



# Living By Faith

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

October 31, 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..... 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  
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.

## “One Another” Passages By Kirk Talley

It has been said before that Christianity is a “one another” religion. This is true in both the negative sense (i.e., “do not deprive one another” from 1 Cor. 7:5) and in the positive sense (i.e., “bear one another’s burdens” from Gal. 6:2). It is the purpose of this article to give an overview of how the Bible instructs us to be “one another” in our lives. Please take note of the scope of God’s Word concerning a lifestyle that bears in mind...one another.

Let’s begin with the negative usage of “one another.”

**1 Cor. 4:6**—We are not to be puffed up against one another.

**Gal. 5:15**—We are not to destroy one another.

**1 Cor. 7:5**—Couples are not to deprive one another of self.

**1 Cor. 6:7**—We are not to go to law against one another.

**James 5:9**—We should not grumble against one another.

**Titus 3:3**—We are certainly not to hate one another.

**Rom. 14:13**—“Let us not therefore judge one another...”

**Col. 3:9**—We are not to lie to one another.

**Gal. 5:26**—Let us not provoke one another to envy.

**James 4:11**—We should not slander one another.

**Acts 7:26**—Capsulated in this one verse is the answer...we should not wrong one another!

Mankind could spend a lifetime working on the attitude needed to fulfill the aforementioned passages. Those are recorded in the Bible, among other passages, to show us there are boundaries in relationships between mankind. There are limits to how we can treat people with our different ways, thoughts, and words. We need to be ever respectful of...one another.

Notice now with me the positive aspect of the “one another” passages in the Bible.

**John 13:34**—“...that ye love one another...”(15:12,17; Rom. 13:8; 1 John 3:11,23; 4:7,11,12; 2 John 1:15)

**Rom. 12:10**—“...with brotherly love, in honor preferring one another...”

**Rom. 15:7**—“...receive one another...”

**Rom. 15:14**—“...admonish one another...” (Col. 3:16; 1The. 5:11; Heb.3:13; 10:25)

**Rom. 16:16**—“Salute one another...” (1 Cor. 16:20; 2 Cor. 13:12)

**Gal. 5:13**—“...serve one another...”

**Gal. 6:2**—“...bear ye one another’s burdens...”

**Eph. 4:2**—“...forbearing one another...”

**Eph 4:32**—“...forgiving one another...”

**1 The. 4:18**—“wherefore comfort one another...”

**Heb. 10:24**—“consider one another...”

It would behoove all of us to take a daily look at these references to the ultimate end of being more for “one another” going to heaven! Let us strive to be kind, to love each other while all along keeping our judgments righteous and our grumbling private. Now, it’s your responsibility to go and be better...one to another!



*The righteous shall be glad in the LORD,  
and shall trust in him;  
and all the upright in heart shall glory.*

*Psalm 64:10*

When the Devil tempted Eve to partake of the forbidden fruit, he persuaded her to believe God was unduly preventing her self-indulgence. The woman was deceived, believing the serpent's promise that she would be "like God" (Gen. 3:4). She yielded to the appeal of autonomy: "I am the master of my own fate; I am my own God; I will do as I please." Thus Satan convinced her that her best interest was to do what she knew God did not want her to do.

The Deceiver has another tactic, just as subtle and equally destructive, which is seducing multitudes today. With Eve, it was, "God doesn't want you to partake: do it anyway." With the trendy, new age "Gospel of Me" he says: God actually *wants* you to partake—to do whatever you feel is being true to yourself." With this, he appeals to the same impulse—the desire for self-determination and freedom from restraint—taking the tempted down a different path which ends up at the same, idolatrous place: I will be God. The difference from his strategy in the Garden is in convincing us that doing as we please is not defying the will of God, but fulfilling it.

This Satanic seduction is the Gospel according to Oprah, not Jesus Christ. Oprah's views on spirituality are well known and epitomize the rise of new age spiritualism in the West. And it's easy to see the appeal. The influential media diva preaches the palatable pluralism of our time: There are many paths to the Divine, and the Divine is found within. My life is a spiritual journey to the discovery and adoration of...me.

For an example of the popularity of this deification of self, consider Liz Gilbert's *Eat Pray Love*. The best-selling memoir is now a film by the same title in which Julia Roberts portrays Gilbert, who divorces her devoted husband to launch on a pilgrimage of self-discovery. As one critic put it, the film reveals how her entire life "reeks of relentless self-indulgence" as she learns how to accept herself, and that life is apparently all about her.

This devilish drivel is prevalent in pop culture, but we find its most insidious expression in churches preaching a self-centered gospel cloaked in the garb of "being all God created you to be." I cringed when I encountered recently an ad for a curriculum for churches called "The Me I Want To

# It's Not About Me

The distortion of the gospel and the idolatry of the self  
by Tyler Young

Be: Becoming God's Best Version of You," which claims to be a "life-changing message." What is that mes-

sage? "Be yourself," says the ad, rather than someone "others want you to be." Emblazoned in large letters on the front of the workbook and DVD is the single word—"Me."

If the curriculum's publisher intends only to encourage us to recognize and develop our unique, individual talents in the service of God, then fine. But the blatant promotion of "Me" smacks of the spiritual narcissism of our age which reverses the emphasis of the true gospel.

How so? Isn't the gospel about how God loves *me*, wants fellowship with *me*, and wants to spend eternity with *me*? Didn't Paul say in Galatians 2:20 that Jesus "loved *me* and gave himself for *me*"? Yes, but in that very passage he also said, "I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me." Here the apostle affirms that life is not about self-indulgence but self-denial; not living for self, but dying to self to live for Christ. Jesus denied himself to bear the cross for us (Phil. 2:5ff) and demanded we do the same to follow him (Mat. 16:24). The irony is that denying self to live for him rather than ourselves is the only true way to "find" ourselves, what we were truly made to be (16:25).

And what we were truly made for is something beyond ourselves—the glory of God. Everything God has done in Christ is in order to redeem us from our sinful self-indulgence for a higher purpose—"for the praise of his glory" (Eph. 1:3-12). The Oprahified Gospel of Me so many churches have unwittingly bought into and which the Devil disguises as discipleship turns the focus from the glory of God to the idolatrous indulgence of self, catering to our self-destructive propensity "to worship and serve the creature rather than the Creator" (Rom. 1:25). It is the whisper of Satan: "It's all about you."

According to God's word, the very reason we need the cross is because we've believed that lie. I can only be true to myself—be what God wants me to be—when I realize that, ultimately, it's not all about me. It's about God saving me from me, not just for me, but for "his name's sake" (Psa. 23:3).

It's about him.

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><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...Jeremiah 20-22; 1 Timothy 5</p> <p>Monday...Jeremiah 23-24; 1 Timothy 6</p> <p>Tuesday...Jeremiah 25-26; 2 Timothy 1</p> <p>Wednesday...Jeremiah 27-29; 2 Timothy 2</p> <p>Thursday...Jeremiah 30-31; 2 Timothy 3</p> <p>Friday...Jeremiah 32-33; 2 Timothy 4</p> <p>Saturday...Jeremiah 34-35; Titus 1</p> <p><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>
<p><b>Radio</b></p> <p>Preaching the Word (Michael Light) Sunday @ 9:00am on KOXE 101.3</p>		

# News & Notes

## *Duty is only Natural*

By Tom Moore

Ask any parent who gets up at 2:00 a.m. and then at 3:00 a.m. and then at 3:30 a.m. to answer the cry of a sick baby. Lovers never ask, "What's the least I can do?"

Ask any man whose income is so limited that after he pays his rent and buys his groceries he has only pennies to spare. But his sweetheart has a birthday the next month and he has his eye on something that means he'll have to go without lunch for three weeks. So he buys it.

Boys' Town near Omaha has made capital of a poster showing a little guy toting a tyke nearly as big as he is, saying, "He's not heavy; he's my brother."

Are any of these lovers looking for a medal? No. They're only doing their duty. And it's only natural for someone you love.

Jesus, showing us an example of love and duty, served His disciples, washing their feet (Jn. 13). It was symbolic of His entire ministry, including the cross. Love will do the unthinkable in caring for the needs of a loved one. Our relationship to Christ and to one another must like that. This is why Jesus said, "And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment. And...Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. There is none other commandment greater than these" (Mk. 12:30-31). True and biblical love will have no difficulty fulfill their duty.

Think About It!

*"And he said to them all,  
If any man will come after me, let him deny himself,  
and take up his cross daily, and follow me.  
For whosoever will save his life shall lose it:  
but whosoever will lose his life for my sake,  
the same shall save it."*

*Luke 9:23-24*

### **Visitation Program**

Remember our **visitation meeting following the evening worship services**. Last week **23 contacts** were made.

### **Ladies Bible Class**

Remember the Ladies Bible Class that meets every Wednesday morning at 10 AM in the fellowship hall. Make plans to join them as they study the Life of Christ.

### **Upcoming Events**

- ◆ **October 31: Bible Search Practice**, 5:15 PM.
- ◆ **Nov. 7: Daylight Savings Time Begins!** Set clocks back.
- ◆ **October 31–November 3: Gospel Meetings at Stephenville** with Richard Massey and at **DeLeon** with Rick Popejoy. See flyers on the bulletin board.
- ◆ **November 13: 50th Wedding Anniversary** for Earl & Earlene Tomlinson. See invitation on bulletin board.
- ◆ **November 14:** We will be hosting the next Bible search session at 2:30. It covers Acts 5-8.

### **Wedding Shower**

There will be a wedding shower to honor Ben and Meredith Griffith today at 4:30 PM in the fellowship hall. They are registered at Walmart. For any questions please see Peg Moore.

## **HAPPY BIRTHDAY AND ANNIVERSARY TO:**

**November Birthdays:** Linda Jiminez (08), Emily Evetts (13), Juanita Barnum (15), Xavier Martinez (28).

**November Anniversaries:** Barbara & Gene Bannister (06).

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

*Mistakes? Left Out? Let Ryan know...*



	Recent Records	October 17, 2010	October 24, 2010
Bible Class		55	57
AM Worship		76	81
PM Worship		53	58
Wednesday PM		45	44
Contribution		\$1528	\$1500

Privileged to Serve	10/31/10 - AM	10/31/10 - PM	11/07/10 - AM	11/07/10 - PM
<b>Greeters</b>	Michael & Diana Bickford		Gene & Barbara Bannister	
<b>Scripture Reader Scripture Reading</b>		John Barnum Jeremiah 17:5-8		Hank Wheeler
<b>Opening Prayer</b>	James Thomas	Matthew Churchwell	James Fuller	Jim Moore
<b>Wait on Table</b>	Hank Wheeler*, Michael Fuller Garrett Barnum, Tom Wilcox	Hank Wheeler	Ken Maninger*, Garrett Barnum John Barnum, Ken Makuta	Ken Maninger
<b>Closing Prayer</b>	Michael Bickford	Don Smith	Gene Bannister	Tom Wilcox
<b>Attendance Cards</b>	Chase Churchwell Seth Smithey		Chase Churchwell Seth Smithey	
<b>Wednesday Devotionals</b>	November 3 Jim Moore	November 10 Don Smith	November 17 James Fuller	November 24 Ken Makuta

**Studies For The Week of October 31st:**

Sunday Class ..... *1 Corinthians (Chap. 15)*

Wednesday Class ..... *Hosea (Chap. 9-10)*

***The Persecuted (Matt. 5:10-12)***

*Those who implement the first seven beatitudes in their lives are sure to suffer the eighth – persecution.*

**1. Persecution Expected**

- a. Jesus warns us that persecution will come to those who live this way.
- b. It sets them apart from the world and like Him, the world will reject us (1 John 2:16; John 1:4-5, 10-11, 15:18-21).
- c. This persecution is for righteousness and His sake – a consequence of living right (2 Tim. 3:12; 1 Pet. 4:15-16; John 3:19-20).

**2. Response to Persecution**

- a. Rejoice and be exceedingly glad (Acts 5:41-42; 1 Pet. 4:13-14); keep being faithful (Heb. 10:32-33).
- b. Attitude possible because of the great reward (Rom. 8:18; 2 Cor. 4:8-18) and because it places us in good company (Heb. 11:32-40; Acts 7:52; James 5:10).

*Will we stand up under persecution?*

*Will we be faithful even to the point of death (Rev. 2:10)?*

***Focus On Self (Luke 12:13-21)***

*Society says its all about “me” but such an attitude:*

**1. Removes Focus From God**

- a. Never considers God (James 4:13-15)
- b. Never thanks God (James 1:17; Col. 4:2); no surprise that such an attitude leads us away from God (Rom. 1:21; 2 Tim. 3:1-5).
- c. Never trusts God (1 Tim. 6:17).

**2. Removes Focus From Others**

- a. No liberality towards others though richly blessed (1 Tim. 6:18).
- b. Attitude stands in opposition to the Christian mindset and Christ (Phil. 2:3-5) as well as other great examples (2 Cor. 12:15; 2 Cor. 8:1-5).

**3. Removes Focus From Eternity**

- a. Short-sighted; thinks only of the here and now and what brings temporal pleasure (Col. 3:1-2; Heb. 11:25).
- b. Showed greater concern for physical rather than spiritual life (Luke 12:33-34).
- c. Allows things of life to distract us from God (1 Tim. 6:9-10) instead of securing eternal life (1 Tim. 6:19).
- d. Where does our focus lie (Luke 9:23-25)?

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Return Service Requested