

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



July 3, 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

Do You Get Enough Exercise?

By Robert Hatfield

Webster defines *exercise* as "bodily exertion for the sake of developing and maintaining physical fitness." Health and nutrition experts continually encourage people today toward activity as a means to stay healthy. While routine health issues are certainly worth considering, the Bible sheds light toward true priorities in life:

"For bodily exercise profiteth little: but godliness is profitable unto all things, having promise of the life that now is, and of that which is to come" (1 Tim. 4:8).

Paul's point of view extended beyond the realms of physical life, which is evident to his reference to the life "which is to come." The idea is that bodily exercise will only last for a brief moment (James observed the brevity of life, James 4:14), but godliness is profitable in every respect.

The word *godliness* is parallel to the word *pious*. The Greek word actually comes from two words meaning "well" and "devout, reverent." So the word simply denotes qualities of reverence and holiness; these are actions of one who is fully devoted to God. Such qualities require diligent attention and care, and are able to develop over time through persistence and maintenance.

Can you imagine how different the world would be if each person began to exercise himself or herself unto godliness?! How would the world change if people began to meditate day and night on the word of God (Psalm 1:2)? What if every soul attended each assembly with God's people to worship Him and to be encouraged from one another (Heb. 10:25)? What if each person treated other folks the way they should be treated (Mat. 7:12), with tenderheartedness and forgiveness even as Christ forgave sinners (Eph. 4:32)? Would there be a different air about each person if he or she was constantly aware of the fact that "all things work together for good to them that love the Lord" (Rom. 8:28)? A righteous world would begin to take shape with enough godly exercise.

Godly exercise keeps the eternal spirit healthy, and it may help one's physical life as well. The man who seeks godliness first will worry less (Phi. 4:6-7). This man will pray more for those who are sick and bereaved (James 5:16). When priorities are right, everything else falls into place (Mat. 6:33b).

Are you ready to enjoy "the good life" (1 Pet. 3:10)? Are you ready to share with others the secret of true happiness and peace? Then why not consider increasing your amount of godly exercise? — Prepare to see great results.



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



*All the paths of the LORD are steadfast love and faithfulness,
for those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.*

Psalm 25:10

Thou Art The Man

By Tom Wacaster

Although God declared of David, "I have found a man after my heart, who shall do all my will," inspiration records the tragic and hypocritical conduct of that great king who served as a type of our Lord. "At the time when kings go forth to battle...David tarried still at Jerusalem" (2 Kings 11:1). Because of his neglect of kingly responsibilities the door was opened for temptation, leading to sin, which in turn produced all manner of sorrow in the life of David. Because of David's sin with Bathsheba, God brought upon this king, and his kingdom, endless strife and bloodshed. The sin could not go unpunished. David needed to be brought to the realization that he had committed a horrible thing in the sight of God. The Holy and Just God of heaven wanted to get across to David, with the greatest degree of intensity, exactly how offensive and grievous was the nature of his sin. So God sent Nathan unto David with this simple story: There were two men in one city; one was rich, the other poor. The rich man had an abundance of flocks, but the poor man had only one little ewe lamb. This poor man had brought up the lamb, feeding and nourishing it. The lamb was very close to the family, even a part of the family. In fact, this little lamb was more like a beloved pet than a common livestock on the farm. One day there came a traveler through this small town. He visited the rich man, and wanting to be hospitable, the rich man desired to offer him some food, but he did not want to kill any of his own flock. And so, instead, the rich man took the poor man's single lamb, killed it, and dressed it for the stranger. Within this story is manifested a degree of selfishness that is a reproach to any man. There may be some sin-hardened soul who cannot see in this parable the unjust treatment of the poor man. Most men can quickly and easily grasp the selfish demeanor of this rich man, and the injustice perpetrated against the one who was poor. Fortunately, David had not reached the point in his trek away from God where common sense no longer prevailed. The king immediately saw in the story the selfish and sinful nature of the rich man, and consequently David's anger was kindled. The king

decreed death to the man who had done this selfish thing. And then Nathan dropped the "bombshell!" "David," he said, "Thou art the man! YOU, in having taken Bathsheba, are guilty of the same crime of selfishness and injustice of which this rich man is guilty. YOU have taken that which did not belong to you! YOU have robbed another of that which was rightfully his." David immediately saw the application, and with a penitent heart declared, "I have sinned against the Lord." From this tragic account in the life of David we can learn some important truths relative to sin.

First, selfishness, like the love of money, is a root of all kinds of evil. More often than not it will lead to other sins deemed unimaginable when first the sin of selfishness took root and bore seed in the heart of its victim. In the case of David, his selfish desire for the gratification of the flesh led to deceit, denial, and disrespect for the life of another. David caused the husband of Bathsheba, Uriah, to get drunk in an effort to cover up his sin. When that did not work, he purposefully and with malice aforethought, arranged for the murder of Uriah. Selfishness will cause a man to worship the wrong 'god,' and/or worship the right God in the wrong way. Selfishness will cause a man to mistreat his fellow man, by overt actions against that man or by neglect of doing good toward another. Selfishness will allow a doctor to invade the womb of a mother and destroy the life of an innocent child, all in the name of the "rights of the mother." Selfishness cries out for "my rights," with little or no respect for what God might have to say on the matter.

Second, any sin against our fellow man is, in fact, a sin against God. David realized this and stated such in Psalms 51:4: "Against thee, thee only, have I sinned and done this evil in thy sight." Any mistreatment of our fellow man is a direct slap in the face of God. Joseph was another good and godly man who recognized the full extent of sin. Unlike David, however, he took the steps to

(Continued on page 3)

Television	God's Plan for Redeeming Man	Daily Bible Reading Schedule
<p>The Truth In Love (Eddie Parrish) Sunday @ 7:00 am on KTAB</p> <p>In Search of the Lord's Way Sunday @ 7:30 am on KTAB</p> <p>Gospel Broadcasting Network Online: 24/7 @ gbntv.org</p> <p>Good News Today: Sunday @ 6:00 am on Dish: 259, DirectTV: 364, Harris: 208</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Radio</p> <p>Preaching the Word (Michael Light) Sunday @ 9:00am on KOXE 101.3</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Hear Learn the saving message of Christ's sacrifice (1 Cor. 1:18; Rom. 10:17).</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Believe Jesus is the Son of God (John 8:24)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Confess Jesus as your Lord, Lawgiver, and King (Rom. 10:9-10; Matt. 10:32-33)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Repent of your sinful conduct (Luke 13:3,5)</p> <p>Complete your initial obedience to the gospel by being baptized for the forgiveness of your sins (Acts 2:38; 22:16)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Live faithfully (Rev. 2:10; 2 Tim. 4:7-8)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>"...desire the sincere milk of the work, that ye may grow thereby;" (1 Pet. 2:2)</i></p> <p>Sun: 2 Chron 24-25 Acts 7:46-60</p> <p>Mon 2 Chron 26-28 Acts 8:1-25</p> <p>Tue: 2 Chron 29-30 Acts 8:26-40</p> <p>Wed: 2 Chron 31-32 Acts 9:1-22</p> <p>Thu: 2 Chron 33-34 Acts 9:23-43</p> <p>Fri: 2 Chron 35-36 Acts 10:1-23</p> <p>Sat. Ezra 1-3 Acts 10:24-48</p>



1st Sunday

Today is the first Sunday of July so we will be having our **monthly potluck lunch** following our morning worship assembly. Hope you will be able to stay and join us.

Summer Youth Series

We continue to have great sessions with the Summer Youth Series; this past Tuesday 187 gathered in Stephenville at the Hillcrest congregation for a wonderful time of praise to God, study of His Word, and fellowship together. Remember there is no session this week during camp but next week we will be at 5th & Grape in Abilene where Mike Bonner will be speaking on being *“Bold Like Josiah” (2 Kings 22:11)*. Hope you can make plans to be there. Again, let Jim or Ryan know if you need a ride.

(Continued from page 2)

avoid a sin with Potiphar’s wife and fled the scene before sin had time to take root.

Third, sin blinds. David could not possibly have foreseen the extent of his wrong doing so long as he was caught up in sin. He was blind to the nature of sin, the guilt of his sin, or the fruit that his sin would bear. The Hebrews writer warns us about the deceitfulness of sin: “But exhort one another day by day, so long as it is called Today; lest any one of you be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin” (Heb. 3:13). Perhaps we would be wise to pray for more Nathans who will shake us out of our spiritual blindness with the blunt affirmation, “Thou art the man.”

Fourth, punishment follows sin as sure as night follows day. Because of David’s sin, his own family would fight for his kingdom, and David would rule over a kingdom as a man of war rather than a king of peace. When we sin, punishment follows. Sometimes punishment is quickly forthcoming; sometimes it is delayed. But whether now, or in the hereafter, it is certain. “Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth that shall he also reap. For he that soweth unto his own flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth unto the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap eternal life” (Gal. 6:7-8).

Sometimes I wonder – if Nathan were alive today, and God still confronted us with our sins by the prophets, as He did in the days of old – how many of us might he point a finger at and declare, “Thou art the man!”? Yes, I wonder...

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 28 contacts were made.

Celebrate

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

July Birthdays: Mariah Martinez (08), Chase Churchwell (11), Cindy Fuller (12), Steven Martinez (13), Diana Bickford (16), John Barnum (26), Jack Hill (26).

July Anniversaries: Diana & Michael Bickford (26), Priscilla & Ryan Smithey (26).

Mistakes? Left Out? Let Ryan know...



Records

	June 19, 2011	June 26, 2011
Bible Class	44	57
AM Worship	58	80
PM Worship	48	61
Wednesday PM	43	48
Contribution	\$1590	\$1613

Privileged To Serve

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

		This Week: 7/3/11	Next Week: 7/10/11		July 2011 Make Announcements: Gene Bannister Prepare Communion: Billy & Peggy Chism Clean Building: Jessica Stultz Keep Grounds: Tom Wilcox August 2011 Make Announcements: Garrett Barnum Prepare Communion: Allen & Linda Griffith Clean Building: John Barnum Family Keep Grounds: Jim Moore
Sunday AM:					
Greeters	Tom & Carol Wilcox		Allen & Linda Griffith		
Opening Prayer	Ken Makuta		Allen Griffith		
Communion	Allen Griffith*, Jim Moore Garrett Barnum, Michael Bickford		Don Smith*, Michael Fuller John Barnum, Ken Makuta		
Closing Prayer	Tom Wilcox		Gene Bannister		
Attendance Cards	Chase Churchwell/Seth Smithey		Chase Churchwell/Seth Smithey		
Sunday PM:					
Opening Prayer	Gene Bannister		Jim Moore		
Scripture Reading	James Fuller Psalm 19:7-11		Hank Wheeler		
Communion	Allen Griffith		Don Smith		
Closing Prayer	Billy Chism		James Thomas		
Wednesday Devotionals:	July 6 Don Smith	July 13 Allen Griffith	July 20 James Fuller	July 27 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)

Studies for the week of July 3, 2011		Sunday Class Galatians (Chap. 4)	Wednesday Class Zechariah (Chap. 4-5)
<p>The gospel account of John invites us to come and see Jesus: an eternal member of the godhead (1:1-3) that lived (1:14, 39, 46), died, and lives evermore (11:34) who is the Son of God, embodying the characteristics and nature of God (John 1:18; 14:9). It does so that we might have faith in Him (John 20:30-31). And here in His own words, Jesus tells us who He was, not what others thought of Him (Matt. 16:13-14), in seven distinct and powerful statements that we will consider over the next few weeks:</p> <hr/> <p>Jesus: "I Am The Bread of Life" (John 6:35, 48)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> As bread, He is necessary for life – Bread is not an item of luxury but of necessity; just as physical bread is needed for life; so He is needed for spiritual life (v47-48, 53). As bread, He supplies supernatural help – Just as the manna was supplied by God in the wilderness, so Jesus had come from heaven (v33); this was not something man could supply for himself (cf. Eph. 2:12, Heb. 10:4, Jn 3:16). As bread, He fills a universal need – just as bread is a common item among races and social classes, Jesus was within reach to ALL men (Matt. 11:28, Mark 16:15, Heb. 2:9, 5:9; Acts 17:24-28; 1 Tim. 2:4). As bread, He satisfies – physical bread has a temporary benefit, but Jesus would truly satisfy (v35, 27); many are starving spiritually simply because they will not eat what is right before them. 		<p>Sunday PM: Tom Wilcox, Preaching</p> <p>Well today begins the Jr. Session of the Heart of Texas Bible Camp (Bangs Session) in Brady, TX. This is the first year we have held it at this location and we are looking forward to it. Please keep everyone in your prayers as they travel and for a safe and successful week.</p> <p>I want to thank the congregation once again for the support that they offer to the summer camp each year. This work is overseen by the elders at Bangs and directed by Michael Light but involves many of the local congregations in this area which provide support in many different ways. For years this congregation has helped support this effort by your prayers, the financial support of the congregation, and by those who work at the camp each year. I am particularly grateful that I am afforded the time to go and help as needed in counseling, teaching, and whatever else may come up.</p> <p>I also thank Tom Wilcox and James Fuller who will be preaching for me while I am gone. Tom will preach tonight and James will on the 17th.</p> <p>Also I wanted to note that in my absence I am leaving a DVD that will be shown in the auditorium on Wednesday nights. This is one that I recently acquired from Brad Harrub and Focus Press that handles the issue of Isalm. I hope you will find this to be informative as we certainly need to know what is being taught around us and what we can do to arm ourselves and our homes against such errors.</p> <p>Hope you all have a great week.... ~Ryan Smithey</p>	