful for us to think about Romans 8:29 where we are reminded that God wants us *"to be conformed to the likeness of His Son."* This is God's will and purpose for all His children - that is to say, all those who have or will be born again of the Holy Spirit.

We learn too from the Scriptures that God hears even the young ravens that call on Him. (Job 38:41) So no one need despair of being heard by God. But those who are His children by grace



The YMCA Hall where we meet on Sundays

through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, have this special assurance that their prayers will be **answered**.

If we want to grow spiritually and to claim the riches God has for us, simply ask for those things in accord with His will. He will hear and we will receive what we ask of Him. If what we ask is contrary to God's will, we won't receive it - and we can be very grateful that we do not!

How can we know what is in accord with His will? The answer is simple. Search the Scriptures. The Bible is our sure guide to knowing the will of God. If the Bible does not tell us, then we do not need to know. It is for us to trust that God will lead us and guide us in the right way as we walk in fellowship with Him.

F.S.

Thought for the Month

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

The New Arrival in Indonesia



Natalie Marunduri

We give thanks to God for the gift of a daughter to Charles and Melinda Marunduri in Jakarta on January 2nd. They have named her Natalie in honour of our Saviour's birth. The Church has been able to send a gift to them towards the hospital costs.

Pastor's Letter

Dear readers,

Little Natalie arrived later than expected, but we are pleased to hear that she is well and that Melinda is making a good recovery. We pray for the little one that she may know God's hand of blessing all her life and that she may grow up to know Jesus as her Lord and Saviour. We continue to pray that Charles will receive a call to further ministry in the Gospel.

Mary and I shall be away the first Sunday in this month at a family gathering. We then have to make a brief visit to Spain with Tim to deal with a particular problem. We value your prayers for this to be resolved.

We shall soon complete our mid-week Bible studies in the Book of Romans. If you have a suggestion as to which book or subject we might study together after that, please let me know.

With my love and prayers,
Frederick.

WHAT IS THE MEANING OF FORGIVENESS?

Forgiveness is not waiting for "time to heal all wounds."...
—It is clear that time doesn't heal wounds—some people will not allow healing.

Forgiveness is not letting the guilty "off the hook."...
—It is moving the guilty from your hook to God's hook.

Forgiveness is not the same as reconciliation....
—It takes two for reconciliation, only one for forgiveness.

Forgiveness is not excusing unjust behaviour....
—It is acknowledging that unjust behaviour is without excuse, while still forgiving.

Forgiveness is not based on what is fair....
—It was not "fair" for Jesus to suffer on the cross—but He did so that we could be forgiven.

Forgiveness is not being a weak martyr....
—It is being strong enough to be Christlike.

Forgiveness is not denying the hurt....
—It is feeling the hurt and overcoming it.

Forgiveness is not being a doormat....
—It is seeing that, if this were so, Jesus would have been the greatest doormat of all!

Forgiveness is not forgetting....
—It is a deliberate refusing to remember.

A refusal to forgive has its consequences
—it produces a root of bitterness that warps the soul.

Forgiveness is not conditional....
—It is unconditional, even as God forgives us in Christ.

Forgiveness is not a feeling....
—It is a choice—an act of the will -- and that by the grace of God.
(Source unknown)

February

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						

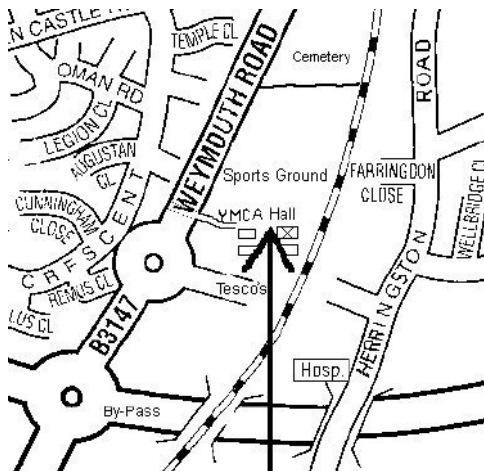
For Your Diary

Wed 3rd Jim Henry OAM Dorchester
 Mon 15th Ministers Fraternal at Honiton
 Sun 28th Communion Sunday
 Communion offering for The Network Trust supporting Tim Serjeant in his Door-to Door evangelism.

The Grace Baptist Church, Dorchester

A church in Dorchester, where the Bible is accepted as the Word of God and where the Gospel of Grace is proclaimed.

We meet for worship on the Lord's Day (Sunday) at 11 a.m. in the Y.M.C.A., Sawmills Lane, off Weymouth Road, Dorchester.



The YMCA is one of four Halls beside the Sports Ground behind the Car Salesroom next to Tesco's - (Ample free parking. Turn into Sawmills Lane by the pedestrian traffic lights.)

All are welcome.



COME JOIN OUR
BIBLE Thursday Evenings 7.30 – 9.30
 Bible Study -we meet in one another's homes. Phone for location. Bibles provided.

Minister: Pastor Frederick Serjeant.

3 Church Hill View, Sydling St Nicholas, Dorchester.
 DT 2 9SY tel: 01300 341670

Home Evangelist: Mr Tim Serjeant tel: 01300 341670
 We are pleased to call on you at your home at any time at your request. Free Bible Study materials are available and also a free Bible for anyone who does not have one.

E-mail: pastor@gracebaptistchurch.org.uk
 Website: www.gracebaptistchurch.org.uk