

# Noticeboard

**Family Fun Day** here at Emmanuel for the church and the community on Saturday 11th June. If you are able to help with this please speak to Emma or contact her on emmaandpaul2000@yahoo.co.uk

**Grill the Pastor**  
Monday evenings 7.30 in the Portable cabin.  
At this meeting you can come and ask any question.

**Emmanuel Ladies' Time Out -**  
11th - 12th November 2016.  
Don't miss out - please pass in your booking forms and deposits by 29th May 2016 (NEXT Sunday).  
If you have not received an invitation Letter please see Hazel Evans or Angie Godfrey and they will be able to give one to you.

**Church Members Meeting**  
**Tuesday 7th June at 7.30pm**  
Please make every effort to attend this meeting.

**Foodbank needs are:**

- ◆ Jam
- ◆ Rice
- ◆ Tinned spam
- ◆ Tinned tomatoes
- ◆ Tinned potatoes
- ◆ Long life milk
- ◆ Orange squash
- ◆ Toiletries

*If you are not receiving emails from Emmanuel and wish to, please let the office know and we can add you to our mailing list!*

**Food for Thought**  
This Thursday 26th May 2.30pm  
Guest Speaker is Peter Mehaffey

## Sunday 29th May

**10.30am** **Coming together to praise, learn and encourage.**  
**Main Door** Barry Woodward  
**Inner Door** Barry & Betty Hearn  
**Easy Worship** Sue Wilson  
**Coffees Before Service** Gillian Pringle & Sue Misselbrook  
**After Service** Bryan & Hazel Green

## Sunday 22nd May 2016

**10.30am** **Coming together to praise, learn and encourage.**  
A warm welcome to you all. We would love to get to know each other better, so please introduce yourself. If you can, join us for refreshments after the service.

**11am** **Children and youth groups leave**  
**Parent and Baby Room** available with a visual link to the service.  
**Nippers:** Age 2-4 (Parents please collect your children at 12:00).  
**Buzz:** Reception to Year 6  
**Salt:** Year 7 and up (meets in the Power House)

## Prayer Ministry

Members of the Prayer Ministry Team wear ministry badges. Please speak to one of them if you would like prayer for any reason.

## The Church office

Open Monday-Friday, 9.30am-12.30pm  
**Telephone** 01326 315249  
**Email** mail@emmanuelbaptist.co.uk  
**Website** www.emmanuelbaptist.co.uk  
**Minister** Rev'd Charles Blizzard

## Sermon outline notes: John 15: 1-8 Spiritual Productivity

### Introduction

Jesus here is talking about spiritual productivity in the lives of Christians, and he speaks a great deal about 'fruit'. In speaking about fruit what does he have in mind? I think he has in mind wholehearted love and obedience to him!

#### 1) Why is Spiritual Productivity so Important?

- The vine was close to being a national symbol of Israel, Psalm 80:8. but there was a negative side to this national symbol, see Jeremiah 2:21.
- Jesus in saying 'I am the true vine' is challenging Israel's right to call herself the people of God—Israel has forfeited that privilege because of her lack of spiritual productivity.
- Fruitfulness is an infallible mark of a true Christian and therefore where fruitfulness is absent, true Christianity is absent.

#### 2) How do we Become Spiritually Productive?

- We become spiritually productive as a direct result of an intimate and personal relationship with Jesus, verse 4.
- The metaphor of the vine fulfils the same role in John's writings as the metaphor of the body does in the writings of Paul—they are both symbols of the organic nature of the relationship between Christ and church.
- Spiritual productivity may involve pain verse 2. God cuts out the non-productive elements of our lives.

#### 3) What Will be the Signs of our Growth in Spiritual Productivity?

I think the answer can be summed up in one word—effectiveness.

- Effectiveness in our praying, verse 7
- Effectiveness in worship, verse 8

### Points to Ponder

- 1) Was anything said with which you want to query or disagree with? Why?
- 2) Look carefully at verses 9 and 10. What is Jesus saying here? Put it in your own words. How do you feel about what Jesus says?
- 3) Share with your group examples of God's pruning in your life.
- 4) 'Love each other' This command is mentioned twice, in verse 12 and 17. What does Jesus have in mind here; what does this love look like in practice?

### NOTES