



# Living By Faith

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

September 26, 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.

## Looking For An Excuse?

By Robert Moss

At times in life it seems that people are just looking for an excuse to do certain things. Some may be looking for an excuse to do things that are not profitable while others may be looking for an excuse to do things that are profitable.

Some people seem to be looking for an excuse to:

- ◆ **COMPLAIN** - For some it does not take much to get this in motion. They seem ready to fire complaints at the "drop of a hat". Doubt, ingratitude, envy and other evils fuel such an attitude (Jude 16).
- ◆ **HAVE HURT FEELINGS** - It seems like some people thrive on having their feelings hurt. This gives them an opportunity to feel like they are justified in avoiding someone, giving them the "cold shoulder", or giving them "the treatment". The Bible condemns this attitude (1 Cor. 14:20).
- ◆ **TALK ABOUT SOMEONE** - Yes, it does seem like some people's tongues are "loose on both ends". They simply fail to control their tongue and therefore cause much trouble. The bible condemns this as well (Lev. 19: 16-18).
- ◆ **STOP ATTENDING** - Some people seem to be always poised to stop their attendance at any sign of something that they disagree with or that does not go their way. God does not accept these actions (Heb. 10:25).
- ◆ **NOT OBEY THE GOSPEL** - Man has made an art out of these excuses and they are numberless. However, God demands obedience to His Will if one is to have eternal life (Matt. 7:21).

We need to spend our time looking for excuses to do good, such as:

- ◆ **HELPING OTHERS** - There is always someone who needs help that we can offer. It is an important part of Christianity (Gal. 6:20).
- ◆ **PROMOTING THE LOCAL WORK** - Satan will make sure that there is more than enough resistance against the good works of any local congregation. We need to spend our time in promoting good works (Titus 3:8-9).
- ◆ **FORGIVENESS** - This is an area where a great amount of good can be accomplished if it is fulfilled as the scriptures teach. It is a stepping-stone to better things. Forgiveness is essential to the Christian life (Col. 3:12-13).
- ◆ **TEACHING OTHERS** - Every accountable person that has not obeyed the gospel is lost. There is much to do; there is work on every hand. (Matt. 28: 18ff).

It can be easy to apply these positive aspects to ourselves and the negative to others. Rather, let us take a good long look in the mirror, forgetting others for the time being and consider what we see in ourselves (James 1:21-25).



*For my thoughts are not your thoughts,  
neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD.  
For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways  
higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.*

Isaiah 55:8-9

# PRACTICAL CHRISTIANITY FOR DAILY LIVING

by Charles Box

Salvation is by the blood of Jesus. (Hebrews 2:9.) His blood was shed in His death. Baptism brings us into the death of Jesus. "Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life." (Romans 6:3-4.) As Paul wrote to the Colossians he dealt with practical Christianity.

- ◆ **Practical Christianity means seeking heavenly things:** "If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God." (Colossians 3:1.)
- ◆ **Practical Christianity means having a heart set on Godly living:** "Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth." (Colossians 3:2.)
- ◆ **Practical Christianity means your life is hidden in Christ Jesus:** "For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God." (Colossians 3:3.)
- ◆ **Practical Christianity means putting to death sinful desires:** "Therefore put to death your members which are on the earth: fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. Because of these things the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience." (Colossians 3:5-6.)
- ◆ **Practical Christianity means putting off sinful things:** "But now you yourselves are to put off all these: anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy language out of your mouth. Do not lie to one another, since you have put off the old man with his deeds." (Colossians 3:8-9.)
- ◆ **Practical Christianity means putting on Godly things:** "And have put on the new man who is renewed in knowledge according to the image of Him who created him, where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcised nor uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave nor free, but Christ is all and in all. Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering; bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do. But above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfection." (Colossians 3:10-14.)
- ◆ **Practical Christianity means allowing God's peace to rule your heart:** "And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which also you were called in one body; and be thankful." (Colossians 3:15.)
- ◆ **Practical Christianity means letting the word of Christ dwell in you richly:** "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord." (Colossians 3:16.)
- ◆ **Practical Christianity means doing all you do in the name of the Lord:** "And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him." (Colossians 3:17.)

Christianity is for every circumstance of life. Literally, Christianity is life. It affects the way we talk, the way we think and the way we act. As a Christian all our actions and thoughts must be controlled by the Lord. Christianity is bringing every aspect of our life into obedience to Christ. "Casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ." (II Corinthians 10:5.) Christianity is for living every day, whatever the circumstance of that day may be. Until Christianity becomes practical and is lived every day it is not New Testament Christianity! Are you practicing Christianity in your daily life? Jesus said, "He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned." (Mark 16:16)

Television	God's Plan for Redeeming Man	Bible Reading Schedule
<p>The Truth In Love (Eddie Parrish) Sunday @ 7:00 am on KTAB</p> <p>In Search of the Lord's Way (Mack Lyon) Sunday @ 7:30 am on KTAB</p> <p>Gospel Broadcasting Network Online: 24/7 @ gbntv.org</p> <p>Good News Today: Sunday @ 6:00 am on Dish: 259, DirectTV: 364, Harris: 208</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Radio</b></p> <p>Preaching the Word (Michael Light) Sunday @ 9:00am on KOXE 101.3</p>	<p><b>Hear</b> Learn the saving message of Christ's sacrifice (1 Cor. 1:18; Rom. 10:17).</p> <p><b>Believe</b> Jesus is the Son of God (John 8:24)</p> <p><b>Confess</b> Jesus as your Lord, Lawgiver, and King (Rom. 10:9-10; Matt. 10:32-33)</p> <p><b>Repent</b> of your sinful conduct (Luke 13:3,5)</p> <p>Complete your initial obedience to the gospel by being <b>baptized</b> for the forgiveness of your sins (Acts 2:38; 22:16)</p>	<p>Sunday... Proverbs 29-31; 2 Cor. 11</p> <p>Monday... Ecclesiastes 1-3 ; 2 Cor. 12</p> <p>Tuesday... Ecclesiastes 4-6; 2 Cor. 13</p> <p>Wednesday.. Ecclesiastes 7-9; Galatians 1</p> <p>Thursday... Ecclesiastes 10-12; Gal. 2</p> <p>Friday... Song of Solomon 1-4; Gal. 3</p> <p>Saturday... Song of Solomon 5-8; Gal. 4</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><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></p>

# News & Notes

## Upcoming Events

- ◆ September 29: **5th Wed. singing.**
- ◆ October 2: **Ladies Day at the Mesquite & Rusk congregation in Ranger.** The theme is *Lessons From Esther*; please see flyer on bulletin board.
- ◆ October 3-6: Our own **meeting with Tom Moore**; the theme is "The Church Moving Forward." This is rapidly approaching and is **now only 1 week away!** Keep this effort in your prayers and begin inviting others. Flyers are available at the back of the auditorium.



## Attention Ladies

- ◆ This year's **Ladies Bible Class will begin on October 13 at 10AM.** We will continue our study of The Life of Christ. We would again like to invite all ladies of the congregation to join us for this study which is one that you can enter at any time so please give it some consideration and join us to study about the life of our Saviour.
- ◆ We will also be planning for another **Ladies Get Together very soon.** Look for details next month. It will also be for all ladies.



*"and let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds" Heb 10:24*

~Linda Griffith

## Visitation Program

Remember our **visitation meeting following the evening worship services.** Last week **33 contacts** were made.

## Gospel Meeting Arrangements

Believe it or not, the meeting with Tom Moore will be starting next week. Please make sure that you invite others to be with you and make every effort to be here yourself. Two special notes to keep in mind:

- ◆ Sunday will coincide with our regular **1st Sunday Potluck** lunch; lets all make a special effort to stay for that time of fellowship and bring a little extra food for possible visitors.
- ◆ Wednesday we will be having the afternoon class at 11 followed by lunch for those that can stay. Once again we are planning a **baked potato and salad lunch** — please see the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board for items needed.

*Thank you for helping to make this meeting a success.*

## Directory & Picture Updates

Almost all of the directory update pages have been returned; if you have not returned yours, please do so quickly. Also there is still time to get your picture taken for the directory and the photo wall. Please see Tom Wilcox to get that taken care of. Let me know if you have any questions and thanks again for your help in this matter. ~Ryan Smithey

## Bible Search

Area congregations are going to be having a Bible Search program beginning in October. Please make plans to be a part of this great time of fellowship and Bible study.

This year we are studying the **book of Acts** and tests will be one Sunday a month at area congregations from 2-4 PM; Bangs **will host the first session on October 17th**, so start studying. Age groups are: Kindergarten to 2nd grade; 3rd-5th; 6th-8th; and 9th-12th.

Also 4th & Stewart is hosting this event in November, hope everyone can plan on helping out—details to come.



*These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so. (Acts 17:11)*

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY AND ANNIVERSARY TO:

**Remaining September Birthdays:** Cindy Proud (26), Garret Barnum (27).

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

**October Anniversaries:** Freda & James Womack (19), Juanita & Stormy Barnum (25), Patti & Mike Bannister (27).



Recent Records	September 12, 2010	September 19, 2010
Bible Class	57	56
AM Worship	73	74
PM Worship	47	52
Wednesday PM	49	34
Contribution	\$1714	\$1986

Privileged to Serve	09/26/10 - AM	09/26/10 - PM	10/02/10 - AM	10/02/10 - PM
Greeters	Tom & Carol Wilcox		Allen & Linda Griffith	
Scripture Reader Scripture Reading		Michael Bickford 1 Peter 2:4-6		James Fuller
Opening Prayer	Ken Maninger	Billy Chism	Paul McClung	Don Smith
Wait on Table	Jim Moore*, Don Smith Michael Fuller, John Barnum	Jim Moore	Ken Makuta*, Gene Bannister Allen Griffith, Matthew Churchwell	Ken Makuta
Closing Prayer	Hank Wheeler	Tom Wilcox	James Thomas	Jim Moore
Attendance Cards	Chase Churchwell Seth Smithey		Chase Churchwell Seth Smithey	
Wednesday Devotionals	September 29 Singing	October 6 Gospel Meeting	October 13 Ken Makuta	October 20 Michael Bickford

**Studies For The Week of September 26th:**

Sunday Class ..... *1 Corinthians (Chap. 14)*

Wednesday Class ..... *5th Wed. Singing*

**Hungering and Thirsting After Righteousness (Matt 5:6)**

**1. Respectable or Healthy Desire**

- a. Necessary for growth in kingdom (1 Pet. 2:2); else we will fail to mature (Heb. 5:12).
- b. Should seek after it with the same desire a starving man seeks food; compare the attitude of Psalm 119:10-11, 97, 103, 105, 131.

**2. Righteous Desire**

- a. Desire to be holy (1 Pet. 1:16); to know and do that which is right in God's sight; requires knowledge and application of God's Word (1 John 3:7; Ps. 119:172; Rom. 1:16-17, 10:17).
- b. Shows determination to follow God (Acts 2:37, 41 contrasted with Rom. 10:1-3).
- c. Shows spiritual distinction/transformation (Rom. 12:2).
- d. Shows Denial of all that would hinder this quest (2 Cor. 6:17; Matt. 10:32-39, 6:33).
- e. Shows Dedication to keep it up at all costs (1 Pet. 4:4; 2 Cor. 4:17).

**3. Rewarded Desire**

- a. Such a one will be filled; this desire can be quenched (Ps. 107:9; John 8:31-32).
- b. Brings righteousness in a right relation with God (Heb. 10:17; 1 John 1:7-9; 2 Tim. 4:6-8).

**I Love Thy Kingdom Lord**

*Similar to the way in which Paul describes the love of Christ for the church in Ephesians 5, this song expresses the great love that the Christian should have for the church expressed in:*

**1. Respect and Praise**

- a. The greatness of the church (Matt. 16:16-18; Acts 2:47, Col. 1:13; 1 Tim. 3:15; 1 Pet. 2:5; 2 Cor. 6:16).
- b. The price that was paid for the church (Eph. 1:7; Acts 20:28).
- c. The significance of it to God (Eph. 3:10-11; Rev. 21:9; Eph. 5:27).

**2. Devotion and Value**

- a. Here is expressed the **personal** interest and dedication of the Christian to the church for all time.
- b. Dedicated to God (Acts 5:29; 2 Tim. 4:6-8; Matt. 10:37-38); following Him in love always (1 John 5:3; Rev. 2:10; Gal. 6:9).

**3. Trust and Thanksgiving**

- a. For the Christian we have trust in Christ and in His promises – both here and eternity (1 Cor. 1:9; 1 Pet. 1:24-25; Matt. 6:33; Mark 10:28-30).
- b. Certainly in recognizing these things, there is much that we have to be thankful for (Col. 4:2).

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Return Service Requested