



Living By Faith

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

September 5, 2010

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
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.

DAY AT A TIME

By David Harris

One of the great travesties of the world today is the fact that many only live one day at a time and never look at the big picture of life. Even Christians many times do not look at the pattern that God has for their lives, living only a day at a time. There is however a picture that God wants us to see. A way that He has for His children to live, and to "paint the picture of life" that He has outlined for us to "fill in." Just like the coloring books we use to color when we were children. We only pass this way but once, and whatever we intend to do we must do it while we live physically. There is no doubt that God wants us to get serious about the "picture" we paint with our life. Our picture of life is to be painted with the "Christian Graces" that we find in the second letter of Peter chapter one, written to the them who "have obtained like precious faith."

The Christian Graces listed are: faith, virtue, knowledge, temperance, patience, godliness, brotherly kindness, and love (2 Pet.1:5-7), these are the colors. These are the very things that will 'paint our picture', actually define who we are. Then we are told; *"For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that you shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ"* (2 Peter 1:8). For us to have a bold picture, a beautiful fruitful picture, these things must be abundant in our lives. The only way our colors can be true and defined, is for us to be diligent in our painting. The Holy Spirit tells us, at the beginning of the picture to be diligent in the adding of these Graces; *"And beside this, giving all diligence add to your faith....."* (2 Pet.1:5). After we have painted our lives with these Graces, we are then told again to be diligent; *"Wherefore the rather brethren give diligence to make your calling and election sure: (10). To be diligent we must be constant in our effort to accomplish and finish the work to be done. We must be able to see the whole picture, the end result. We must be persistent and enthusiastic in our application of these colors to our lives. We do not just go a get a 'dose' of these graces and call it good; there would be no definition in our picture. These graces cannot be purchased or inherited. We must individually paint and mold our lives with these colors, these qualities. It will take a lifetime, and for that, we must be persistent in our application.*

Now for those who choose to live one day at a time, and refuse to see their 'finished picture,' because of their lack of effort to apply the colors, Peter issues a warning; *"But he that lacks these things is blind and cannot see afar off, and has forgotten that he was purged from his old sins"* (2 Pet.1:9). When we were baptized for the remission of our sins, that was not the end of the picture, it was only the beginning. Those who have been baptized and continue without developing their 'picture,' they are blind. That is the condition of the Christian who

(Continued on page 2)



"The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance."

2 Peter 3:9

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lives one day at a time – he cannot see, or he simply will not see afar off.

Peter gives us some great news about our diligent effort in developing our ‘picture.’ *"For if you do these things you shall never fall. For so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly, into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ."* If we paint our picture with these colors, the qualities that God has given us to use, and be diligent to the end to complete the picture; *"we will never fall."* When our picture of life is complete, and we have painted it according to God’s outline, we will hear those beautiful words; *"Well done thou good and faithful servant you have been faithful over a few things I will make you ruler over many things"* (Mt.25:14-30).

Creation Fact #131

Evidence from Earth's Ecology

Hazardous materials are not just manmade phenomenon, but also a natural part of creation. For example, uranium and other **radioactive elements occur naturally** in the environment and can be dissolved in ground water. Chlorofluorocarbons are spewed from volcanoes. Dioxins occur naturally with every forest fire. **One might expect a well-designed creation to have the ability to process hazardous materials into harmless substances. Scientists are learning that this is exactly the case with several types of bacteria** which decontaminate water containing dissolved uranium. One species of bacteria makes uranium phosphate crystals by combining the phosphate in the water with the uranium. The crystals are stored harmlessly within the bacteria. Another species uses enzymes to make a uranium ore, which settles harmlessly out of the water. Scientists have also discovered a type of bacteria that breaks down chlorofluorocarbons.

The hazardous chemicals in the environment are a reminder that we no longer live in a perfect environment, but that our world has been affected by the curse of the Fall. Yet the earth is still full of abundant evidence that it is a well-designed system. By studying nature, scientists are learning how to clean up mankind's messes.

-A Closer Look at the Evidence by Richard & Tina Kleiss

"It's in the Valleys I Grow"

"Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me" (Psalm 23:4).

The following poem by an unknown author helps us understand the workings of our loving God as HE challenges us to grow our Christianity.

Sometimes life seems hard to bear,
Full of sorrow, trouble and woe.
It's then I have to remember,
That it's in the valley I grow.

If I always stayed on the mountain top
And never experienced pain,
I would never appreciate God's love,
And would be living in vain.

I have so much to learn,
And my growth is very slow.
Sometimes I need the mountain tops,
But it's in the valley I grow.

I do not always understand
Why things happen as they do,
But I am very sure of one thing:
My Lord will see me through.

My little valleys are nothing,
When I picture Christ on the cross.
He went through the valley of death;
His victory was Satan's loss.

Forgive me Lord, for complaining,
When I'm feeling so very low.
Just give me a gentle reminder,
That it's in the valleys I grow.

Continue to strengthen me, Lord,
And use my life each day
To share thy love with others
And help them find their way.

We thank thee for valleys, Lord,
For this one thing I know:
The mountain tops are glorious,
But it's in the valleys I grow!!

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...Ps. 107-109; 1 Corinthians 9
Monday...Ps. 110-114; 1 Corinthians 10
Tuesday...Ps. 115-118; 1 Cor. 11:1-16
Wednesday..Psalm 119; 1 Cor. 11:17-34
Thursday...Psalm 120-132; 1 Cor. 12
Friday...Ps. 133-139; 1 Corinthians 13
Saturday...Ps. 140-144; 1 Cor. 14:1-25
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

Upcoming Events

- ◆ Saturday, September 18th: **Ladies day at the Elm Street congregation in Coleman.** If you would like to attend please see the flyer on the bulletin board and sign **the attached list today** so that we can tell them how many are coming.
- ◆ September 24-26: **Lectureship at 5th & Grape in Abilene,** please see the flyer on the bulletin board.
- ◆ Saturday, September 25: **Ladies Day at Patrick Street congregation in Dublin;** the theme is "Four Trees". There is a flyer on the bulletin board and you need to RSVP by the 18th.
- ◆ September 29: **5th Wednesday singing.**
- ◆ October 3-6: Our own **meeting with Tom Moore;** the theme is "The Church Moving Forward." This is rapidly approaching and is now only 4 weeks away! Keep this effort in your prayers and begin inviting others. Look for flyers coming soon.



Directory & Picture Updates

Please remember to make corrections to your bulletin proof sheets and fill-out the work program information on the back. As soon as you are done, please return them to Ryan or just place them in the office. I appreciate so many who have already returned theirs.



Also many have commented that they want updated pictures taken. Tom Wilcox has offered to take those pictures through the month of September. Please seek him out over the next few weeks to have your picture taken. He is planning on being in the workroom across from my office today before and after services to take pictures.

Let me know if you have any questions and thanks again for your help in updating our information for the directory and picture board.

~Ryan Smithey

Quotable Quotes:

The most dangerous tool in the universe is the Word of God. If handled incorrectly can send hundreds of thousands to their eternal death. God forbid. If one can rightly divide the word he can wrongly divide it. If one can handling it aright then he can handle it wrongly (2 Tim. 2:15; Rom. 1:16).

~Rick Popejoy

Visitation Program

Remember our **visitation meeting following the evening worship services.** Last week **15 contacts** were made.

1st Sunday Lunch

Today is the first Sunday of September and time for our pot-luck dinner following morning worship, hope you can join us.

Notes Received...

Dear Christian Friends,

We are so thankful for such a loving and caring family at 4th & Stewart. We appreciate so much the visits, cards, food, and especially your prayers...Thank you for being there for our family during the loss of our mom & dad (James & Ruby Clark). With prayers and God's grace we will make it through the hard times to come. God bless you and keep you forever in His tender loving care.

In Christian Love, Jimmy Clark & Family,
Bobby Clark & Family, Patricia Beckett & Family

Thank you... A bouquet of thanks from me to you all for the kindness you've shown and prayers.

Love In Him, Joyce Bickford & husband Jim

HAPPY BIRTHDAY AND ANNIVERSARY TO:

September Birthdays: James Fuller (06), Storie Arnold (08), Gene Bannister (16), Billie Ford (17), Clarence Ford (17), Ben Griffith (18), Marie White (18), Cindy Proud (26), Garret Barnum (27).

September Anniversaries: Jack & Joyce Hill (10).

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

Mistakes? Left Out? Let Ryan know...



	Recent Records	August 22, 2010	August 29, 2010
Bible Class		58	62
AM Worship		72	88
PM Worship		51	56
Wednesday PM		45	53
Contribution		\$1514	\$1633

Privileged to Serve	09/05/10 - AM	09/05/10 - PM	09/12/10 - AM	09/12/10 - PM
Greeters	Gene & Barbara Bannister		Mileen & Ashley Kahlich	
Scripture Reader Scripture Reading		Michael Bickford 2 Peter 3:11-14		James Fuller
Opening Prayer	Ken Maninger	Billy Chism	Ken Makuta	Gene Bannister
Wait on Table	Gene Bannister*, John Barnum James Thomas, James Fuller	Gene Bannister	Allen Griffith*, Jim Moore Gene Bannister, Michael Bickford	Allen Griffith
Closing Prayer	Hank Wheeler	Ken Makuta	Tom Wilcox	Billy Chism
Attendance Cards	Chase Churchwell Seth Smithey		Chase Churchwell Seth Smithey	
Wednesday Devotionals	September 8 Allen Griffith	September 15 Jim Moore	September 22 Don Smith	September 29 James Fuller

Studies For The Week of September 9th:

Sunday Class.....1 Corinthians (Chap. 13-14)

Wednesday Class *Value of the Soul (DVD)*

They That Mourn (Matthew 5:4)

Mourning follows the humility of being poor in spirit by recognizing our spiritual condition apart from God because of sin.

1. **RECOGNIZES THE DESPAIR OF SIN**
 - a. One who realizes he is lost in sin without hope of his own (Isa. 59:1-2; Rom. 6:23, 3:23; Eph. 2:1, 12).
 - b. One who does not boast of sin but is heart broken by it (1 Cor. 5:2, Ps. 119:136; Lk 7:37-38; Matt. 26:75).
 - c. One that freely confessions the guilt of sin without excuses (2 Sam. 12:13; Ps. 51:1-3; Ps. 51:17; Dan. 9:5; Ezra 10:1; Luke 18:13; Luke 15:21).
 - d. One who understands the contrast between a holy God and sinful man (Isa. 6:5; Rom. 7:24).
2. **RECOGNIZES THE ONE SOURCE OF COMFORT.**
 - a. Answer is salvation in Christ (Rom 8:1; Eph. 2:1, 6; 1:7).
 - b. Recognizes mourning must lead to repentance (2 Cor. 7:6-13).
 - c. Recognizes the need to follow Christ in obeying the gospel (Rom. 10:9-10, Gal. 3:27; Acts 2:38) or being restored (1 John 1:9; Acts 8:22).
 - d. End result is forgiveness of sin and God's comfort (James 4:8-10; Acts 8:39; Matt. 11:28-30).

Anticipating Heaven

*Heaven should always be our goal in this life (Col. 3:1-2),
a wonderful place that can be described as:*

1. **Home** – Not this world which is temporary (2 Pet. 3:10; Phil. 3:20; 1 Pet. 2:11; Heb. 11:3; 1 Thess. 4:14, 17).
2. **Rest** – A place of comfort (Matt. 11:28-30; 2 Thess. 6-7; Rev. 14:13).
3. **Eternal** - A place that will last forever (Matt. 25:46; John 3:16; 2 Cor. 5:1; 1 Thess.4:17).
4. **Prepared** – A home Jesus promised to prepare and take us to (Matt. 25:34, John 14:1-3) that all the faithful could anticipate (Heb. 11:10).
5. **Glorious** – Beautiful beyond description (Heb. 10:34; Rev. 21:1-5, 22:1-5) where sin and darkness cannot invade (Rev. 21:8, 27; 22:5).
6. **Optional** - Prepared place for prepared people but with an open invitation (Matt. 11:28-30; Rev. 22:17). Our manner of life determines if we are prepared (Rev. 22:14-15; Matt. 7:21).

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Return Service Requested