

# 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 15, 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 ..... On Break  
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

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

## ARE YOU KIND?

By Dave Rogers

*"And as ye would that men should do to you, do ye also to them likewise. For if ye love them which love you, what thank have ye? for sinners also love those that love them. And if ye do good to them which do good to you, what thank have ye? for sinners also do even the same. And if ye lend (to them) of whom ye hope to receive, what thank have ye? for sinners also lend to sinners, to receive as much again. But love ye your enemies, and do good, and lend, hoping for nothing again; and your reward shall be great, and ye shall be the children of the Highest: for he is kind unto the unthankful and (to) the evil" (Luke 6:31-35).*

Pay attention to that last statement; *"he is kind unto the unthankful and to the evil."* We learn something important about God here; even those who hate Him receive kind treatment at His hands. Paul refers to the salvation God offers through Jesus Christ and His gospel as "the kindness of God" in Titus 3:4.

Kindness is something in which every person can improve and grow; judging from the new testament's words on the subject, God plainly intends it to be a common characteristic of His saints. Kindness does NOT "come naturally" for everyone, and it is especially hard to extend kindness to some folks. When a man knowingly lives a wicked life, Christians can be sorely challenged to show him much kindness; but such is our responsibility, Colossians 3:12. In Ephesians 4:32, Paul instructs us to "...be ye kind one to another..."

Kindness is not a sign of "weakness" or some sort of a character flaw. In the new testament, the word "kindness" means usefulness, moral excellence (in character or demeanor), or gentleness. In Ephesians 4:32, it describes being "usefully employed, in that which is good and gracious." When we read that God is kind, He is telling us that His actions toward us are good for us, useful, to the saving of our souls. His exceedingly rich grace to man is demonstrated by His kindness toward us through Christ, Ephesians 2:7. Nowhere does the Bible equate kindness with being weak, or backward, or ashamed of one's faith!

The Bible shows us that kindness is one of the essential qualities of God. When we cultivate it in ourselves, we become more like Him! Kindness is shown in many ways:

- ◆ Jesus said "...love ye your enemies, and do good, and lend, hoping for nothing again..." (Luke 6:35).
- ◆ Paul described some non-Christians as "kind" in Acts 28:2 because they

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*The days of our years are threescore years and ten; and if by reason of strength they be fourscore years, yet is their strength labour and sorrow; for it is soon cut off, and we fly away...So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom.*

*Psalm 90:10, 12*

(Continued from page 1)

"kindled a fire, and received us every one, because of the present rain, and because of the cold."

Kindness is associated in the scriptures with:

- ◆ purity, knowledge, patience, and genuine love, 2 Corinthians 6:6.
- ◆ tenderheartedness, and a forgiving spirit, Ephesians 4:32.
- ◆ compassion, humility, and meekness, Colossians 3:12.

These are all qualities which God displays in His dealings with us. To be more like Him, we should begin by copying His kindness. This means being the servants of one another, and considering each other above ourselves (as in Philippians 2:3).

Kindness has a very practical application, right in our own daily lives; it is the "oil" which soothes and smooths human relations. Paul wrote that the Roman Christians should "(Be) kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honor preferring one another" (Romans 12:10). Kindness is easily recognized as an outward proof of love, for "Love suffereth long, (and) is kind; love envieth not; love vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up," (1 Corinthians 13:4). We know that a kind word, at the right moment, can often ease the sorrow of this life. Solomon wrote that "A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in settings of silver" (Proverbs 25:11).

Every Christian should encourage and cultivate the quality of kindness, both in ourselves and in each other. This is the will of God, and learning to be kind will make us more like Him. Sometimes it is very hard to be kind, and it may require a very determined effort because some folks aren't very lovable; but the burden lies on us to be kind, not on the "other fellow" to be lovable (just remember Romans 5:8). If you want to come more closely into God's image, then show a little kindness, just as He has!

# The Gospel According To You...

By Leroy Brownlow

There's a Gospel according to Matthew; To Mark; To Luke; and John too.

There's another gospel that many are reading...  
The Gospel according to You.

All teachings we find in the Bible  
Are facts we know to be true;  
You must live them to make them the Gospel...  
The Gospel according to You

Many read not the words of the Bible;  
I will tell you what some of them do...  
They are reading the book you are writing...  
The Gospel according to you.

There's Great Power In Gospel Preaching  
The Bible teaches that this is true.  
But the sermon most likely to influence others  
Is The Gospel according to You.

God help us to be faithful to Jesus...  
To live all His teachings so true,  
So that all may see His Spirit  
In the Gospel according to You

You are writing a gospel, a chapter each day;  
By things that you do; By things you say.  
Others read that gospel, whether faithless or true!  
Say! What is the Gospel According To You?



**Ye are our epistle  
written in our hearts,  
known and read  
of all men:  
2 Corinthians 3:2**

### 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:	2 Sam. 21-22	John 2
Mon	2 Sam. 23-24	John 3:1-21
Tue:	1 Kings 1	John 3:22-36
Wed:	1 Kings 2-3	John 4:1-26
Thu:	1 Kings 4-5	John 4:27-54
Fri:	1 Kings 6-7	John 5:1-18
Sat.	1 Kings 8	John 5:19-47



## Congratulations



We congratulate **Michael Fuller** on his achievements as he prepares to graduate from Brownwood High School next week, an invitation with more details is posted on the bulletin board. Michael is making plans to enlist with the United States Navy. We certainly want to keep him in our prayers during this time of his life as he makes decisions concerning his future.

**In honor of Michael, instead of our 3rd Sunday visitation meal tonight we will be having a pizza party following evening worship tonight.** Each family is asked to bring a large pizza and a money tree will be setup if you would like to contribute to it.

### *Ethel's Contact Address:*

Received news Saturday that Ethel was feeling better because she had her first giggling spell! We certainly are thankful for her progress and want to keep her in our prayers during her recovery. She was moved to room 424 in the north tower of Scott and White but if you wish to send cards they can be sent in care of her daughter (web version—contact church office)

## Upcoming Events...

### *Visitation Meeting*

Remember our visitation meeting each Sunday night following the evening worship to sign cards and discuss the work going on. Please join us each time. Last week 22 contacts were made.



### *Ladies Bible Class*

The Ladies Bible Class needed to be canceled for this coming week; therefore we will go ahead and break for the summer. Thank you to Linda for her teaching and work in this area and all those who are able to participate. Get ready to start again in September.

### *Vicksburg*

The monthly singing and devotional at Vicksburg will be today at 3:30 PM. Hope you can join you.

### *Area Events:*

- ◆ May 15-18: **Gospel Meeting at DeLeon** with Trent Kennedy.
- ◆ 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**, every Tuesday night at 7 from June 7th to August 9th.

## *Evil Companionship*

By Tom Moore

The story is told of a daughter who asked her father for permission to visit a girl from a worldly home, and the father refused. The daughter said, "You must not trust me, father." The father picked up a coal from the fire and handed it to the daughter, but she hesitated to take it. When the father said, "It will not burn you," she took the piece of coal, but her hands became blackened. The young daughter said, "Father, you can't be too careful in handling coal." "That is right," said the father, "for even if they do not burn you, you will become blackened." The wise father goes one to say, "So it is with evil companionships."

*"Be not deceived: Evil companionships corrupt good morals" (1 Cor. 15:33).*

## 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...*



Records	May 1, 2011	May 8, 2011
Bible Class	51	55
AM Worship	72	78
PM Worship	58	51
Monday PM	64	N/A
Tuesday PM	85	N/A
Wed. Class	26	N/A
Wednesday PM	51	35
Contribution	\$1745	\$1755

# Privileged To Serve

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

This Week: 5/15/11		Next Week: 5/22/11		May 2011	
<b>Sunday AM:</b>				<b>Make Announcements:</b> Jim Moore	
<b>Greeters</b>	Ken Makuta & Hank Wheeler	Jim Moore & Peggy Luker		<b>Prepare Communion:</b> Gene & Barbara Bannister	
<b>Opening Prayer</b>	James Thomas	James Fuller		<b>Clean Building:</b> Billy & Peggy Chism	
<b>Communion</b>	Hank Wheeler*, Michael Fuller Garrett Barnum, Tom Wilcox	Ken Maninger*, Garrett Barnum John Barnum, Ken Makuta		<b>Keep Grounds:</b> James Fuller	
<b>Closing Prayer</b>	Michael Bickford	Gene Bannister		<b>June 2011</b>	
<b>Attendance Cards</b>	Chase Churchwell/Seth Smithey	Chase Churchwell/Seth Smithey		<b>Make Announcements:</b> Tom Wilcox	
<b>Sunday PM:</b>				<b>Prepare Communion:</b> Michael & Diana Bickford	
<b>Opening Prayer</b>	Matthew Churchwell	Jim Moore		<b>Clean Building:</b> Jim & Peg Moore	
<b>Scripture Reading</b>	John Barnum 1 Corinthians 1:27-31	Hank Wheeler		<b>Keep Grounds:</b> Ryan Smithey	
<b>Communion</b>	Hank Wheeler	Ken Maninger			
<b>Closing Prayer</b>	Don Smith	Tom Wilcox			
<b>Wednesday Devotionals:</b>	May 18 Michael Bickford	May 25 Allen Griffith	June 1 Jim Moore	June 8 Don Smith	

# 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 15, 2011</b>		Sunday Class ..... Galatians (Chap. 2)	Wednesday Class..... Haggai
<p><b>When My Love For Christ Grows Weak</b></p> <p>"this do in remembrance of me" (1 Cor. 11:24) — when we pause and reflect on the sacrifice of Christ we should:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Go to the garden and increase your love for Christ               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Matthew 26:36-47</li> <li>Christ is seen in agony over all that He knew was about to come to pass.</li> <li>He is seen all alone knowing His disciples are about to desert Him (26:31, 56).</li> <li>Yet His attitude was still to do the will of the Father.</li> <li>The reminder is He knew what was about to happen and <b>willingly</b> went forward with it(John 10:11, 18).</li> </ol> </li> <li>Go to the cross and increase your love for Christ and others               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Matthew 27:27-50</li> <li>He went to the cross for us, not because He deserved it (1 Pet. 2:22-24).</li> <li>When we see Him writhing on the cross remember He died for me and all mankind (Rom. 5:8; John 3:16).</li> <li>That image needs to remind me of the love of God for me and the value of each individual soul.</li> </ol> </li> <li>Turn again to the world with a changed perspective               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Changed perspective toward Christ – see and follow His great example (1 Pet. 2:21; John 14:15; 1 John 5:3).</li> <li>Changed perspective toward others – motivated to teach the gospel to others (2 Cor. 5:14-15; Mark 16:15-16)</li> </ol> </li> </ol>	<p><b>Don't Measure Yourself by Others</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Foolishness of Measuring Ourselves By Others (2 Cor. 10:12)</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is an easy standard: Not hard to find others worse than ourselves (Luke 18:11), but that does not mean we are right.</li> <li>It is a flawed standard because it is ever changing and fallible (Prov. 14:12; Matt. 5:20; Matt. 15:8-9; Matt. 7:13-14; Ex. 23:2)</li> </ol> </li> <li><b>Wisdom of Measuring Ourselves By God's Standard (2 Cor. 10:17-18)</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Must be discerned by the word of God (1 Cor. 2:10-13; Jer. 10:23; 2 Tim. 3:16-17).</li> <li>God's Word presents Christ as the perfect example (1 Pet. 2:21; 1 Cor. 11:1)</li> <li>God's Word is the standard of judgment (John 12:48; Rom. 2:16)</li> <li>God's Word does not change (1 Pet. 1:23-25; Gal. 1:9; Jude 1:3; Heb. 1:2)</li> <li>God's Word keeps us growing (Phil. 2:12-14; 1 Pet. 2:22; Gal. 6:4; James 1:25)</li> </ol> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>What standard do we use?</i></p> </li> </ol>		