

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



May 9, 2021

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 N/A
Worship 6:00 PM

Wednesday:

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

Elders:

Gene Bannister..... Mike Bannister

Billy Chism... Johnny McCaghren

Deacons:

John Barnum..... Don Smith

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

Bible Women Who Might Have Hated Mother's Day

It's that time of year when everywhere you look; there are reminders of motherhood and the upcoming day of celebration. Stores, restaurants, television, social media...it is inescapable.

While many of us have been blessed with wonderful mothers and loving children, I am mindful that there are many who are just holding on, trying to get through another Mother's Day. Some are saddened because their mothers have passed away, while others grieve what they missed by having a less than ideal relationship with their mother.

In some congregations, mothers are asked to stand or be recognized. But there are those sitting in the pews who would give anything to have children, yet face infertility or miscarriages. Still others are hoping to find a Godly husband, while painfully aware that their biological clock is ticking.

There are those mothers who sit alone because they have lost a child, whether to death or to sin. Seeing loving families sitting together at church is a painful reminder of the loss of a beloved child.

While Mother's Day is an American holiday that is just over one hundred years old, I cannot help but think of Bible mothers for whom this day would have been difficult.

Consider:

1. **Mary & Martha.** While we are not told that they desired to have a husband or children, these two women were apparently single sisters living together with their brother Lazarus. Especially living in the society that they did, it is highly probable that they longed for husbands and children (Luke 10:38-42, John 11).
2. **Hannah.** Though eventually the mother of the prophet Samuel, how painful it was to want a child so badly, yet have infertility issues. And as if that wasn't bad enough, she endured continual provoking and berating for years by Peninnah for her infertility (1 Samuel 5-7).
3. **Hagar.** A slave and servant to Abraham's wife Sarah, Hagar became a single mother after giving birth to Abraham's child, Ishmael. Because of her position, she always came in second place to Sarah. I have to wonder if she didn't look at the relationship between Abraham and Sarah and long for the same love and family, yet was the outcast as a single mother (Genesis 21:14).

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How can a young man cleanse his way? By taking heed according to Your word. With my whole heart I have sought You; Oh, let me not wander from Your commandments! Your word I have hidden in my heart, that I might not sin against You. Blessed are You, O Lord! Teach me Your statutes.

Psalm 119:9-12

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

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4. **Jochabed.** The mother of Moses loved her baby enough to selflessly give him up for adoption so that another woman could protect and care for him. Her determination and ingenuity saved his life and he in turn saved the lives of God’s people (Exodus 2:2-10, 6:20).
5. **Eve, Mrs. Job, and Mary.** In the natural order of life, parents are supposed to die first, but what all these women had in common was that they outlived their children. Eve was the first mother to ever lose a child to death. Mrs. Job lost 10 children all in the same day. Mary watched her son be murdered before her eyes. Motherhood would never be the same for these women (Genesis 4:8, Job 1:18-19, John 19:26-27).
6. **Mrs. Manoah.** This faithful woman, who had experienced infertility, was later blessed by the Lord with her son Samson. Though she and her husband tried to raise their child as the Lord had told them, he was influenced by the world and his own passions more than his parents. As much as Mrs. Manoah loved her son, it must have grieved her heart to see him as an adult turning away from the Lord’s commands, ultimately leading to his own destruction (Judges 13-16).

If you find yourself in less than ideal circumstances this Mother’s Day, remember that you are not alone. For many women, this holiday serves as a painful reminder of loss, yet also reminds us of opportunities. There are many children in need of a Godly mother figure in their life. By teaching Bible classes, hosting youth events, summer camp counseling, mentoring, and befriending children, you can influence and make a difference in the life of a child. On the flip side, there are many older women who would love to have a younger woman take an interest and befriend them. Serving, visiting, and spending time with an older woman can give us the mother figure that we may long for when we no longer have our own mother.

Being a mother or a daughter goes far beyond having physical family, it includes being a part of God’s family which is the greatest blessing of all!

Kim Higginbotham (teachinghelp.org)

Consider the Importance of Mother

When many students of the Bible read Matthew chapter one, they are unimpressed and somewhat puzzled by the long list of names of the people in the lineage of Jesus Christ. There are, however, some great lessons in the words of the passage if we carefully look.

Upon closer examination, we see five women mentioned in the genealogy. One commentator said that “Matthew broke the rules doing this because women were not mentioned in the writings of the Rabbis.”

All of these women are mothers. Tamar, who bore twins to her father-in-law, Judah, was accused of “playing the harlot” and was going to be burned until she produced Judah’s signet, cord and staff, according to Genesis 38.

Rahab was the harlot who hid Israel’s spies in Jericho in Joshua 2. Boaz was born through the union of Rahab and Salmon.

Boaz saw Ruth gleaning the fields as she attempted to make a meager living for herself and her mother-in-law. She was not a Jew, but was from Moab. Ruth gave birth to Obed, the father of Jesse who was the father of King David.

Bathsheba was the woman David spied from the roof of his palace as she bathed in 2 Samuel 11. He committed adultery with her and had her husband killed. Solomon was the surviving son from that union.

There were rumors that buzzed around the pregnancy of Mary, betrothed to Joseph, although her son was miraculously conceived (Matthew 1:19).

Not only were some of these women suspected or accused of immoral actions, some of them were Gentiles, also considered as a violation of the rules of propriety.

Yet, each one of these women were mothers who loved their husbands and their sons. That is what mothers do, isn’t it? Each of these mothers also had something important in common. They all played a role in the coming of the son of God.

If there is one important lesson in Matthew chapter one it

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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/

May 9	Genesis 45—46; Psalm 128
May 10	Genesis 47—48; Psalm 129
May 11	Genesis 49—50; Psalm 130
May 12	Exodus 1—3; Ps. 131 (video)
May 13	Exodus 4—6; Ps. 132 (video)
May 14	Exodus 7—9; Psalm 133
May 15	Exodus 10—12; Psalm 134
May 16	Exodus 13—15; Psalm 135

“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 **23** contacts were made.

Announcements

- ◆ **Bangs** is having a **Gospel Meeting** this week, with various preachers from the 9th & Main congregation speaking. More information on the bulletin board.
- ◆ We will have a **Congregational Meeting** next Sunday afternoon at 4:00. Please make every effort to attend.

Upcoming Area Events

- ◆ May 9-12—**Gospel Meeting** at Bangs (see bulletin board)
- ◆ June 8—**Summer Youth Series** begins at Bangs (Each Tuesday evening through the summer; we host August 10)
- ◆ June 27—July 1—**Junior Camp** (applications available)
- ◆ July 18-23—**Senior Camp** (applications available)

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must be the importance of mother. Perhaps only one of these five mothers knew they were bringing God's only begotten son into the world, but all of them had a part.

Mothers do such an important job, but, few people notice them because they are usually humble, hard workers. They make great sacrifices to bring their children into the world and nurture them, but few people see their labor. While it may be difficult to see the important work these women did in bringing God the Son into the world, there is no mistaking the impact they had on the history of the world and on our own salvation.

John Henson (forthright.net)

Lessons from Motherhood

I remember sitting on the steps of my childhood home and talking with my mother. Her eyes widened when I told her that I was never going to have children. That was over twenty years and five kids ago.

I have learned many lessons being a mother. Here are a few:

- One cup of fabric softener will conquer and subdue the mountain of bubbles that will come from accidentally using Dawn in your dishwasher.
- It is impossible to vacuum up beef stew from your kitchen floor. However, your ten year old son doesn't know this and will use your brand new vacuum anyway.
- Your young children will pick the worst time imaginable (such as standing in line at the funeral visitation of a dear Christian friend) to loudly ask you what the most obscene word in the world means.
- Hands down, peanut butter is the best substance for removing bubble gum from hair (including the family dog's).
- Your beautiful, innocent newborn baby will one day turn into a back-talking, door-slamming teen.
- Even though they might break their neck, one of your children will use their mattress to slide down the stairs.
- Another one of your children will think its cool and record it. This stair-surfing fiasco may end up on YouTube before you ever find out about it.
- No matter how many times you warn them, kids with braces will sneak taffy candy or licorice. Don't be surprised when your orthodontist thanks you for sending "his" kids to college.
- The many sermons you've heard on the mercy of God will come to mind as you stare into the eyes of the child who returns the family car with a few dents and a missing side mirror.

Although I have learned many lessons throughout my years of motherhood, the greatest is that regardless of what my children do, I will never stop loving them. I have a feeling that God feels the same way about me.

I know I've caused Him heartache. I'm certain there were times when He was disappointed yet through all of my failures, He never gave up on me and not once did He forsake me (Heb. 13:5).

What a comfort to know that nothing can or will separate us from the deep abiding love of our God (Rom. 8:38-39).

Life is full of lessons. Let the greatest one you learn be about the love, grace, and mercy of our Heavenly Father.

"See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God..." 1 John 3:1.

Paula Harrington (forthright.net)

Celebrate

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

May Birthdays: Ian Barnum (5), Rosa ShaeLynn Fuller (6), David Milam (7), **Pam Teague (14)**, Billy Chism (15), Gracen Hardy (30)..

April Anniversaries: Ryan & Tammy Rudloff (7).

Mistakes? Left Out? Let Johnny know...



Records

	April 25, 2021	May 2, 2021
Bible Class	29	37
AM Worship	36 + [10]	40
PM Worship	29 + [8]	39
Wednesday PM	31 + [6]	31
Contribution	\$1,665	\$1,873

	This Week: 5/9/21	Next Week: 5/16/21		
Sunday AM:	Song Leader: Mike Bannister	Song Leader: Mike Bannister	<p>May 2021 Make Announcements: Don Smith Prepare Communion: Maninger Family Clean Building: Randy & Laura Huckaby</p> <p>June 2021 Make Announcements: Ken Maninger Prepare Communion: John Barnum Family Clean Building: John Barnum Family</p>	
Greeters	_____	_____		
Opening Prayer	Tom Wilcox	Don Smith		
Communion	James Fuller*, Daniel Edwards John Barnum, Ryan Settles	Ken Maninger*, Kyle Duaine Ryan Rudloff, Coyce Reed		
Closing Prayer	Rafe Smith	Randy Huckaby		
Attendance Cards	_____	_____		
Sunday PM:	Song Leader: Dex Dennard	Song Leader: James Fuller		
Opening Prayer	Ken Maninger	Tom Wilcox		
Scripture Reading	_____	_____		
Communion	James Fuller	Ken Maninger		
Closing Prayer	Chase Churchwell	John Barnum		
Wednesday Devotionals:	May 12 Dex Dennard	May 19 Rafe Smith	May 26 Don Smith	June 2 Prayer Night

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 May 9, 2021

Sunday Class *1 Corinthians 15:11*
 Wed. Class *Leviticus 14:1*

Free From Uncleaness (Leviticus 11-15)

Some of the strangest laws found in Leviticus, and throughout the law of Moses, are the statutes relating to *cleanness* and *uncleanness*.

I. What Did the Laws of Uncleanness Require?

- Chapter 11 tells of certain animals being clean and others being unclean.
- Chapter 12 deals with the birth of a child.
- Chapter 13-14 concern what is called "*leprosy*."
- Chapter 15 gives instructions regarding bodily discharges (men and women).
- In summary, cleanness was the ordinary and desirable state of a person.

II. What Were the Characteristics of Uncleanness?

- One unique characteristic of uncleanness is that it was "contagious," much like a communicable disease.
- Certain categories of creatures were unclean, but no group of humans was categorically unclean.
- Uncleanness was not sinfulness, but ceremonial impurity.
- The law provided a solution for uncleanness.
- Uncleanness could lead to sin.

III. What Were the Reasons For God's Laws of Uncleanness?

- To keep those holy things from being desecrated.
- These laws contributed to the Israelites' health and well-being.
- To help distinguish His people from other peoples.

IV. How Do the Laws of Uncleanness Apply to Us Today?

- What We Should Not Learn.** We should never assume that the things that were unclean to the Israelites are unclean for us today.
- What We Should Learn.**
 - The laws of uncleanness related to food are not binding, but Christians may need to observe some of them for the sake of other Christians.
 - While the laws of uncleanness are not binding on us today, some of them do suggest practices that may be helpful or healthful for people today.
 - The laws of uncleanness can best be applied by seeing them as a shadow of New Testament laws.
 - The New Testament does not require Christians to be *ritually pure*, but it does require us to be *morally pure*.
 - The church is, as Israel was, a "*holy nation*."

A Girl Restored to Life and a Woman Healed (Mt. 9:18-26; Mk. 5:21-43; Lk. 8:40-56)

A common theme runs through the healing of the demoniac, the woman with an issue of blood, and Jairus' daughter – all were considered ritually unclean.

A key word in this sequence of events is "*belief*" or "*faith*."

I. A Girl Restored to Life – the Beginning (Mt. 9:18-19; Mk. 5:21-24; Lk. 8:40-42).

- This girl is Jairus' only child, not merely his only daughter.
- She is about 12 years old – the age when a Jewish girl became a woman.
- Jairus, as a synagogue ruler, is a prominent member of his community.
- In his moment of need, Jairus humbles himself by falling at Jesus' feet.

II. A Woman Healed (Mt. 9:20-22; Mk. 5:25-34; Lk. 8:43-48).

- The crowd is "crushing" Jesus.
- The procession is brought to a screeching halt by this unnamed woman.
 - She has been bleeding for 12 years.
 - This is not just a medical problem; it is a social problem as well.
- She is apparently acting out of Hellenistic superstition, assumed that a healer's power was transferred to his clothes – but she gets results!
- Jesus is aware that power left Him.
 - He asks who touched His clothes.
 - Did Jesus really not know who touched Him?
- The woman, who hoped to go unnoticed, did not.
- "*Daughter, your faith has made you well. Go in peace, and be healed of your affliction*" (Mk. 5:34).

III. A Girl Restored to Life – the Conclusion (Mt. 9:23-26; Mk. 5:35-43; Lk. 8:49-56).

- If the ruler was frustrated by the delay, the frustration turned to despair when he heard the news, "*Your daughter is dead*" (Mk. 5:35).
- Jesus said to him tenderly, "*Do not be afraid; only believe, and she will be made well*" (Lk. 8:50).
- Outside the house there is quite a commotion.
 - Jesus tells them to stop mourning, that she is not dead but only asleep.
 - They know when someone is dead. They are not stupid; but think Jesus is.
- Going in the house with Peter, James, John, and the girl's parents, Jesus speaks to her, "*Little girl, I say to you, arise [get up]*" (Mk. 5:41). Then "*her spirit returned, and she arose immediately*" (Lk. 8:55). She "*arose and walked*" (Mk. 5:42).