

Hermon Marthoma Church

MIDLANDS

June 2007

www.marthomamidlands.co.uk

Volume 1, Issue 2



Next Service:

26th May 2007 CANCELLED

9th June 2007 (Malayalam)
23rd June 2007 (English)

At

St. James Hill Church
Mere Green Road
Four Oaks, West Midlands
B75 5DD

Highlights

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Something to ponder | 1 |
| Father's Day | 2 |
| Recipe of the month | 3 |
| Announcements | 4 |

Just a reminder to all

Please pay your initial contribution and monthly subscriptions in time to be able for this Church to function efficiently.

Something to ponder

Principles of the Proverbs

The principles of the Proverbs of Solomon are piety, charity, justice, benevolence, and true prudence. Their universal purity proves that they are the word of God.

The lessons here given are plain, and likely to benefit those who feel their own ignorance, and their need to be taught. If young people take heed to their ways, according to Solomon's Proverbs, they will gain knowledge and discretion. Solomon speaks of the most important points of truth, and a greater than Solomon is here. Christ speaks by his word and by his Spirit. Christ is the Word and the Wisdom of God, and he made us wise.

Solomon teaches us that, fools are persons who have no true wisdom, who follow their own devices, without regard to reason, or reverence for God. Children are reasonable creatures, and when we tell them what they must do, we must tell them why. But they are corrupt and willful, therefore with the instruction there is need of a law.

The love of Christ, and the promises mingled with his reproofs, surely should have the attention of every one. It may well be asked, how long men mean to proceed in such a perilous path, when the uncertainty of life and the consequences of dying without Christ are considered? Now sinners live at ease, and set sorrow at defiance; but their calamity will come. Now God is ready to hear their prayers; but then they shall cry in vain. Are we yet despisers of wisdom? Let us hearken diligently, and obey the Lord Jesus, that we may enjoy peace of conscience and confidence in God; be free from evil, in life, in death, and for ever.



Our Lord Jesus deters from sinful pleasures, by the everlasting torments which follow them. It is very rare that any who are caught in this snare of the devil, recover themselves; so much is the heart hardened, and the mind blinded, by the deceitfulness of this sin. Many think that this caution, besides the literal sense, is to be understood as a caution against idolatry, and subjecting the soul to the body, by seeking any forbidden object. The righteous must leave the earth as well as the wicked; but the earth is a very different thing to them. To the wicked it is all the heaven they ever shall have; to the righteous it is the place of preparation for heaven. And is it all one to us, whether we share with the wicked in the miseries of their latter end, or share those everlasting joys that shall crown believers?

No precious jewels or earthly treasures are worthy to be compared with true wisdom, whether the concerns of time or eternity be considered. We must make wisdom our business; we must venture all in it, and be willing to part with all for it. This Wisdom is the Lord Jesus Christ and his salvation, sought and obtained by faith and prayer. Were it not for unbelief, remaining sinfulness, and carelessness, we should find all our ways pleasantness, and our paths peace, for his are so; but we too often step aside from them, to our own hurt and grief. Christ is that Wisdom, by whom the worlds were made, and still are in being; happy are those to whom he is made of God wisdom. He has wherewithal to make good all his promises.

@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@

Father's Day

The Origins of Father's Day

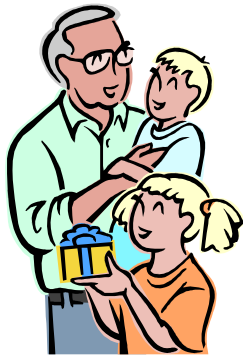
The origins of the celebration of Father's Day can be traced back to Spokane in the state of Washington in the country of the United States of America (USA).

Sonora Louise Smart Dodd wanted to honour and pay back the love she received from her papa (the Civil War veteran William Jackson Smart who raised her and her five sisters alone as a single widowed parent whose wife had died in child birth of their sixth daughter) and started the tradition of Father's Day in her local area on 19 June 1910.

The idea came to her during a church sermon on Mother's Day 1909 that sons and daughters should be able to do something similar for their pa's. Sonora Louise Smart Dodd wanted the date to coincide with the anniversary of the death of her father, but this could not be arranged and organisers chose the 3rd Sunday in June (Sunday 19 June 1910). Happily this was the month of her father's birthday.

The celebration soon took off locally and started the tradition of giving dad's all around the world a card, gift, present and a loving relaxing day. This was helped in 1916 when the annual Father's Day celebration met with the approval of US President Woodrow Wilson. However it was not until 1924 when President Calvin Coolidge announced that Father's Day was to be a yearly national event that it really took off worldwide, including here in the UK.

President Lyndon Johnson signed a presidential proclamation in 1966 making the 3rd Sunday of June as Father's Day in America. The law was finally signed in 1972 by President Richard Nixon and finally made Father's Day a permanent celebration.



"This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him!" (Matthew 17:1-8; Mark 9:2-8; Luke 9:29-36).

When Is Father's Day Celebrated

Most countries such as Britain and Canada also time Father's Day to be the third Sunday in the month of June, though several countries celebrate the day on different dates and months. For example Australia and New Zealand celebrate Father's Day on the first Sunday of September whilst Spain and Belgium celebrate Father's Day on 19 March. Other countries celebrate Father's Day in the winter. For example Sweden celebrate Father's Day every second Sunday in November.

In recent year's grandfathers, husbands, uncles, father in laws and step fathers have celebrated the day. Some see the day as a celebration of manhood.

Traditionally fathers should be given the gift of white or red roses, though some daddies may prefer more macho plants or flowers that a florist can recommend.

If you are to wear a flower on Father's Day you should wear a red rose if your father is alive or a white rose in memory of him if he is dead.

Other Names for Father

Da , Dad, Daddy
Pa , Papa , Pappy
Pop, Pops , Pater
The Old Man
Old Fella , Sir
Appacha, Acha

Brain teasers

Q. Who is the greatest baby sitter mentioned in the Bible?

A. David. He rocked Goliath to a very deep sleep.

Q. Which Bible character had no parents?

A. Joshua, son of Nun

Q. Which servant of God was the most flagrant lawbreaker in the Bible?

A. Moses. He broke all 10 commandments at once.

Q. What kind of motor vehicles are in the Bible?

A. Jehovah drove Adam and Eve out of the Garden in a Fury. David's Triumph was heard throughout the land. Also, probably a Honda, because the apostles were all in one Accord.

Q. Who was the greatest comedian in the Bible?

A. Samson. He brought the house down.

Recipe of the Month

This month, I thought we could look at a recipe using couscous.

Couscous is a small granular type of pasta which is made by sprinkling durum or hard wheat semolina grains with cold salted water and rolling and coating them in fine wheat flour. It's a staple ingredient in North Africa. Couscous is also the name of a dish in which the grains are steamed over a spiced stew of vegetables and/or meat or chicken.

Traditional couscous can be bought in the UK, but needs pre-soaking and takes a long time to cook - it's usually steamed. The quick-cook couscous is more convenient and involves just soaking or simmering the couscous in boiling water for about ten minutes to re-hydrate it.

You can buy flavoured couscous but it's usually better to add your own ingredients during cooking.

Couscous can be used hot or cold either as a main dish or as an accompaniment. Stir cooked vegetables into it (try roasted peppers and mushrooms) or toss with chopped nuts and dried fruits and flavour with a pinch of your favourite spice. Use it for stuffing vegetables or serve it sweetened with cinnamon and sugar as a dessert.

Queries

Adam and God

One day, Adam sat outside the Garden of Eden shortly after eating the apple, and wondered about men and women. So looking up to the heavens he said, "Excuse me God, can I ask you a few questions?"

God replied, "Go on Adam but be quick. I have a world to create."

So Adam says, "When you created Eve, why did you make her body so curved and tender unlike mine?"

"I did that, Adam, so that you could love her."

"Oh, well then, why did you give her long, shiny, beautiful hair, and not me?"

"I did that Adam so that you could love her."

"Oh, well then, why did you make her so stupid? Certainly not so that I could love her?"

"Well, Adam no. I did that so that she could love you."

Mediterranean Salad

Ingredients

200g/8oz couscous
400ml/14fl oz hot vegetable stock
10 sun-dried tomatoes, quartered
2 medium avocados, peeled, stoned and cut into large chunks
100g/3½oz black olives
a good handful of nuts, such as pine nuts, cashews or almonds
200g/8oz feta, roughly crumbled
130g/4oz bag green salad leaves

For the dressing:
5 tbsp olive oil
2 tbsp lemon juice

Method

1. Tip the couscous into a large bowl, stir in the hot stock, cover and leave to soak for 5 minutes.
2. Make a dressing with the olive oil, lemon juice and salt and pepper. Stir 2 tablespoons into the couscous, then gently mix in the tomatoes, avocados, olives, nuts and feta. Taste for seasoning.
4. Toss the salad leaves with the remaining dressing, divide between four plates and spoon the couscous on top.



Couscous



Cooking is an art.

Code breaker

A new pastor was visiting in the homes of his parishioners. At one house, it seemed obvious that someone was at home, but no answer came to his repeated knocks at the door. Therefore, he took out a business card and wrote, "Revelation 3:20" on the back of it and stuck it in the door.

When the offering was processed the following Sunday, he found that his card had been returned. Added to it was this cryptic message, "Genesis 3:10."

Reaching for his Bible to check out the citation, he broke up in gales of laughter.

Revelation 3:20 begins, "Behold, I stand at the door and knock."

Genesis 3:10 reads, "I heard your voice in the garden and I was afraid for I was naked."

Little boys' Prayers

3-year-old Ryan: "Our Father, Who does art in heaven,
Harold is His name. Amen"



Special Greetings this month

Birthday greetings to the following

Anup V Mathew, Neena Mathews, Annie John (Sunitha), and Shaji Thomas



Congratulations to Sunny & Sajini on their **Wedding Anniversary**.

Sunday school restarts

at 3:30pm from 9th June 2007.

Please encourage all children to attend.



Useful contacts

Rev: Shibi Abraham:
01612232199

Dr Sunny Thomas:
0121 308 1200

Mr V V Abraham:
0773 721 6172

Dr Simon Idiculla :
01902 380 363

HAPPY KERALAM

sent in by Giboy

Achuthanandan, Oommen Chandy, Pinarayi Vijayan & Karunakaran were flying in a helicopter.

Achuthanandan drops a Rs.100.00 note & says," I made 1 Malayalee happy."

Chandy drops two Rs.50.00 notes & says," I made 2 Malayalees happy."

Pinarayi drops ten Rs.10.00 notes & says," I made 10 Malayalees happy."

Karunakaran drops 100 One Rupee coins & says," I made 100 Malayalees happy."

The pilot, who overheard all these, warned them, "I'll throw all four of you out and make three crores of Malayalees happy."

Moral of the story: We want to make all of you happy. So, let's throw the devil out!

Please send in your comments so that the newsletter can be improved and contain articles you wish to read.

Other announcements

There will be a general body meeting after the service on 9th June to elect new committee members. Please inform the secretary the names of those whom you wish to propose for acceptance or voting at the general body. All posts are up for grabs including the editor.

