

# Living By Faith

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

August 22, 2010

# 4th & Stewart Church of Christ

#### **Contact Us:**

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

# Meeting Times:

#### **Sunday:**

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

# **Tuesday:**

Redstone Class ...... 9:30 AM

#### Wednesday:

Ladies Bible Class	On Break
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
Food Pantry
Gospel Broadcast Network
Gospel Chariot Missions
House to House, Heart to Heart
Lake Cisco Camp
Mission Printing
Rohan Jones, Africa
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.

# 10 REASONS WHY CHRISTIANS OUGHT TO REJOICE

By Roger Campbell

Christians are not exempt from difficulties and problems in life, moments of sorrow, or disappointments. Yet, God wants us to be people of joy. "Joy" is defined as "a very glad feeling; happiness." In our service to Christ Jesus, despite having to face occasions in this earthly life that are not what we would call pleasant, there is reason to have joy! Let us take a few moments to reflect on just why all followers of Christ ought to be filled with joy or rejoicing. All Christians should rejoice, because:

- 1. **The Lord wants us to**. "Rejoice in the Lord always: and again I say, rejoice" (Philippians 4:4).
- 2. **We have salvation in Jesus**. That famous eunuch from Ethiopia "went on his way rejoicing" because he had his sins washed away when he was baptized into Christ (Acts 8:39). The jailer in Philippi did the same (Acts 16:34). Nothing in life should bring greater joy than our salvation in Christ!
- 3. Our names are written in heaven. When seventy of Jesus' disciples returned to Him "with joy" because they had cast out demons in our Lord's name, Jesus told them, "Notwithstanding in this rejoice not, that the spirits are subject unto you; but rather rejoice, because your names are written in heaven" (Luke 10:20).
- 4. We have the word of God to exhort, comfort, and save us. "I rejoice at thy word, as one that findeth great spoil" (Psalm 119:162). "And these things write we unto you, that your joy may be full" (1 John 1:4).
- 5. **Trials strengthen us and help us develop patience**. "My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience" (James 1:2,3).
- 6. We are privileged to suffer for Jesus. "Wherein ye greatly rejoice, though now for a season, if need be, ye are in heaviness through manifold temptations" (I Peter 1 :6). "But rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings." (1 Peter 4: 13).
- 7. We preach the gospel and see souls being saved as a result. "They that sow in tears shall reap in joy. He that goeth forth and

(Continued on page 2)



"Apply thine heart unto instruction, and thine ears to the words of knowledge."

Proverbs 23:12

weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him" (Psalm 126:5,6). "Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest. And he that reapeth receiveth wages, and gathereth fruit unto life eternal; that both he that soweth and he that reapeth may rejoice together" (John 4:35,36).

- 8. We see other members of the church living faithfully to Christ. "I rejoiced greatly that I found of thy children walking in truth, as we have received a commandment from the Father" (2 John 4). "I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth" (3 John 4).
- 9. We see that other saints have joy in their lives. "Rejoice with them that do rejoice" (Romans 12:15). "The members should have the same care one for another. And whether one member suffer, all the members suffer with it; or one member be honoured, all the members rejoice with it" (1 Corinthians 12:25,26).
- 10. We have the privilege to contribute to and be a part of the Lord's body and His work. "Moreover, brethren, we do you to wit of the grace of God bestowed on the churches of Macedonia; How that in a great trial of affliction the abundance of their joy and their deep poverty abounded unto the riches of their liberality" (2 Corinthians 8: 1, 2).

Yes, there truly is so much for which we ought to rejoice!

# The Church of His Choice

by Dick Edgar

He searched everywhere, with the greatest of care, as he studied the doctrines of men,
His Bible, neglected, could soon have corrected, if only he'd read it, but then—
From a creed and tradition he took his position and he said with a confident voice:
"I am saved by faith only." No more was he lonely, for he followed the church of his choice.

There once was a Teacher, the world's greatest Preacher, and in sacred pages we read
Of the church: how He sought it; He built it, and bought it, to give the salvation we need.
And this church can be found, (It's truth's pillar and ground), and those added by Jesus rejoice.
For by Heaven's conditions, and not by man's traditions, we are saved in the church of His choice.

Its members are those who believe He arose, who repent of their wickedness done;
And next, we must stress, "With the mouth" they confess that Jesus, the Christ, is God's Son.
Into Him they're baptized, from the water they rise in newness of life to rejoice.
And these are the souls who have left earthly goals to belong to the church of God's choice!

NOTE: David Lemmons transcribed this from Firm Foundation, 30 June 1959, page 411, and published it in the July 18 issue of his congregation's bulletin, "The Dublin Dew."

#### **Television**

The Truth In Love (Eddie Parrish) Sunday @ 7:00 am on KTAB

In Search of the Lord's Way (Mack Lyon) Sunday @ 7:30 am on KTAB

Gospel Broadcasting Network Online: 24/7 @ gbntv.org Good News Today: Sunday @ 6:00 am on Dish: 259, DirectTV: 364, Harris: 208

#### Radio

Preaching the Word (Michael Light) Sunday @ 9:00am on KOXE 101.3

### God's Plan for Redeeming Man

**Hear** Learn the saving message of Christ's sacrifice (1 Cor. 1:18; Rom. 10:17).

**Believe** Jesus is the Son of God (John 8:24)

**Confess** Jesus as your Lord, Lawgiver, and King (Rom. 10:9-10; Matt. 10:32-33)

Repent of your sinful conduct (Luke 13:3,5)

Complete your initial obedience to the gospel by being **baptized** for the forgiveness of your sins (Acts 2:38; 22:16)

#### **Bible Reading Schedule**

Sunday... Psalms 62-66; Romans 13

Monday... Psalms 67-69; Romans 14

Tuesday... Psalms 70-72; Rom. 15:1-21

Wednesday.. Psalms 73-74; Rom. 15:22-33

Thursday... Psalms 75-77; Romans 16

Friday... Ps. 78-79; 1 Corinthians 1

Saturday... Ps. 80-84; 1 Corinthians 2

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)

# News & Notes

# Ladies Day

There is a ladies day planned at the Elm Street congregation in Coleman on Saturday, September 18th. If you would like to attend please see the flyer on the bulletin board and sign the attached list by September 13th so that we can tell them how many are coming.

# Requests for Help

- ◆ One of the preachers Allen met in Africa last year is looking for a **laptop computer** to use. If you happen to have a used one you are no longer using, please let Allen know.
- ◆ We have received a letter from the elders at Rising Star concerning an **account set up to help Terry Jackson** and his family deal with their medical bills. If you are interested in helping, the letter is on the bulletin board.

# CD Recordings

I was not able to get all of the AM and PM sermons to fit on the CD for last Sunday, 8/15. About 5 minutes were cut off of the PM sermon for those who requested CDs. If you want all of the PM recording please let me know and I can get that to you on a separate CD.

# Dorothy Graves 1935-2010

Following a battle with cancer and recently suffering from a broken hip, our sister in Christ, Dorothy Graves, died Thursday afternoon at Songbird Lodge where she and her sister Marie shared a room for the past few months. Dorothy will surely be remembered as



a kind and active member of the congregation here. Dorothy had served as a caregiver most of her life helping others who could not help themselves. That showed here as she would go around visiting with others and encouraging them as her health allowed. Even after she was not able to be as active, she often asked about others and enjoyed visiting with people as they came by. It especially showed in the care and attention she gave to Marie as her health began failing as well. In as much as she was a faithful Christian, Dorothy can now rest from her labors (Rev. 14:13) receiving an eternal home with God in heaven free from death, sorrow, crying, and pain (Rev. 21:4). May we be encouraged by such a memory to be more active, caring workers in the kingdom of our Lord, looking forward to our own eternal rest.

Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others. (Philippians 2:4)

# Visitation Program

Remember our visitation meeting following the evening worship services. Last week 21 contacts were made.

#### Food Pantry Needs:

Thanks to all who have helped rebuild our pantry, we are doing much better but could still use the following items:

Peanut Butter, Canned Vegetables, Canned Beans, Canned Meat (Tuna/Chicken/etc.), Soup/Stew (not Tomato or Chicken Noodle), and any other items you wish to bring or find on sale.

Only let your conversation be as it becometh the gospel of Christ: that whether I come and see you, or else be absent, I may hear of your affairs, that ye stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel;

Philippians 1:27

#### HAPPY BIRTHDAY AND ANNIVERSARY TO:

**August Birthdays:** Michael Fuller (10), Don Smith (14), Betty Bailey (28), Roy Dodson (29).

**August Anniversaries:** Kaci & Matthew Churchwell (15), Pam & Terry Teague (16), Darlene & Don Smith (29).

"Rejoice with those who rejoice..." (Romans 12:15) Mistakes? Left Out? Let Ryan know...



Recent Records	August 8, 2010	August 15, 2010
Bible Class	55	58
AM Worship	74	73
PM Worship	41	56
Wednesday PM	46	51
Contribution	\$N/C	\$1959

Privileged to Serve	08/22/10 - AM	08/22/10 - PM	08/29/10 - AM	08/29/10 - PM
Greeters	James & Cindy Fuller		Michael & Diana Bickford	
Scripture Reader Scripture Reading		John Barnum Romans 7:1-4		Garrett Barnum
Opening Prayer	Jim Moore	Don Smith	Jim Moore	Allen Griffith
Wait on Table	Ken Makuta*, Michael Fuller James Thomas, James Fuller	Ken Makuta	Hank Wheeler*, Tom Wilcox Ken Makuta, Ken Maninger	Hank Wheeler
Closing Prayer	Hank Wheeler	Matthew Churchwell	Michael Bickford	Don Smith
Attendance Cards	Chase Churchwell Seth Smithey		Chase Churchwell Seth Smithey	
Wednesday Devotionals	August 25 Ken Makuta	September 1 Michael Bickford	September 8 Allen Griffith	September 15 Jim Moore

#### Studies For The Week of August 22nd:

Sunday Class......1 Corinthians (Chap. 12-13)

Jesus: The Master Teacher (Matt. 5:1-2; John 3:2)

The simple words of Matthew 5:1-2 begin one of the greatest, well-known, and most influential sermons ever preached. But what can we learn about this man speaking these words and why we should heed them? Nicodemus' statement in John 3:2 summarizes it well, Jesus was no ordinary teacher and had no ordinary subject matter.

What set Jesus apart as a Master Teacher:

- 1. People flocked to Him (Matt. 4:25, Mark 1:45; Mark 3:8-11)
- 2. People marveled at His teachings (Matt. 7:28, Lk. 4:22, John 7:46, 15-17).
- 3. He had a revolutionary message of salvation (Matt. 15:8, 14; John 8:31-32, Matt. 11:28-30).
- 4. His teachings are universal (Mark 16:15-16; Rom. 1:16).
- 5. He taught in ways that could be understood (Matt. 13:10-13; Mark 12:13).
- 6. He spoke with authority (Matt. 7:28-29; John 12:48-50).
- 7. His words were coupled with love (Matt. 1:21, Lk. 19:10; Matt. 9:35-38; John 10:10, 15).
- 8. His words were coupled with action (Acts 1:1; Acts 10:38; Heb. 4:15; 1 Pet. 1:21-22).
- 9. His words were confirmed by works (John 5:36, 20:30-31, 9:30, 32-33).
- 10. He was commended by God (John 5:37, Matt. 17:5).

  It is this teacher that opens His mouth in

  Matthew 5-7 and deserves our attention!

#### **Married to Christ**

Have you considered that the vow we should make in following Christ is like unto a marriage vow?

- 1. Will we **take His name** and wear it proudly (Matt. 10:32-33; Acts 11:26)?
- 2. Will we **lawfully wed** Him seeking Him according to God's Word (John 14:6; Gal. 3:27)?
- 3. Will we **forsake all others** (Eph. 5:31), knowing there is no other (Acts 4:12; John 14:6; Matt. 7:13-14), turning from everything else (Acts 26:18, Eph. 5:8, 1 Thess. 1:9-10), not seeking Him halfheartedly (Matt. 6:24; 2 Cor. 6:14-18), and follow Him (Matt. 6:33; 10:37-38)?
- 4. Will we **honor and cherish** Him (Eph. 5:24-25), showing our love by following Him (John 14:15, 1 John 5:3) in active service (Matt. 5:16; 1 Peter 2:9)?
- 5. We will we continue **for better and for worse**...vowing not to quit (Matt. 13:20-21), knowing that we shall suffer persecution (2 Tim. 3:12) and yet still continuing no matter what (Phil. 4:11 -13. Rom. 8:35-39)?
- 6. Will we be **faithful to death** (Rom. 7:2-3) not looking back (Luke 9:12) but onward to eternity (Rom. 2:10), trusting the promises of God (2 Tim. 1:12), and knowing that death brings reward (Phil. 2:23; 2 Cor. 5; 2 Tim. 4:6-8)?

Living by Faith is published weekly by the 4th & Stewart church of Christ 3201 4th St.
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Return Service Requested