

# 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 8, 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  
Heart of Texas Bible Camp (Bangs)  
House to House, Heart to Heart  
Mission Printing  
Rohan Jones, Africa  
The Truth in Love  
World Bible School

## ARE YOU AND I A GOOD EXAMPLE TO OTHERS?

by Roger D. Campbell

To the saints in Thessalonica, the apostle Paul wrote, "And ye became followers of us, and of the Lord, having received the word in much affliction, with joy of the Holy Ghost. So that ye were ensamples to all that believe in Macedonia and Achaia. For from you sounded out the word of the Lord not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but also in every place your faith to God-ward is spread abroad; so that we need not to speak any thing" (1 Thessalonians 1:6-8). These brothers and sisters in Christ had made a great change in their lives. They forsook their idols to become servants of the true and living God (1:9). After making that change, they had become a great example for others to imitate. They were strong in faith, and because of this they had preached the word of God in their own area (Macedonia) and in other places as well (1:8).

Each day others see our conduct and hear our speech. What kind of example are we showing them, a good one or a bad one? The Holy Spirit says, "Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves..." (2 Cor. 13:5). It is important for each child of God to regularly evaluate himself. This requires honesty and courage to see and admit the truth. When our brethren, friends and family members see our behavior, just what do they see? Can we honestly say that we would be glad for others to imitate our example? Maybe it is time for some self-evaluation.

Surely none of us would doubt the need to be a good example for others. Living a holy life is part of what a Christian must do, for the Lord God tells us to be holy as He is holy (1 Peter 1:15,16). Being a good example is part of following Jesus Christ, for we must imitate Him, and His example was always good. "For even hereunto were ye called; because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps" (1 Peter 2:21). Jesus said that His disciples are "the salt of the earth" and "the light of the world" (Matthew 5:13,14). So what is a disciple's responsibility? "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven" (5:16). Does this not show that those who truly follow Christ must be a good example for others? We read in 1 Peter 2:12: "Having your conversation (conduct, RDC) honest among the Gentiles; that, whereas they speak against you as evildoers, they may by your good works, which they shall behold, glorify God in the day of visitation."

The apostle Paul charged two evangelists to be a pattern or good example for others to imitate. He wrote to Timothy, "Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity" (1 Timothy 4:12). To Titus he also wrote, "In all things shewing thyself a pattern of good works . . ." (Titus 2:7). Yes, these passages were originally written to gospel preachers, but in principle the command to be a pattern for others would apply to all Christians. Just what kind of example are you and I demonstrating before our friends, family members and other followers of Christ?

What happens when others observe a child of God who is not acting like he ought to? Just what are some consequences of a member of the church being a bad example?

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*Show yourself in all respects to be a model of good works,  
and in your teaching show integrity, dignity, and sound speech  
that cannot be condemned, so that an opponent may be put to shame,  
having nothing evil to say about us.*

Titus 2:7-8

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

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First of all, if we do not conduct ourselves in a godly manner, then others will probably lose their respect for us or lose confidence in us. If we lie to them, will they believe us the next time we tell them something? Probably not. If we tell dirty stories, will they believe that our heart is pure? Surely not! Another consequence of being a poor example is that we become a stumblingblock to others. "Woe unto him through whom offenses come" (Luke 17:1). If our friends see us acting in an ungodly way, perhaps they will say, "If that is the way true Christians act, then I do not want to become a Christian." If our children see us, their parents, acting like a child of the devil, then they will probably act the same way. The bad example of a Christian often costs him the opportunity to teach others the gospel. Why? Because most people will not sit down and listen to one who does not support what he teaches with a good example. No one respects a hypocrite, and the world sees us as hypocrites when we preach the truth, but do not live according to it ourselves. When members of the church live in an ungodly manner, the world says to them, "Thou therefore which teaches another, teachest thou not thyself . . ." (Romans 2:21).

Another horrible consequence of being a bad example is that God's name is blasphemed. Of the Jews who acted as hypocrites the apostle Paul wrote this very thing: "For the name of God is blasphemed among the Gentiles through you, as it is written" (Romans 2:24). Christians are the "people of God" (1 Peter 2:10), so when the world sees that we are living immorally, then its reaction is often to speak against the Lord God. How tragic, and all simply because some members of the church do not show the world the pattern of godliness that it needs. Jesus wants His church to be glorious, without spot, wrinkle or blemish, and holy (Ephesians 5:27).

Christ's name and His church suffer reproach when disciples fail to be good examples. Yet another unfortunate consequence of the bad example of members of the church is that it causes other Christians, especially new brothers and sisters, to become discouraged or lose hope. When the twelve spies whom Moses sent to the land of Canaan returned and gave a report to the children of Israel, what was the result of their message? Of the ten (Caleb and Joshua were not in this number) who said that Israel could not con-

quer Canaan, Moses later said, "...they discouraged the heart of the children of Israel, that they should not go into the land which the Lord had given them" (Numbers 32:9). Yes, it is possible that a poor example among God's people can work like leaven. "A little leaven leaveneth the whole lump" (Galatians 5:9).

Since our conversion to Christ, have you and I really changed that much? Is our conduct really different now from what it was before we were baptized into Christ? In the church at Corinth there were those who lived wickedly before they obeyed the gospel. "Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived; neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God. And such were some of you; but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God" (1 Corinthians 6:9-11). If we committed fornication before our baptism, have we ceased doing that? If we were drunkards before we came to Christ, have we forsaken this sin, or do we still hide a bottle of liquor in our house? If we stole before we entered Christ, have we repented, or do we still take what does not really belong to us? "Let him that stole steal no more..." (Ephesians 4:28). Before we became Christians, most of us probably did not willingly forgive others. Do we now? "And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you" (Ephesians 4:32). Again, we ask: has our conduct really changed since our conversion? If not, then what kind of example are you and I showing the world? What about our thinking? Do we now think differently than we did before we obeyed the gospel? Is our heart still filled with pride, like it was before we came to Christ? "Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up" (James 4:10). Do we always see and point out the faults of others, while at the same time we are blind to our own mistakes and weaknesses? If so, it is time to change! "...for wherein thou judgest another, thou condemnest thyself; for thou that judgest doest the same things" (Romans 2:1). In the past we loved the world, its lusts and its pleasures. What about now? Do we regret that we became a Christian and in the process sacrificed the

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Television	God's Plan for Redeeming Man	Daily Bible Reading Schedule
The Truth In Love (Eddie Parrish) Sunday @ 7:00 am on KTAB	<b>Hear</b> Learn the saving message of Christ's sacrifice (1 Cor. 1:18; Rom. 10:17).	"...desire the sincere milk of the work, that ye may grow thereby;" (1 Pet. 2:2)
In Search of the Lord's Way Sunday @ 7:30 am on KTAB	<b>Believe</b> Jesus is the Son of God (John 8:24)	Sun: 2 Samuel 4-6 Luke 23:1-25
Gospel Broadcasting Network Online: 24/7 @ gbntv.org	<b>Confess</b> Jesus as your Lord, Lawgiver, and King (Rom. 10:9-10; Matt. 10:32-33)	Mon 2 Samuel 7-10 Luke 23:26-56
Good News Today: Sunday @ 6:00 am on Dish: 259, DirectTV: 364, Harris: 208	<b>Repent</b> of your sinful conduct (Luke 13:3,5)	Tue: 2 Sam. 11-12 Luke 24:1-12
<b>Radio</b>	<b>Complete</b> your initial obedience to the gospel by being <b>baptized</b> for the forgiveness of your sins (Acts 2:38; 22:16)	Wed: 2 Sam. 13-14 Luke 24:13-35
Preaching the Word (Michael Light) Sunday @ 9:00am on KOXE 101.3	<b>Live faithfully</b> (Rev. 2:10; 2 Tim. 4:7-8)	Thu: 2 Sam. 15-16 Luke 24:36-53
		Fri: 2 Sam. 17-18 John 1:1-34
		Sat. 2 Sam. 19-20 John 1:35-51



# Happy Mother's Day

"Honor your father and mother" (Eph. 6:2)



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things of the world? Do we still have a desire to fulfill the lusts of the flesh? If so, then it is time to change! "Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him" (1 John 2:15). Before our conversion most of us thought only about ourselves. Has our attitude really changed? God tells His children: "Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others" (Philippians 2:4). If we used to become angry easily, do we still (Ephesians 4:26)? If we used to hate others, do we still (Titus 3:3)? If we used to rebel against God's authority, do we still (Hebrews 12:28,29)?

And what about our speech? Do we speak differently than we did when we were still in Satan's kingdom? If we used to lie and deceive, do we still do so, or have we changed? "Wherefore putting away lying, speak every man truth with his neighbour; for we are members one of another" (Ephesians 4:25). Many of us in the past spoke evil of others. Have we changed? "Wherefore laying aside all malice, and all guile, and hypocrisies, and envies, and all evil speaking" (1 Peter 2:1). Before their conversion to Christ, many, especially men, told dirty stories. What about you and I, do we still do this, or have we changed? "Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying..." (Ephesians 4:29). Christians are to be courteous, speaking to bless and not curse, and with meekness (1 Peter 3:8,9,15). What kind of example are we showing others by our speech?

Are you and I a good example to others? We have asked many questions in this article, but not with the idea of accusing any specific person of wrongdoing. Rather we have asked them to help all of us seriously evaluate ourselves. What about the example that we are showing others by our conduct, speech and attitude? If others would imitate our pattern, would they be pleasing to the Lord? If not, then it is time for us to make some changes! May God bless all of His children who truly strive to be the light of the world and salt of the earth.

Records	April 24, 2011	May 1, 2011
Bible Class	66	51
AM Worship	87	72
PM Worship	41	58
Monday PM	N/A	64
Tuesday PM	N/A	85
Wed. Class	N/A	26
Wednesday PM	51	51
Contribution	\$1588	\$1745

## Missing Dishes?

You may have even forgotten them! Some dishes have been left at the building following various events and need to be claimed. They are now in the fellowship hall; please look and see if any belong to you, otherwise they will soon be donated or used.

## Upcoming Events...

### Ladies Bible Class

The Ladies Bible Class meets each Wednesday at 10 AM...join us as we study the Life of Christ.



### Camp Applications

Summer camp applications for both Jr. & Sr. sessions are now available at the back of the auditorium. Please complete and return these forms as soon as possible. Spaces will be limited this year

### Area Events:

- ◆ May 15-18: **Gospel Meeting at DeLeon** with Keith Mosher.
- ◆ May 15, 1:30-3:00 PM: **Bridal Shower for Anna Hall** at Bangs; invitation/details on bulletin board.
- ◆ Mark your calendars for the upcoming **Summer Youth Series**, hosted by area congregations every Tuesday night at 7 PM from June 7th to August 9th look for schedule details soon.

**Thank you...**to all who helped make the recent meeting such a great success; all CDs requested are ready. Let Ryan know if you still want a set. Also, thank you to all who contributed food for Cherokee Day.

## Celebrate

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

**May Birthdays:** Barbara Bannister (10), Nita Karla Boyd (14), Kami Hardy (14), Pam Teague (14), Caitlin Barnum (15), Billy Chism (15), Peg Moore (17), Randy Brubaker (23), Ryan Smithey (23), Peggy Luker (28), Gracen Hardy (30).

Mistakes? Left Out? Let Ryan know...



# Privileged To Serve

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

	This Week: 5/8/11	Next Week: 5/15/11		
<b>Sunday AM:</b>			<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>June 2011</b> <b>Make Announcements:</b> Tom Wilcox <b>Prepare Communion:</b> Michael & Diana Bickford <b>Clean Building:</b> Jim & Peg Moore <b>Keep Grounds:</b> Ryan Smithey	
<b>Greeters</b>	The Maninger Family	Ken Makuta & Hank Wheeler		
<b>Opening Prayer</b>	Garrett Barnum	James Thomas		
<b>Communion</b>	Ken Maninger* Ken Makuta James Fuller, John Barnum	Hank Wheeler*, Michael Fuller Garrett Barnum, Tom Wilcox		
<b>Closing Prayer</b>	Gene Bannister	Michael Bickford		
<b>Attendance Cards</b>	Chase Churchwell/Seth Smithey	Chase Churchwell/Seth Smithey		
<b>Sunday PM:</b>				
<b>Opening Prayer</b>	Allen Griffith	Matthew Churchwell		
<b>Scripture Reading</b>	Michael Bickford Jude 17-21	John Barnum		
<b>Communion</b>	Ken Maninger	Hank Wheeler		
<b>Closing Prayer</b>	Jim Moore	Don Smith		
<b>Wednesday Devotionals:</b>	May 11 Ken Makuta	May 18 Michael Bickford	May 25 Allen Griffith	June 1 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 May 8, 2011</b>		Sunday Class ..... Galatians (Chap. 1-2)	Wednesday Class..... Singing/Ryan at Lectureship
<p><b>Jochebed - A Quiet, But Influential Mother (Exodus 2)</b>                      This is a mother of whom we know little, but it seems she had a giant impact on the life of an important Old Testament figure. Her name is Jochebed (Ex. 6:20), and she teaches us about:</p> <p><b>1. Love</b></p> <p>a. Her actions show a love for life and for her son.                      b. So many murder their children through abortions or destroy them through neglect, but she sought to save the life of her son – surely recognizing he was a special gift from God (Ps. 127:3; 139:14-16).</p> <p><b>2. Faith</b></p> <p>a. Heb. 11:23 says Moses' parents hid him in faith; the Hebrews knew what was right and God was showing favor to them in sparing their sons lives (Ex. 1:17, 20-21).                      c. So they feared God rather than man! (Acts 5:29).                      d. We must be willing to be different from society and rear our children in the fear of God, not society, teaching them what is right even when not popular (cf. Matt. 19:4-6; Prov. 23:13; 29:15; Heb. 12:9; Eph. 6:4; 2 Tim. 1:5; 3:15)</p> <p><b>3. Influence</b></p> <p>a. Moses was trained in worldly knowledge (Acts 7:22), but also learned about God (Acts 7:23, 25; Heb. 11:24-25).                      b. While just supposition, it seems reasonable that Jochebed was part of that influence.                      c. We need to be an influence in our children's life teaching them about God and having unimaginable influence on many (Deut. 6:6-9; Eph. 6:4; 2 Tim. 2:2; Titus 2:3-5).</p>		<p><b>Responsibilities To The Faith</b></p> <p>We often concentrate on the benefits received of the gospel but we need to remember that those blessings also come with great responsibilities:</p> <p><b>1. Conviction</b></p> <p>a. Our faith is that which we believe but it should be firmly grounded in The Faith revealed by God (Rom. 10:17).                      b. We need to ask if we are truly convicted or if it is some guess (Heb. 11:1, 6); true conviction will lead us to obedience (Acts 6:7, 8:37) as well as to be grounded and settled (1 Pet. 3:15, Col. 1:21-23).                      d. Would we stand or turn away (John 6:66, 68)?</p> <p><b>2. Consistency</b></p> <p>a. Abide in the faith (2 Jn 9)/walk in the light (1 Jn 1:7, 9).                      b. This requires diligence and examination (1 Cor. 9:27; 2 Cor. 13:5; James 1:22-23).                      c. If I am convicted this should come naturally for I will continue in it (Acts 14:22), stand fast in it (1 Cor. 16:13), and abide in it (John 15:4, 6, 9-10, 13-14; 1 John 5:3).</p> <p><b>3. Contending</b></p> <p>a. As we continue to abide in the faith with conviction, it should come naturally that we will contend for the faith – that is defend it (Jude 3; Phil. 1:17).                      b. Must be done firmly but in love (Phil. 1:27; Eph. 4:15) and ensure that it is truly the gospel we are contending for (Rom. 14:10-11; Titus 3:9).</p>	