



Living By Faith

“The just shall live by faith.” Romans 1:17

October 10, 2010

4th & Stewart Church of Christ

Contact Us:

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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.

Lessons Learned From Nehemiah

By Marvin L. Weir

Most remember that the children of Israel were carried into Babylonian captivity because of their lack of faith in the true and living God. In 605 B.C. Babylon conquered Israel. Among those deported into captivity were Daniel and his friends (2 Chron. 36:6-7; Dan. 1:1-3). In 598 B.C., Ezekiel and about 10,000 others were carried into captivity. In 586 B.C., the temple of Jerusalem was destroyed and the city burned, and all except the very poor were taken to Babylon (2 Kings 24:20-25:21; Jer. 39:1-10). When the time came where God saw fit to allow a remnant to return to Jerusalem, they managed to restore true worship, but did not rebuild the walls.

In 536 B.C., Zerubbabel led the first return from Babylonian captivity. In 457 B.C., Ezra leads the next return of God’s people. In 444 B.C., Nehemiah leads the final return. While in captivity, Nehemiah learned about the conditions of his brethren and the temple. He prayed to God that he might be able to return to Jerusalem. His prayer was answered. Upon Nehemiah’s arrival, he set about the task of repairing the walls and God’s house. The Lord’s church today can learn valuable lessons from Nehemiah’s plan to rebuild the temple walls of Jerusalem.

Nehemiah **investigated** and saw the great need to restore the walls of the temple. The work was too important to ignore. God’s house had been in disarray far too long. Thus, Nehemiah led the effort to begin the task.

We need brethren today who will take a serious look at the needs of the Lord’s church. Some congregations carefully maintain the physical structure but are in spiritual shambles. More people are needed who will insist that God’s pattern for worship and Christian living be followed. We need brethren like Nehemiah who will take the lead in encouraging others to do God’s will.

Nehemiah called for **volunteers**. No one was coerced to help. No bait was dangled before people to entice them to help. Nehemiah wanted people to help who truly loved God. He knew that one who willingly volunteers to do God’s work will be a happy worker and devoted to the task at hand. It is no different today in the Lord’s church. God’s wants **willing** laborers in the kingdom who lovingly respond to His commands. Unless one is willing to “*deny himself, and take up his cross daily*” (Luke 9:23), he is not likely to volunteer to do much work in the Lord’s vineyard.

(Continued on page 2)



Then I told them of the hand of my God which was good upon me; as also the king's words that he had spoken unto me.

And they said, Let us rise up and build.

So they strengthened their hands for this good work.

Nehemiah 2:18

(Continued from page 1)

The people were **united** in their efforts to repair the temple wall, or they would have not been successful. The brethren worked side by side, cooperating one with the other, and steadfastly remained dedicated to the task at hand. They refused to be distracted by worldly people and worldly matters.

Brethren today must understand the necessity of speaking the same thing and being *“perfected together in the same mind and in the same judgment”* (1 Cor. 1:10). Protection from false teachers is needed just as badly today as was protection from Nehemiah’s enemies, *“Sanballat, and Tobiah, and the Arabians, and the Ammonites, and the Ashdodites...”* (Neh. 4:7-8). Nehemiah says of his devoted workers that *“they all builded the wall and they that bare burdens laded themselves; every one with one of his hands wrought in the work, and with the other held his weapon”* (Neh. 4:17). In doing the Lord’s work today one must not forget to have in his hand the *“the sword of the Spirit”* (Eph. 6:17). May we always strive to *“give diligence to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace”* (Eph. 4:3)!

Nehemiah’s volunteers **cooperated** in rebuilding the wall. All had a job to do, and each one did his individual task. Each member of the body of Christ today has a job to do as they contribute to the needs of the kingdom (cf. 1 Cor. 12:13-27).

Nehemiah did not allow his people to become **discouraged**. Enemies from within or without did not deter the workers from their task. The devil never wants God’s work to succeed. A stumblingblock will always be provided courtesy of Satan.

Some today say that the work of the Lord’s church cannot be accomplished in the way the Lord intended. Such is false thinking and far from the truth. Let us never become discouraged in building upon a solid foundation (cf. Acts 4:12; 1 Cor. 3:11; Matt. 27:24-27).

Nehemiah’s volunteers had a **mind** to work. They did not show up for only two hours per week. They did not possess the attitude that someone else could and should do the task. They **prayed** to God that they could be used for His service and glory – and God did use them!

If we as members of the body of Christ possess the proper attitude and have a mind to work in His vineyard, the Lord will also use us to His service and glory. May we all have the spirit of Nehemiah!

TWENTY TIPS ON ENCOURAGEMENT

By Neal Pollard

1. Look for the lonely and reach out to them.
2. Pay attention to the (small) details and acknowledge what others miss.
3. Don’t miss the bashful and shy.
4. Listen closely to what’s going on in people’s lives.
5. Care.
6. Pray for opportunities to encourage.
7. At times, encourage anonymously.
8. Remember those who are usually behind the scenes.
9. Put yourself in the place of others.
10. See through Christ-like eyes.
11. Find happiness in encouraging and joy in others enjoying encouragement.
12. Consider encouragement a sacred duty.
13. Do an act of service for an unsuspecting other.
14. Be a meaningful, genuine complimenter free of selfish motives.
15. Remember that encouragers are church growers.
16. Don’t overlook the frustrated (young parents, teens, unemployed, newly divorced).
17. Mentally walk a mile in the potentially encouraged’s shoes.
18. Find exciting, unusual ways to make someone’s day.
19. Appreciate the value of a handwritten note or card (especially in our virtual world).
20. Reach out to the “marginalized” -(new members, the poor, those who attend alone, the elderly, widows, widowers, etc.)

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... Isaiah 24-26; Ephesians 6
 Monday... Isaiah 27-29; Philippians 1
 Tuesday... Isaiah 30-32; Philippians 2
 Wednesday... Isaiah 33-36; Philippians 3
 Thursday... Isaiah 37-38; Philippians 4
 Friday... Isaiah 39-41; Colossians 1
 Saturday... Isaiah 42-44; Colossians 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

Upcoming Events

- ◆ October 10-13: **Gospel Meeting at Bangs** with Kerry Clark speaking on the theme "Back to the Future". See flyer on the bulletin board.
- ◆ October 10-13: **Gospel Meeting at 9th & Main** in San Angelo with Ronnie Scherffius See flyer on bulletin board.
- ◆ October 17: **Bible Search at Bangs.**
- ◆ October 23-24: **"Back to the Bible" Lectures at Park Heights** in Hamilton. See flyer of bulletin board.
- ◆ Mark in advance **May 1-4, 2011** as our Spring Gospel Meeting with Tyler Young as we consider "The End Times". It should be a wonderful study that you won't want to miss.



Attention Ladies

- ◆ The ladies, and anyone else who wishes to join them, will be traveling to Bangs for their gospel meeting this Wednesday, October 13. We will leave from our building at 9:30 AM if you wish to ride together. The meeting starts at 10:15 AM and is followed by lunch.
- ◆ This year's **Ladies Bible Class will begin on October 20 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.



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

~Linda Griffith

Bible Search

Next Sunday, October 17th, is the start of Bible Search. This session will be held at Bangs beginning at 2:30 PM and should be done by 4 PM. The test will cover Acts 1-4.

We will meet again today at 5:15 PM in the High School class to study this section. If you need more information, please see Ryan.



The Bereans were praised because they:

"...searched the scriptures daily..."
(Acts 17:11)

	Recent Records	September 26, 2010	October 03, 2010
Bible Class		80	61
AM Worship		60	82
PM Worship		46	59
Monday PM		N/A	54
Tuesday PM		N/A	65
Wednesday AM		N/A	21
Wednesday PM		51	48
Contribution		\$1497	\$1924

Visitation Program

Remember our **visitation meeting following the evening worship services.** Last week **34 contacts** were made. Remember next week is the 3rd Sunday meal with our meeting.

Gospel Meeting Success

Thank you all for your work in making this recent gospel meeting such a success. I have heard from a number of people who really enjoyed the topics and were greatly challenged by the things that Tom had to say from God's Word. Let us remember to study those things and put them into action that we indeed can be a church that is moving forward.

All of the CDs requested from the meeting are ready at the back of the auditorium. If you still want a set and have not requested it or were accidently overlooked, just let me know and we can still make those.

But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves...whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed. James 1:22, 25

HAPPY BIRTHDAY AND ANNIVERSARY TO:

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).

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

Mistakes? Left Out? Let Ryan know...



Privileged to Serve	10/10/10 - AM	10/10/10 - PM	10/17/10 - AM	10/17/10 - PM
Greeters	Ken Makuta, Hank Wheeler, & Peggy Luker		Jim & Peg Moore	
Scripture Reader Scripture Reading		Garrett Barnum Matthew 19:13-15		Michael Fuller
Opening Prayer	Allen Griffith	Ken Makuta	Gene Bannister	Billy Chism
Wait on Table	Hank Wheeler*, Tom Wilcox Don Smith, John Barnum	Hank Wheeler	Jim Moore*, James Fuller Michael Bickford, Garrett Barnum	Jim Moore
Closing Prayer	Michael Bickford	James Fuller	Hank Wheeler	Tom Wilcox
Attendance Cards	Chase Churchwell Seth Smithey		Chase Churchwell Seth Smithey	
Wednesday Devotionals	October 13 Ken Makuta	October 20 Michael Bickford	October 27 Allen Griffith	November 3 Jim Moore

Studies For The Week of October 10th:

Sunday Class *1 Corinthians (Chap. 14)*

Wednesday Class *Hosea (Chap. 5-6)*

<p align="center"><i>The Merciful (Matt. 5:7)</i> <i>The world says, care for yourself; Jesus says blessed are those who care for others!</i></p> <p>1. Mercy is a Characteristic of God</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Balances the righteousness of God (Rom. 11:22). b. He is merciful (Ex. 34:6) with a mercy that is: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Constant (Ps. 106:1) ii. Forgiving (Ps. 51:1; Joel 2:13; Luke 18:3; Titus 3:4-6) iii. Loving/Caring (Ps. 9:13; Heb. 4:16; 2 Cor. 1:3) c. Therefore we should imitate such in our lives (Eph. 5:1). <p>2. Mercy Is Active</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Pity/compassion combined with action (Gen. 19:16, 39:21; Matt. 9:27; Luke 10:36-37). b. Mercy will cause us to consider others and help them as we can (1 John 3:17; Rom. 12:15; Gal. 6:10). <p>3. Mercy Must Be Given To Be Received</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Having obtained the mercy of God, it must make us merciful (Matt. 18:33, 35; James 2:13). b. The reward of mercifulness is that we will obtain mercy of man and God (Gal. 6:7; Prov. 21:13). 	<p align="center">Become as Little Children (Matt. 18:1-4) <i>Some ways in which the Christian should be like a child:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Confidence in the Father; trust (2 Tim. 1:12; 2 Cor. 1:18-20; Titus 1:2). 2. Humble in attitude; before God and man (1 pet. 5:5, 6; Heb. 12:7, 9; Phil. 2:3-8). 3. Imitators of God; strive to be like Him (Eph. 5:1; 1 Pet. 1:14-16). 4. Loving one another; accepting, supporting one another (2 Thess. 1:3; 1 Thess. 4:9-10; 1 Pet. 1:22; John 15:12; Rom. 12:10; 1 John 4:7). 5. Despise not little things; have a child-like wonder, belief, and thankfulness (Zech. 4:10; James 1:17; Col. 4:2; Matt. 13:31-33; Esther 4:14). 6. Ready to follow Christ; imitate a perfect example (1 Cor. 11:1; Luke 9:23; John 14:6; 1 Pet. 2:21; John 14:8-9). 7. Eager to learn; like a sponge soaking up knowledge (Matt. 11:29; 1 Pet. 2:2; Tim. 2:15; Matt. 5:6; Ps. 119:97). 8. Not easily provoked; manage anger (1 Cor. 13:4-5, 14:20; Rom. 12:17-21). <i>Such is not easy; it requires transformation (Rom. 12:2); but it is necessary to be a child of God (Matt. 18:3).</i>
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