

# 4<sup>th</sup> & 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



March 27, 2011

## 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 ..... 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

## Practical Points for Bible Study

By Kevin W. Rhodes

Many people want to study the Bible but do not even know where to begin. That is natural, when you think about it. Bible study is not something that comes by instinct. However, there are some basic approach and techniques that can help you as you make an effort to incorporate studying the Bible into your way of life.

The first thing you must do is **set aside time just for Bible study**. Now, this will vary each day depending upon your schedule and the time you have available. For some people, who have about the same schedule each day, adding a set time, say between thirty minutes to an hour, to study the Bible each day makes the most sense. For those with schedules that vary greatly, such as in police work, fire fighting, or nursing, it would make more sense to set aside longer periods to study on days off. Whatever your schedule may be, you should redeem the time (Eph. 5:16) and make Bible study a priority instead of allowing yourself to fill your schedule with all sorts of activities while forgetting to study your Bible.

Second, try to **find a comfortable place where you can devote yourself just to studying the Bible**. The psalmist wrote, "Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night" (Ps. 1: 1-2). You cannot possibly devote yourself to Bible study while surrounding yourself with the wrong kind of things. More than that, you should find a place where you can think deeply and clearly about what God says. You should always prefer a quiet place where you will not be interrupted to a high traffic area where other things are constantly calling for your attention.

Thirdly, **have a plan!** Do not try a scattergun approach to studying the Bible. Now, you might incorporate a number of different studies and approaches to your studies, but they should all be directed toward specific spiritual goals. Many of the correspondence course type studies offer good general information but they can keep you reliant on the material instead of on God's Word if you are not careful. Therefore, the best plan is always to study what God says (I Pet. 4:11). But when you begin, make sure you start with something easier. No matter how interested you might be in the book of Revelation, that should be one of the last books you study rather than the first. Choose simple and practical over deep and technical. Begin with either Matthew, Mark, or Luke rather than John. Prefer James and Colossians to Romans and Hebrews. And do not forget to go

*(Continued on page 3)*

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



*"Blessed be the LORD, who has given rest to His people Israel,  
according to all He promised;  
not one word has failed of all His good promise,  
which He promised thru Moses His servant."*

*1 Kings 8:56*

# An Interesting Explanation For Immodesty In The 21st Century

By Neal Pollard

Dan Williams sends out a very good daily email called “Preacher Stuff,” and today’s edition included an article by the Wall Street Journal entitled, “Why Do We Let Them Dress Like That?” It is incredible to find a secular, media source taking a decided stance on a moral issue. Jennifer Moses, a secular Jew, writes with her theory for why teen and pre-teen girls dress so immodestly these days. She cites the experience of her own generation, the generation currently raising children, as being the first “to have grown up with widely available birth control...the feminist and post-feminist and postpill generation...and now...scads of us don’t know how to teach our own sons and daughters not to give away their bodies so readily” (wsj.com). That girls today complain to their mothers that it is no big deal or just the style is no different from what other generations of teens have said to their parents, reminds Moses. Yet, saddled with guilt, struggling with denial, or longing to bond with their daughters, she thinks this contributes to the ever-lowering of modesty standards. And, with salacious, saturated sexuality on display everywhere you look, the pressure to conform mixed with parental baggage continues to trigger an increasing trend to take the foot off the brake and put both feet on the accelerator.

Christian parents are striving to raise godly daughters in the midst of this generation. Jesus called His day an adulterous and sinful generation (Mark 8:38), an unbelieving and perverse generation (Luke 9:41), and a wicked generation (Luke 11:29). From what we read of His day, surely our own qualifies as the same. Few with influence in society at large encourage our girls to cover up, minimize provocativeness, or hide their sexuality from public view. For that, Christians must heed the urging and instruction of Scripture. Certainly, Paul (1 Tim. 2:9) and Peter (1 Pet. 3:3) remind Christian women that their

**“...let your adorning be the hidden person of the heart with the imperishable beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which in God's sight is very precious.” (1 Peter 3:3-4, ESV)**

## Changes

Well, it probably did not take you long to notice a few changes in the bulletin this week! I have been working over the last few weeks to update our website and at the same time wanted to unify the look between it and the bulletin as well as other correspondence we put out and I think this helps towards that end. So the website has now been changed to take advantage of some different technologies that I hope will prove useful to those who use it as well as attracting the interest of others. The bulletin as well underwent some changes to space things out a little and hopefully be more readable.

Also necessitating some changes in the bulletin was the need to list a few more “assignments” on the back page. As discussed in some recent elders meetings, we wanted to have monthly assignments for communion preparers, building cleaners, yard workers, and announcement makers. There is a calendar of these assignments on the bulletin board and they will also be listed on the back page of the bulletin as a reminder. I have contacted most who are assigned to fill these positions (based on the forms we filled out back in the fall) but if you wish to be removed or added to the list, just let me know. ~Ryan Smithey

focus is not to be merely on the external but to be modest and discreet. The Lord does not want males or females accentuating their physical but rather their spiritual—the hidden person of the heart. Repeatedly, New Testament writers condemn “sensuality” (Mark 7:22; Rom. 13:13; 2 Cor. 12:21; Gal. 5:19; etc.). Immodest clothing—be it brief, form-fitting, or the like—is unquestionably sensual. Having a rational, reasonable explanation for the current immodest trends of society might appeal to our minds, but the Lord wants to reach our hearts. We are here for the purpose of leading other people to heaven. Everything about us ought to be a force that attracts people’s hearts to the Lord, not lures them away from Him! Let us, men, women, boys and girls, be a source of light in a world of darkness (cf. Matt. 5:13-16)!

### Television

The Truth In Love (Eddie Parrish)  
Sunday @ 7:00 am on KTAB  
In Search of the Lord’s Way  
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)

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

### Daily Bible Reading Schedule

*“...desire the sincere milk of the work, that ye may grow thereby;” (1 Pet. 2:2)*

Sun:	Deut. 21-22	Luke 3:1-8
Mon	Deut. 23-25	Luke 3:19-38
Tue:	Deut. 26-27	Luke 4:1-15
Wed:	Deut. 28-29	Luke 4:16-44
Thu:	Deut. 30-31	Luke 5:1-16
Fri:	Deut. 32	Luke 5:17-39
Sat.	Deut. 33-34	Luke 6:1-26



(Continued from page 1)

through Acts to see how the church should work. Prefer the historical works of the Old Testament to gain important background instead of trying to figure out prophecy. Most of all, focus on what you should be doing as a Christian rather than just gathering information.

Fourth, **do not try to cover too much**. While every person has his own idea of what too little or too much might be, a Bible student should always emphasize quality over quantity. Understanding one book of the Bible correctly will do far more for you than misunderstanding several books. At the most, one chapter per week is a good goal in the New Testament, and perhaps two to four in the Old Testament, depending upon the material. Less than this is fine, if you are really working to understand the material thoroughly.

Fifth, remember to **take notes as you go**. Notes serve many purposes. Just taking them helps you remember more of what you studied. More than that, taking notes provides you with a foundation to build on each and every time you study that same material. Your notes might just consist of asking questions you have as you go through the text. It might be that you see something you really need to work on as you study. Or you might realize an important connection between that scripture and something else. The more you write down, the more you will gain from your efforts.

Sixth, take time to **reflect on what you have studied** (1 Tim. 4:15). After you complete your study, spend a few moments just thinking about what you have learned and how it can help you in your Christianity and in life. Then do the same at the close of the day. When possible, talk it with a friend, because when you explain what you are learning to someone else, you are learning all over again (1 Tim. 4:16).

What you should realize from this is that you can do all of these things from the very first day. Of course, these things do not guarantee that you will understand everything right away, but that rarely happens even after years of study. What this will do is help get you started, and that is important, because if you do not start studying, you cannot possibly learn anything.

### Visitation Program

Remember our **visitation meeting following** evening worship services; last week 35 contacts were made.

### Ladies Bible Class

Remember the **Ladies Bible Class** each Wednesday at 10 AM in the fellowship hall. We are studying the Life of Christ.

### Bible Search Today

Park Heights is hosting today's Bible Search over Acts 21-24; it starts at 2:30 PM. If you need a ride, we will meet at the building and leave at 1 PM.

### Thank You...

Your kindness is very much appreciated. I feel better when I get a card from you all and for the prayers, thanks so much.

~Kathy Burcham

### Upcoming Events...

(check board for more information)

- ◆ March 27-30—Meeting at Rising Star with Darwin Hunter
- ◆ April 3-6—Meeting at Hico with Tyler Young
- ◆ April 7-9—Meeting at Hamilton with Brad Harrub
- ◆ April 9—Ladies Day at Deleon
- ◆ April 10—Barnum Baby Shower at 3:00 PM.

## Celebrate

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

**Remaining March Birthdays:** Jessica Stultz (28), Ethel Adams (29).

**April Birthdays:** Julie Baker (01), Ginger King (08), Kristi Maninger (09), Darlene Smith (10), Ken Makuta (13), Earlene Burge (17), Birdie Reynolds (17).

**April Anniversaries:** Tina & John Barnum (08).

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



## Records

	March 13, 2011	March 20, 2011
Bible Class	45	59
AM Worship	73	82
PM Worship	48	42
Wednesday PM	45	49
Contribution	\$1640	\$1604

# Privileged To Serve

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

	This Week: 3/27/11	Next Week: 4/3/11		
<b>Sunday AM:</b>			<b>April 2011</b> <b>Make Announcements:</b> Ken Maninger <b>Prepare Communion:</b> John Barnum Family <b>Clean Building:</b> Ryan & Priscilla Smithey <b>Keep Grounds:</b> Allen Griffith  <b>May 2011</b> <b>Make Announcements:</b> Jim Moore <b>Prepare Communion:</b> Gene & Barbara Bannister <b>Clean Building:</b> Billy & Peggy Chism <b>Keep Grounds:</b> James Fuller	
<b>Greeters</b>	Mileen & Ashley Kalich	John Barnum Family		
<b>Opening Prayer</b>	Ken Makuta	Allen Griffith		
<b>Communion</b>	Allen Griffith*, Jim Moore Garrett Barnum, Michael Bickford	Don Smith*, Michael Fuller John Barnum, Ken Makuta		
<b>Closing Prayer</b>	Tom Wilcox	Gene Bannister		
<b>Attendance Cards</b>	Chase Churchwell/Seth Smithey	Chase Churchwell/Seth Smithey		
<b>Sunday PM:</b>				
<b>Opening Prayer</b>	Gene Bannister	Jim Moore		
<b>Scripture Reading</b>	James Fuller 2 Timothy 3:14-17	Hank Wheeler		
<b>Communion</b>	Allen Griffith	Don Smith		
<b>Closing Prayer</b>	Billy Chism	James Thomas		
<b>Wednesday Devotionals:</b>	March 30 Ken Makuta	April 6 Michael Bickford	April 13 Allen Griffith	April 20 Jim Moore

## 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)*

<b>Studies for the week of March 27, 2001</b>		Sunday Class .....2 Corinthians (Chap. 11-12)
		Wednesday Class..... Nahum (Chap. 2-3)
<p><b>What The Blind Man Saw (Mark 10:46-52)</b>  <i>Even though blind, Bartimaeus had great vision because:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>He saw a need:</b> Sight                     <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>He recognized his need and sought to correct it.</li> <li>Many will refuse to see that they are spiritually blind and so never seek to change (John 9:39-41; Matt. 13:14-17).</li> </ol> </li> <li><b>He saw what mattered:</b> Jesus                     <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>He only called upon one person out of the crowd—Jesus.</li> <li>But many who could physically see Jesus made no distinction in who He was (John 8:24, 31-32, 20:30-31).</li> </ol> </li> <li><b>He saw opportunity:</b> A chance for sight                     <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Surely he was overjoyed at the thought of Jesus being so near, he would not waste this opportunity.</li> <li>But how many others squander countless opportunities? Is there not still an urgency (2 Cor. 6:2)? Do we realize that any one might be our last opportunity (James 4:14; Eccl. 9:10; Eph. 5:15-16; Heb. 3:13)?</li> </ol> </li> <li><b>He saw:</b> Sight Restored                     <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Imagine the joy he must have felt at being able to see!</li> <li>Faith will still make one whole today (Eph. 2:8-9; 2 Tim. 3:16-17): faith that believes God (Heb. 11:6) and obeys (Mark 16:15-16; Heb. 5:9) producing joy (Acts 8:39).</li> </ol> </li> <li><b>He saw a need:</b> To Follow                     <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Surely he was more convinced this was the Son of God.</li> <li>Jesus continued to be what mattered, not only was He a savior but a shepherd (John 10:10-11, 27-28).</li> </ol> </li> </ol>	<p><b>Improper Attitudes Towards Sin</b>  <i>Attitude toward sin will determine our actions (Matt. 15:18)</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Deny It</b> – Claim it does not exist. But the Bible states sin is a fact (1 John 3:4) and a universal plague (Isa. 53:6; Rom. 3:23; 1 John 1:8-10) that sent Jesus to the cross (Isa. 53:5; Matt. 26:28; Rom. 4:25) and has destroyed many throughout history (Flood, Sodom, mighty nations, etc.).</li> <li><b>Mock It</b> – Foolish/deadly attitude (Prov. 14:9) that jokes about sin rather than mourns (Jer 6:15; Pro 14:34; Rom 1:32).</li> <li><b>Love It</b> – Getting caught up in the temporary pleasures of sin (Heb. 11:25, 2 Pet. 2:15, 1 John 2:15-17) and loving it more than truth (Ps. 52:3, Amos 5:15, Rev. 22:15).</li> <li><b>Minimize It</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Not calling it what it is – euphemisms (Isa. 5:20).</li> <li>Making it inconsequential – refusing to see or show the wages of sin (Prov. 17:15; Gal. 6:7-8).</li> <li>Rationalize it – try to say we are not responsible for our actions or make excuses rather than be convicted (Mark 7:18-23; 2 Tim. 3:16, 4:2; Acts 2:37-38).</li> <li>Not serious about it – not teaching against sin and not evangelizing thereby saying sin is not important (1 Cor. 5:2, 6; Matt. 18:11-17; Mark 16:15-16).</li> <li>Distinguish between sins – either our sins and another’s (Matt. 7:3-5; Rom. 2:1) or “classifying” sins (Jms 2:9-11).</li> </ol> </li> <li><b>Dismiss It</b> – try to deal with another time (Acts 24:25), which may never come (1 Tim. 4:1-2; Heb. 3:13; Jms 4:14).</li> </ol>	