

4th & Stewart church of Christ

"...upon this rock I will build my church;
and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it."
~ Matthew 16:18



January 24, 2021

Contact Us:

3201 4th Street
Brownwood, TX 76801

325-646-7102

www.4thstreetcoc.org
office@4thstreetcoc.org

Meeting Times:

Sunday:

Bible Study9:45 AM
Worship10:40 AM
Care, Inc. Service N/A
Worship 6:00 PM

Wednesday:

Ladies Bible Class N/A
Bible Study 7:00 PM

Elders:

Gene Bannister..... Billy Chism

Deacons:

Mike Bannister..... Don Smith

John Barnum

Preacher:

Johnny McCaghren

Works We Support:

Cherokee Home for Children
Gospel Broadcast Network
Heart of Texas Bible Camp (Bangs)
Mission Printing
Rohan Jones, Africa
World Bible School

The following article was written 40 years ago. The truth has not changed. *Johnny*

“Why Do You Call Me Lord?”

Many people today are not really concerned with the Bible message! They may think so, but their practice shows where their loyalty really is. Almost anyone will be offended if their Creed book or denomination is attacked, but almost no one cares if the Bible is misused or misinterpreted in every conceivable way! And yet, God spoke from heaven, “*This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. Hear Him!*” (Matt. 17:5).

Jesus said, “*But why do you call Me ‘Lord, Lord,’ and not do the things which I say?*” (Luke 6:46). If Jesus is Lord of your life, that means He rules it, He has dominion over it, He exercises Lordship over it. He is your Master, your controller. If He is Lord of your life, you should call Him Lord. But you cannot call Him Lord, unless you do what He says!

Today, a lot of people do not think it is too important to be right in religion. But Jesus still says: “Then why do you call Me Lord?” Another bunch tells us, “It is impossible to have absolute truth.” Jesus still says, “Do what I tell you!” Besides that, He also said, “*And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.*” (John 8:32). If you will not keep His commandments, do not call Him Lord!

Again Jesus said, “*Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven*” (Matt. 7:21). Imagine that, your going to heaven depends on keeping the commandments of Christ! It doesn’t depend on being nice to false teachers. You do not have to accept everybody’s “doctrine,” and say everybody is okay. All you have to do is keep the will of the Father.

Today, most people like to do their own thing, and preach whatever comes to their mind, and call it the word of God. Listen—that’s wrong! The Lord does not like to hear people saying “Lord, Lord” when they do not even care what the Bible says. For example, many people live like the Devil, then on Easter, come out in their finest clothes and pretend to honor the resurrection of the Lord; or at Christmas, pretend the birth of Christ means something to them. If Jesus is not Lord of your life all year, He is not during any part of the year. The Lord is not something you set on a shelf for your convenience. If you will not keep

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**Please practice COVID precautions,
for your own safety and the safety of your brethren.**

Let us know if you want to study
the Bible to know more about
Christ and His Church.

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His commandments all the time, you have no right to call Him Lord, and you will not go to heaven!

Jesus just will not give up. Listen to Him again. *“If you love Me, keep My commandments”* (John 14:15). Many of us say we love Jesus, but He says, *“Prove it!”* Love is not just a thing you say—it is something you do. In other words, if you are living like the devil, and claiming to love Jesus—you are a liar. If your religion is not based on the word of God, you do not love the Savior. You have to prove your love by your actions.

The love He speaks of is not the sentimental, peace at all cost, compromising love we hear so much about today. If you love Jesus, you value and esteem Him. You will feel genuine concern over the fact that He died on a cross! This deep emotional feeling will lead you to be faithful to Him. You will set store in Him. You will keep His word—if you love Him!

The Lord said, *“You are My friends if you do whatever I command you”* (John 15:14). A friend is a person who associates familiarly with another, and is a companion to him. The thought of being a companion to Jesus is thrilling. It seems strange to think of it—but Luke 7:34 clarifies this point. *“The Son of Man has come eating and drinking, and you say, ‘Look, a glutton and a winebibber, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’”* (Luke 7:34). Jesus was not gluttonous or a winebibber, but He was a friend to those who would do His will. He will associate with us too; we can be His friends, but we must do what He says! He is our Lord, only if we will keep His commandments.

Roger Rossiter (Defender, March, 1981)

The Depths of Triumph

When Moses ascended Mount Sinai and originally received the Law from the LORD, he heard, for the first time, the Decalogue, the Ten Commandments, which God established as the foundation for Israelite society. Among the precepts instituted in the wilderness that day, the requirement to *“Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy”* (Ex. 20:8) would later generate great controversy throughout the life of Jesus as the first century Pharisees’ interpretation of the requirement (long ignored throughout Jewish history) took on an extensively regulated meaning. However, while we ourselves recognize the reality of rest that the LORD instituted as part of that law (Ex. 20:9-11), as did the Pharisees, we often fail to appreciate its essential character of holiness, which the Pharisees also missed. The title applied to the ninety-second psalm, *“A Song for the Sabbath day,”* deserves consideration. The LORD did not give the Sabbath merely for physical rest but also for spiritual renewal, as this psalm also implies. More than that, its thematic emphasis on the character of God Himself illustrates well the actual purpose underlying the original command to keep the Sabbath holy. It should have been a day distinctly spent in dedication to the LORD, thinking about Him and all that He had done. Therefore, while Christians follow the gospel rather than the Law, and therefore have no responsibility to keep the Sabbath (Col. 2:14-15), the holy aspect of its purpose should endure as God’s people today reflect regularly on the glory of their God and why He is worthy of their worship.

Remembering God and all that He has done is not just commanded; it is good. It is good morally, certainly, but it is good for us. Giving thanks to God helps us remember how blessed we are, and praising Him in song thrills the soul and unites our hearts

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Television

In Search of the Lord’s Way (Phil Sanders)

Sunday @ 7:30am on KTAB

Life In The Light (Chris McCurley)

Sunday @ 10:00am on KTAB

Radio

Preaching the Word (Michael Light)

Sunday @ 9:00am on KOXE 101.3

Internet

TheGospelRadioNetwork.org

Gospel Broadcasting Network (Gbnv.org)

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)

Live faithfully (Rev. 2:10; 2 Tim. 4:7-8)

Bible Reading Schedule

video.wvbs.org/access/interactive-bible-reading-plan/

Jan. 24	Luke 11—12; Psalm 24
Jan. 25	Luke 13—14; Ps. 25 (video)
Jan. 26	Luke 15—16; Psalm 26
Jan. 27	Luke 17—18; Psalm 27
Jan. 28	Luke 19—20; Ps. 28 (video)
Jan. 29	Luke 21—22; Psalm 29
Jan. 30	Luke 23—24; Ps. 30 (video)
Jan. 31	John 1—2; Psalm 31 (video)

“Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.”

(2 Timothy 2:15)



Visitation Meeting

- ◆ Last week **40** contacts were made.

Announcements

- ◆ It has been decided to **stay with our current schedule** (Sunday morning only assembly) **for the time being**. We will continue to evaluate. We will, of course, continue the Sunday evening and Wednesday evening lessons online.
- ◆ **Please continue to practice common sense prevention measures.** (Wear mask, limit personal contact, social distance, use hand sanitizers, etc.)

Upcoming Special Events at 4th & Stewart

- ◆ March 14-17—Spring Gospel Meeting w/ Jon McCormack

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(Psalm 92:1). Indeed, we ought to fill our days with declarations of His care and attention (Psalm 92:2-3). It may seem silly to some, overly demonstrative to others, but stopping the hustle and bustle of daily life to consider what God has done—instead of always concentrating on what we must do—is one of the healthiest activities you will ever undertake. God has done far more for us than we could ever do for ourselves—and not just in providing salvation (Psalm 92:4). Reflecting on the thoughts He provides through His Word provokes us to grow and deepen our understanding of ourselves, of others, of our purpose, and of Him (Psalm 92:5-6). By meditating on His Word, we gain perspective amidst tribulation, knowing that the wickedness of the moment will one day pass and be destroyed but that the LORD reigns eternally (Psalm 92:7-9). Seeing life in terms of God’s blessings keeps us humble, knowing that whatever we achieve, we did so because of what God made possible (Psalm 92:10-11). In this, there is no false humility but only confidence rooted in faith, that following God and doing His will leads to blessings and success because we understand success in terms of blessings and our achievements as a testimony to the glory of our God (Psalm 92:12-13). This will sustain us in life and bring comfort without end (Psalm 92:14), because no matter what else happens, we have the LORD as our standard, as our defense, and as our King, and He will never lead us astray (Psalm 92:15).

To some, these thoughts seem as mere platitudes for the weak, but in a faithless age, they increasingly require great courage to maintain. Many wish to eliminate God from public conversation because these thoughts make them uncomfortable. And they are uncomfortable because they themselves stopped thinking about God. Sadly, many Christians’ faith is failing them, and it could so easily be prevented if they would take the time to stop, reflect on God, and meditate on His Word. The godless negativity of the world may seem like the dominant voice in society today, but you do not have to listen to it. So just stop and, instead, take the time to spend with God and His Word.

Kevin W. Rhodes (Christian Worker, Nov.-Dec., 2020)

Celebrate

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

January Birthdays: Kyle Duaine (11), Rachel Smith, (15), Bruce Blasingame (16), Bennie White (16), Tom Wilcox (17), Jaceten Evetts (20), **Mattison Churchwell (25)**, **Jacey Dennard (27)**, **Charles White (30)**.

January Anniversaries: None.

Mistakes? Left Out? Let Johnny know...



Records

	Jan. 10, 2021	Jan. 17, 2021
Bible Class	—	—
AM Worship	15 + [18]	31 + [17]
PM Worship	[30]	[23]
Wednesday PM	[20]	[30]
Contribution	\$1,315	\$2,896

Privileged To Serve

"...be ready to every good work," (Titus 3:1)

	This Week: 1/24/21	Next Week: 1/31/21		
Sunday AM:	Song Leader: Mike Bannister	Song Leader: Mike Bannister	<p>January 2021 Make Announcements: Don Smith Prepare Communion: Barnum Clean Building: Barnum</p> <p>February 2021 Make Announcements: Dex Dennard Prepare Communion: Duaine Clean Building: Duaine</p>	
Greeters	_____	_____		
Opening Prayer	James Fuller	Dex Dennard		
Communion	John Barnum*; Randy Huckaby	Don Smith*; Kyle Dennard		
Closing Prayer	Ryan Rudloff	Tom Wilcox		
Attendance Cards	_____	_____		
Sunday PM:	Online	Online		
Opening Prayer				
Scripture Reading				
Communion				
Closing Prayer				
Wednesday Devotionals:	January 27 Online	February 3 Online	February 10 TBD	February 17 TBD

Search the Scriptures

Be like the Bereans who "received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so." (Acts 17:11)

Studies for the week of January 24, 2021

Sunday Class **Cancelled**
 Wed. Class **Exodus 36:8**

You Are More Valuable Than You Think (Mt. 5:13-16)

- I. "You Are the Salt of the Earth" (Mt. 5:13).
 - A. A Compliment.
 1. Salt Was Valuable.
 - a. What does this say about the earth? That this world has no real value.
 - b. What does this say about Christians? That Christians do have worth – and that the only importance that this world has comes from the presence of Christians.
 2. Salt Gave Flavor.
 - a. What does this say about the earth? That this world is bland, tasteless.
 - b. What does it say about you as a Christian? That you are what gives zest to life.
 3. Salt Had Multiple Uses.
 4. Salt Was a Preservative.
 - a. What does this say about the earth? That this world is decaying, rotting.
 - b. What does this say about Christians? That Christians are the preserving power of the world.
 - B. A Challenge.
 1. Salt has value and has the capacity to be a preservative **because it has distinctive quality.**
 2. We need a distinctive quality – we must be **different** from the world.
- II. "You Are the Light of the World" (Mt. 5:14-16).
 - A. A Compliment.
 1. We share in the **characteristics** of God and Jesus.
 2. The **primary purpose of light** is **positive**: to **dispel darkness.**
 - a. This world is in **darkness.**
 - b. Christians are the **light** of this world.
 3. As Jesus' followers, we are to let our light **shine.**
 - B. A Challenge.
 1. We **must** let our light **shine.**
 - a. "A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden" (14b).
 - b. "Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket" (15a).
 - c. "On a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house" (15b).
 2. "Let your light so shine before men" (16a).

Religious Acts To Be From the Heart, Not For Show (Mt. 6:1-18)

- The emphasis of 5:21-48 and 6:1-18 might be said to be the same: "check your motives." Another parallel between the two sections is Jesus' injunction: "Do not be like them."
- The first verse of chapter 6 establishes the theme of this section: **Secrecy in Piety.** It almost seems like a contradiction with 5:16: "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven."
- I. **Alms-giving** (Mt. 6:2-4).
 - A. The Jews had no governmental social security or welfare system.
 1. Voluntary almsgiving was critical, even a sacred duty (Deut. 15:11).
 2. Often, money was given not to help the poor, not to glorify God, but to attract attention to one's personal piety.
 - B. Jesus is speaking against hypocrisy.
 - C. Jesus is not speaking against financial accountability or keeping track of your benevolence for budgetary/tax purposes.
 - D. We get to choose from where our reward comes (4, 6, 18).
 - II. **Praying** (Mt. 6:7-15).
 - A. We should pray neither like the Pharisees, for public recognition (5-6), nor like the heathen, with "vain repetitions" (7-8).
 - B. Let's first understand what Jesus does not mean.
 1. He is not against public prayer (cf. Acts 1:24; 3:1; 4:24ff, etc.).
 2. He is not against repetition. He tells us to be persistent in prayer.
 - C. **A Model Prayer.**
 - III. **Fasting** (Mt. 6:16-18).
 - A. This is "more of the same."
 - B. As with almsgiving and prayer, when we fast we must not show off our piety, otherwise, the praise of men is the only reward we will get.
 - C. When we fast, and Jesus assumes that we will, we are to go about business as usual.
 1. This does not mean that no one will ever know we are fasting.
 2. What it does mean is that we don't go around announcing it.

The whole of this discussion can be summed up in this question: "Who is your primary audience?" People will watch. People will see. But the real question is, "Do you keep practicing your piety even when no human eye can see?"