



Living By Faith

"The just shall live by faith." Romans 1:17

October 11, 2009

4th & Stewart Church of Christ

Contact Us:

3201 4th Street
Brownwood, TX 76801
325-646-7102
www.4thstreetcoc.org
office@4thstreetcoc.org

Meeting Times:

Sunday:

Bible Study..... 9:45 AM
Worship..... 10:40 AM
Care, Inc. Service..... 2:30 PM
Redstone Service..... 2:30 PM
Worship..... 6:00 PM

Tuesday:

Redstone Class 10:00 AM

Wednesday:

Ladies Bible Class..... 10:00 AM
Bible Study..... 7:00 PM

Elders:

Gene Bannister Billy Chism

Deacons:

Mike Bannister Jim Moore
Don Smith..... James Thomas

Preacher:

Ryan Smithey

Works We Support:

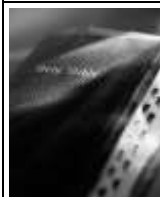
Belize Mission & Kindergarten
Cherokee Home for Children
Eric Henry, SWSBS
Food Pantry
Gospel Broadcast Network
Gospel Chariot Missions
House to House, Heart to Heart
Lake Cisco Camp
Mission Printing
Rohan Jones, BTSP
The Truth in Love
World Bible School

Let us know if you want to study the Bible to know more about Christ and His Church.

Little Sins by Terry Jackson

Pesky little rodents! These little fellows appear cute and somewhat innocent, but we must not be fooled by their antics! Most of us have had to declare war on some kind of little varmint. It may be the mole that tears up your flower bed, or the mouse that attacks the sanctity of one's domain, or it may be the squirrel that can render a 30,000 dollar vehicle powerless or bring a major hospital to its knees. It is hard to realize what damage can be done by small critters. Notice Solomon's plight, "Catch us the foxes, the little foxes that spoil the vines, for our vines have tender grapes" (Song. 2: 15). Like some of these tiny creatures, little sins can have disastrous results! When we fall into the trap of labeling sins, as big or little, we open ourselves up to a plethora of problems. Who determines how to categorize sins? One sin may be considered small to some while others consider it large. It taints the whole idea of right or wrong. One can begin reading from Genesis to Revelation and will never find a Biblical category of large or small sins. These are things we have devised. The Bible teaches that sin is sin. Notice God's warning to Cain, "If you do well, will you not be accepted? And ***if you do not do well, sin lies at the door.*** And its desire is for you, but you should rule over it" (Gen 4:7). We are told by the inspired Paul that we have all sinned, (Romans 3:23), and that the wages of sin is death, (Romans 6:23). All sin is rebellion against the authority of God! We must not soft soap or minimize the effects of any sin. We look at murder, fornication, robbery or similar sins as blatant rebellion worthy of eternal damnation. Yet we tend to wink at certain transgressions such as lies, gossip, foul language, R-rated entertainment, or similar such actions. We have become so conditioned to these behaviors that often they are not even recognized as sins. "He who loves purity of heart and has grace on his lips, the king will be his friend" (Prov. 22:11). Notice Titus 1:15, "To the pure all things are pure, but to those who are defiled and unbelieving nothing is pure; but even their mind and conscience are defiled." It appears that many have lost the definition of purity. How would we define those things that God wants us to do but we neglect? What about our opportunities to worship God and study His Word with our brethren, or serving in the work of the church, or daily reading the Bible and praying? James wrote "Therefore, to him who **knows to do good** and does **not do it**, to him **it is sin**" (James 4:17). How many of us are guilty of these sins? Do we really believe that these negligent sins will be tolerated any better than the immoral sins? One of the problems, with the sins we consider as little, is that it leaves us vulnerable and more easily swayed by other sins. Many of us may be surprised in the judgment to find that God will not make allowances for what we think are lesser sins. No matter how we dress it up, or by what name we call it, or how we may categorize it, sin is still sin and only God can wash the infected soul.

*"Come now, and let us reason together," says the LORD,
"Though your sins are like scarlet, They shall be as white as snow;
Though they are red like crimson, They shall be as wool" (Isaiah 1:18).*



But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him. God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth..

John 4:23-24

Head And Heart

by Bill Burk

When the Lord Jesus was asked what the greatest command is in the Law, He responded by quoting from Deuteronomy 6:4-5, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind..." The idea., as it was under the Law, and as it is to day in this age of grace, is that we should love the Lord with our entire being (cf. Ecc. 12: 13). In order to love Him with the heart we must know Him with the head. However, often times we see either a lacking of one or the other or both. As we examine ourselves let's consider where we stand. Perhaps...

1. **We Neither Have A Head Nor A Heart For God.** In other words, some of us may neither love Him nor know Him. The Lord Himself said that few would choose the narrow path that leads to life (Mat. 7:13-14). Out of the four kinds of hearts that men possess only one is conducive for growth and maturity (cf. Luke 8:11-14). In Noah's day only eight souls were saved through water (1 Peter 3:20-21) and just two out of the 603,550 fighting men twenty years of age and above who left Egypt for Canaan entered the Promise Land (Num. 1:46; chapters 14-5). So it would not be surprising if indeed MANY of us have neither a heart nor a head for God.
2. **We Are All Head And No Heart.** It is truly possible to have an academic understanding of God and yet not love Him at all. The Devil knows the Scriptures although He chooses to twist them when using them (Mat. 4: 1-11; Luke 4: 1-13). The following story is interesting along these lines.

Many years ago the village priest in Kalonovaka, Russia, took a special liking to a pug-nosed lad who recited his Scriptures with proper piety. By offering various inducements, the priest managed to teach the boy the four Gospels, which he recited nonstop in church one day. Sixty years later he still liked to recite Scriptures, but in a context that would have horrified the old priest. The prize pupil who memorized so much of the Bible was Nikita Khrushchev, former premier of the Soviet Union!

<http://www.preceptaustin.org/MemorizingHisWord.htm>

Khrushchev knew the gospel accounts but he did not know the God of the New Testament. It's possible today to know the truth, preach the truth and even defend the truth with great expertise and be as far away from God as any unbeliever. We should never divorce intellect from intimacy.

3. **We Are All Heart And No Head.** The Bible teaches that the Jews of the first century had a zeal for God but not according to knowledge (Rom. 10: 1-2). Some people trust emotions and feelings; some place stock in what they have always heard from family members and friends. Without a love for God there is no real knowledge of Him (1 John 4:8). Yet, if we do not have an understanding of the God we love and what He desires we cannot please Him (cf. Mat. 7:21-23; John 14:15). There must be no separation from adoration for God and an academic knowledge of His will.
4. **We Are Both Head And Heart.** This is what each should strive for. If I love God with my heart and soul it will be because I truly know of and about Him (Jer. 9:23-24). Balance is the key. I must "obey from the heart that form of doctrine" (Rom. 6:14). May each of us have both a head (knowledge) and heart (love) for God.

Television	God's Plan for Redeeming Man	Bible Reading Schedule
The Truth In Love (Eddie Parrish) Sunday @ 7:00 am on KTAB	Hear Learn the saving message of Christ's sacrifice (1 Cor. 1:18; Rom. 10:17).	Sunday .. Isaiah 37-38; Colossians 3
In Search of the Lord's Way (Mack Lyon) Sunday @ 7:30 am on KTAB	Believe Jesus is the Son of God (John 8:24)	Monday .. Isaiah 39-40; Colossians 4
Gospel Broadcasting Network Online: 24/7 @ gbntv.org	Confess Jesus as your Lord, Lawgiver, and King (Rom. 10:9-10; Matt. 10:32-33)	Tuesday .. Isaiah 41-42; 1 Thess. 1
Dish Network: Good News Today, Daily @ 11:00 am on channel 9407 or 9396	Repent of your sinful conduct (Luke 13:3,5)	Wednesday.. Isaiah 43-44; 1 Thess. 2
Radio	Complete your initial obedience to the gospel by being baptized for the forgiveness of your sins (Acts 2:38; 22:16)	Thursday .. Isaiah 45-46; 1 Thess. 3
Preaching the Word (Michael Light) Sunday @ 9:00am on KOXE 101.3		Friday .. Isaiah 47-49; 1 Thess. 4
		Saturday .. Isaiah 50-52; 1 Thess. 5
		<i>Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. (2 Tim. 2:15)</i>

News & Notes

Ladies Class

The ladies class continues every Wednesday at 10 AM in the fellowship hall and they are studying the Life of Christ. We hope that you can make it out.

Harris & Clark Expedition

David Harris and Kerry Clark have been doing a call-in radio program for a few months in Dublin but most of us have not been able to tune it in on the radio. However, the radio station is now streaming live online so you can listen to it anywhere in the world. For more details or to listen to past episodes, visit:

www.harrisandclark.org

Upcoming Events:

- ◆ Oct. 17 at 9:30: Ladies Day at Ranger.
- ◆ Oct. 25-28: Gospel Meeting at 9th & Main in San Angelo with James Watkins.
- ◆ Nov. 1-4: Gospel Meeting at Hillcrest in Stephenville with Mike Bonner.

See bulletin board for flyers and additional details.



Remember the **Hayride and Wiener Roast** at the Moore's on October 31st.

Come whenever you'd like. We'll eat about 5:30 PM, have devo & sing, and then go for a hayride after the sun sets.

Hope to see you there!

Finding Peace and Hope in a Troubled World

October 18-21, 2009

Our world is full of trouble from immorality to terror to false religion and in our own lives we have financial problems, problems at work/school, and family problems. In such a situation, one might wonder whether peace and hope can even be found!

But rest assured that the Bible contains the answers to this and all of life's greatest questions. So please join us for our Fall Gospel Meeting at the 4th & Stewart church of Christ as we explore this timely topic from God's Word with guest speaker, Maxie Boren.

Schedule: Sunday @ 9:45 AM, 10:40 AM, 6:00 PM

Monday-Wednesday @ 7:00 PM

Wednesday @ 11:00 AM with lunch following.

Please continue to keep this effort in your prayers it is now **JUST 1 WEEK AWAY!** Flyers are still available at the back of the auditorium. Also there is still one opening for someone to host Maxie and his wife for dinner, if you can, please sign-up on the bulletin board.

Visitation Program

- ◆ Remember to join us for our **visitation meeting following the evening worship services in the fellowship hall.** Keep reporting your contacts made during the week and turn them in each Sunday morning — last week **37 contacts** were made.
- ◆ Also remember that next Sunday will be the **3rd Sunday** and so plan on bringing finger-foods and staying for a time of fellowship after the meeting.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY AND ANNIVERSARY TO:

October Birthdays: Jim Moore (03); Lisa Greer (05); Matthew Churchwell (07); Jo Maninger (12); Seth Smithey (13); Hank Wheeler (13); Tina Barnum (14); Cassie Freeman (23); Peggy Dudley (25).

October Anniversaries: Earlene & Earl Tomlinson (01); Freda & James Womack (19); Juanita & Stormy Barnum (25); Patti & Mike Bannister (27).



"Rejoice with those who rejoice..." (Romans 12:15)

Recent Records	Sept. 27, 2009	Oct. 04, 2009
Bible Class	74	55
AM Worship	86	71
PM Worship	58	44
Wednesday PM	44	36
Contribution	\$1600	\$1655

Privileged to Serve	10/11/09 - AM	10/11/09 - PM	10/18/09 - AM	10/18/09 - PM
Greeters	Ken Makuta & Hank Wheeler		Jim & Peg Moore	
Scripture Reader Scripture Reading		Hank Wheeler Hebrews 12:1-3		James Fuller
Opening Prayer	Billy Chism	Jim Moore	Paul McClung	Michael Bickford
Wait on Table	Don Smith*, Garrett Barnum John Barnum, Ken Makuta	Don Smith	James Thomas*, John Barnum Gene Bannister, Hank Wheeler	James Thomas
Closing Prayer	Gene Bannister	Tom Wilcox	Ken Makuta	Matthew Churchwell
Attendance Cards	Chase Churchwell Seth Smithey		Chase Churchwell Seth Smithey	
Wednesday Devotionals	October 14 Ken Makuta	October 21 Meeting	October 28 Tom Wilcox	November 4 Allen Griffith

Studies For The Week of October 11th:

Sunday Class2 Thessalonians 2-3

Wednesday ClassDaniel 11

Basics: Identifying Marks (Pt 4: Worship)

- 1) **Meaning:** Worthy of honor, “a bowing down,” “to kiss toward;” shows adoration, respect, honor, gratitude, and respect.
- 2) **Action:** More than being there; must be “from the heart” (Rom. 6:16-18) in spirit (right attitude/mindset) and in truth (right actions) (John 4:24).
- 3) **Object:** God only (Matt. 4:11; Acts 17:12-31); not men (Acts 10:25-26, 14:8-18), angels (Rev. 22:8-9), or idols (Acts 17:29).
- 4) **Type:** Not vain (Matt. 15:9; any substitution from man); not ignorant (Acts 17:22-23; John 4:22; we must understand, 1 Cor. 14:15), not will worship (Col. 2:23; self-devised, Prov. 14:12); but acceptable (Col. 3:17; 1 Pet. 2:5).
 - a. **Prayer:** 1 Thess. 5:17; Acts 2:42; 1 Tim. 2:1, 8
 - b. **Lord’s Supper:** 1 Cor. 11:24-29; 1 Cor. 10:16-17; 1 Cor. 16:1-2; Acts 20:7—Memorial of Christ’s death; 1st Day of Week.
 - c. **Collection/Giving:** 1 Cor. 16:1-2; 2 Cor. 9:7; Phil. 4:18 — As prospered, purposefully & cheerfully to support work of church.
 - d. **Singing:** Heb. 13:15; Eph. 5:19; Col. 3:16; 1 Cor. 14:15—Fruit of lips from heart; singing is specific, excludes all else.
 - e. **Instruction/Preaching:** Acts 20:7, 2:42; 2 Tim. 4:2; 1 Cor. 2:2; Eph. 4:12; Rom. 10:17; 2 Tim. 3:15; 1 Tim. 2:11 — like others, not a “spectator sport” all are involved in hearing and applying the word of God.

Self-Defeat (Matthew 14:22-33)

1. Peter did great things when trusting Christ (v22-29).
 - a. Peter is allowed to walk on water in the midst of a storm.
 - b. He was confident it could be done as he was willing to step out of the boat.
 - c. We need to have the same kind of faith/confidence in God (2 Cor. 3:4-6; Rom. 1:16; Phil. 4:13; Rom. 8:37).
2. Peter failed when he doubted himself (v30a).
 - a. Peter got distracted by things around him – the only thing that changed was his faith; he defeated himself.
 - b. He may have realized that he could not do this by himself and forgot who he was supposed to be trusting in.
 - c. Troubles and difficulties of life can have the same affect on us (Matt. 13:21-22; Heb. 13:5-6).
3. Peter was saved when he called upon Christ (v30b-33).
 - a. Finding himself sinking, Peter was reminded of the only one that could help him, Christ.
 - b. All that witnessed this surely had their faith strengthened but certainly Peter’s was (1 Pet. 5:6-7).
 - c. We like him have to humble ourselves and trust in Christ (Matt. 11:27-30).

When we follow Him we have an assurance of victory (1 Peter 1:3-5)

Living by Faith is published weekly by the
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Return Service Requested