

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



September 18, 2011

Contact Us:

3201 4th Street
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325-646-7102
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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

LOSE WEIGHT BY EATING MORE

By Scott Cain

It sounds like a gimmick, but it is true. Research has shown a direct correlation between the abundant consumption of a particular food and the loss of a specific type of excess weight. Indeed, when discussing this food and the resulting weight loss, it can be said, "Lose weight by eating more."

What is this food? "...Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God" (Matthew 4:4). The sustenance man needs the most is not found in a restaurant menu or on the health-food aisle of the local grocery store; the most important sustenance for man is found in the pages of God's inspired Word. Peter exhorted Christians to desire nourishment from the Word as babes seeking milk: "As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the Word, that ye may grow thereby" (I Peter 2:2).

How does God's Word help the Christian to lose weight? While a steady diet of God's Word will result in a person being more conscious of taking care of his body, it must be admitted that Bible study does not guarantee or promise physical weight loss (otherwise more preachers would be thin).

However, there are other types of excess weight that are far more threatening than extra inches on the waistline. The writer of Hebrews spoke of two such burdens as he exhorted Christians to patient endurance: "Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us" (Hebrews 12:1). The writer of Hebrews mentions "every weight" and "the sin which doth so easily beset us." These deadly weights are curtailed by an appetite for instruction from God's Word.

The first "weight" mentioned by the writer of Hebrews refers to the burdens of this life. Such burdens may come in the form of physical ailments, financial obstacles, or family crises. Feasting upon God's Word teaches the Christian, "Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ" (Galatians 6:2). Not only do Christians share their burdens with each other, but they can also take them to God: "Casting all your care upon Him, for He careth for you" (I Peter 5:7). The load becomes much lighter when there are others there to help carry it.

The second burden noted by the writer of Hebrews is "the sin which doth so easily beset us" (Hebrews 12:1). As Ezekiel wrote, "The soul that sinneth, it shall die. The son shall not bear the iniquity of the father, neither shall the father bear the iniquity of the son: the righteousness of the righteous shall be upon him, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon him" (Ezekiel 18:20). Sin leaves a burden that must be borne. God's Word teaches how to live in righteousness rather than sin (II Timothy 3:16). God's Word teaches Who has borne the weight of sin: "So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many..." (Hebrews 9:28).

Eat more and lose weight. Feast upon God's Word and learn how to overcome the daily burdens of this life. Feast upon God's Word and learn how to overcome and remain triumphant over sin.

*Some trust in chariots, and some in horses:
but we will remember the name of the LORD our God.*

Psalms 20:7



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

Who Sits On Your Throne?

By Terry Jackson

The throne has always been a symbol of authority. He who sits on the throne rules the country. There have always been battles fought over the thrones of the kingdom of men. These battles are indeed a "winner takes all" proposition. Every man has a power struggle with those things which try to establish their authority over his life. The biggest threat for a take-over is self! The very core of man seeks to establish his own will as the authority over his life. One of the most difficult tasks of Christianity is to dethrone self. Before we became Christians we vacillated between right and wrong. Paul said it like this, **"For the good that I will to do, I do not do; but the evil I will not to do, that I practice," (Rom 7:19)**. Living a life directed by self leads to guilt and frustration. Finally, the battle is over and through Christ the war is won. We allow Jesus through His authoritative Word to gain control of our lives. Notice **Romans 8:1**, **"There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit."** When Christ is our Lord we no longer walk in the desires of our flesh but rather by the direction of the Spirit through the Word. Jesus showed us how to overcome the pull of selfishness, **"Whoever desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake and the gospel's will save it. For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul?" (Mark 8:34-35)**. The first thing we must do is deny ourselves, literally, to say no to what we want, take up our cross, and follow Jesus. Jesus is our pattern in this denial for He first denied Himself choosing to come to this world from His heavenly abode, and carried His cross to Golgotha. Jesus is only telling us to do what He has already done. After dethroning self, we exalt God as the king of our lives. The biggest mistake Israel made was when they cried out for a king like the other nations. Jehovah told Samuel, **"for they have not rejected you, but they have rejected Me, that I should not reign over them."** (1 Sam. 8:7). The human weakness leans toward the creature rather than the Creator, (Rom. 1:25). His name is to be exalted above all nature and every kingdom of man, **"Let them praise the name of the LORD, for His name alone is exalted; His glory is above the earth and heaven"** (Ps. 148:13). If we are to please God, we must first say no to ourselves, restore the throne to God, and exalt His Holy and Awesome name in our lives.

The All-Seeing Eye

By Tom Moore

Solomon declares, "For the ways of man are before the eyes of Jehovah; And he maketh level all his paths" (Pro. 5:21). Solomon encourages his readers to hold on to chaste behavior in light of the fact that God is always watching. The Hebrew writer proclaimed, "And there is no creature that is not manifest in his sight: but all things are naked and laid open before the eyes of him with whom we have to do" (Heb. 4:13). Jeremiah asked a very soul searching question, "Can any hide himself in secret places so that I shall not see him? saith Jehovah. Do not I fill heaven and earth? saith Jehovah" (Jer. 23:24). There is an old gospel hymn which speaks of the "All Seeing Eye" watching our every step. This song and these verses mentioned ought to make us tremble at the very thought of an "All Seeing Eye" – Almighty God!

The thought of the "All Seeing Eye" has its foundation in the omniscience and omnipresence of God, that is, there is nothing that God does not know and no place where He is not. Some seem to think they can hide from God, as did Adam and Eve (Gen. 3:8), but they were badly mistaken. John said the Lord "is greater than our heart, and knoweth all things" (1 Jn. 3:20).

We know there is nothing too small to catch the attention of God, and we know that "God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil" (Eccl. 12:14). Should we not ask, then, "what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy living and godliness" (2 Pt. 3:11)? The omnipresence and omniscience of God should be a great motivation for us to walk righteously in this life and avoid doing those things, even in secret, that are contrary to God's will.

Think About It!

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: Prov. 12-13 2 Corinthians 3

Mon: Prov. 14-15 2 Corinthians 4

Tue: Prov. 16-17 2 Corinthians 5

Wed: Prov. 18-19 2 Corinthians 6

Thu: Prov. 20-21 2 Corinthians 7

Fri: Prov. 22-23 2 Corinthians 8

Sat: Prov. 24-25 2 Corinthians 9



WHEN YOU GO TO WORSHIP, ACT LIKE A LAME BEGGAR

By Neal Pollard

When you go to worship this Lord's Day, will you act like a lame beggar? Not just like any lame beggar. Not exactly imitating the lame beggar to which I refer. Instead, consider the man in Acts 3 and the effect Christ's power had on him. He thought he had his list of needs properly prioritized--he wanted a few coins to help his subsistent life. He met a couple of men and thought they could oblige, but then he learned they were broke. Rather than coins, Peter and John gave Him Christ! And, it is the reaction that Luke makes so striking and startling! He leaped (8), began to walk (8), went "walking and leaping and praising God" (8), and people "saw him walking and praising God" (9). Where did this happy man go in this condition? "The temple" (9). People took note of him, remembering what he was but seeing what he now is (10).

I am not advocating a literal leaping into the church building doors this week, but this man had an exuberance and enthusiasm that should get our attention. Where are we going on the Lord's Day? What are we getting to do when we assemble together? What has He done in our lives and with our sins? How has that effected and changed us? Your reaction truly cannot be contrived or manipulated! It must come from a genuine understanding and gratitude for Christ saving us! It must come from a daily "walk" that is getting closer and closer to this awesome Savior! Without Jesus, we are more crippled than the lame and poorer than the most abject beggar. With Him, we should be filled with joy and excitement! Let us make sure this shows up on our faces and in our demeanors when we sing, pray, commemorate, and listen, as we worship, this Sunday!

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 **29 contacts** were made. Also **tonight is our 3rd Sunday finger food get-together after the meeting.**

Mark Your Calendars...

- ◆ **Ladies Bible Class** will resume this Wednesday, Sept. 21 at 10 AM in the high school room. Hope you can make plans to be there as Linda Griffith continues to lead the ladies in a study of the Life of Christ.
- ◆ The first **Bible Search** for this year will be hosted by Bangs next Sunday, September 25 at 2 PM.
- ◆ Remember our **Fall Meeting with Jason Rollo** is coming up quickly; it is scheduled October 23rd through 26th.

Opportunity to Help

The Park Heights congregation in Hamilton is currently gathering donations to be delivered to the Bastrop, TX area on September 27th to help those who have been affected by recent wildfires. If you would like to contribute to this effort they are accepting paper goods, sheets, blankets, hygiene items, sleeping bags, and money (please no clothing items as they already have plenty). If you wish to help, please bring items to the church building here by next Sunday the 25th and they will be taken to Hamilton on the 26th. Please see Ryan if you have any questions.

Celebrate

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

September Birthdays: James Fuller (06), Emily Ochoa (11), Gene Bannister (16), Bilie Ford (17), Clarence Ford (17), Marie White (18), Matthew Ochoa (20), Cindy Proud (26), Garrett Barnum (27), Jimmy Seale (29).

September Anniversaries: Joyce & Jack Hill (10).

Mistakes? Left Out? Let Ryan know...



Records

	Sept. 4, 2011	Sept. 11, 2011
Bible Class	54	53
AM Worship	76	74
PM Worship	53	51
Wednesday PM	50	47
Contribution	\$1661	\$1460

This Week: 9/18/11		Next Week: 9/25/11		September 2011	
Sunday AM:				Make Announcements:	
Greeters	The Maninger Family	The Maninger Family		John Barnum	
Opening Prayer	Jim Moore	Jim Moore		Prepare Communion:	
Communion	Ken Makuta*, Michael Fuller James Thomas, James Fuller	Hank Wheeler*, Tom Wilcox Ken Makuta, Ken Maninger		Jim & Peg Moore	
Closing Prayer	Hank Wheeler	Michael Bickford		Clean Building:	
Attendance Cards	Chase Churchwell/Seth Smithey	Chase Churchwell/Xavier Martinez		James & Cindy Fuller	
Sunday PM:				October 2011	
Opening Prayer	Don Smith	Allen Griffith		Make Announcements:	
Scripture Reading	John Barnum Matthew 20:24-28	Garrett Barnum		Ken Maninger	
Communion	Ken Makuta	Hank Wheeler		Prepare Communion:	
Closing Prayer	Matthew Churchwell	Don Smith		Don & Darlene Smith	
Wednesday Devotionals:	September 21 Don Smith	September 28 Allen Griffith	October 5 Tom Wilcox	October 12 Garrett Barnum	

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 September 18, 2011		Sunday Class Romans (Intro.; Next: 1:1-17)	Wednesday Class Zechariah (Chap. 9-10)
<p>Josiah: An Example of True Restoration (2 Chron. 34-35; 2 Kings 22-23)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> He Overcame Obstacles to Restoration – Like Josiah we must not allow age (either youth or old age, Lk. 2:49; 1 Tim. 4:12; Matt. 20; 2 Pet. 3:9), heritage (good or bad, Eze. 18:20, Rev. 20:12, 2 Tim. 1:15, 3:15; 1 Pet. 1:18; Acts 26:19-21), or environment (1 Pet. 4:1-5; 2 Tim. 4:2-4) stand in the way of us doing what is right. He Set His Heart To Seek God – He wanted to do right and that has to be the foundation for us, seeking God and His Will, or else we will not listen to His Word (2 Tim. 4:2-4; Matt. 13:15-16, 19; Acts 17:27). He Humbled Himself Before God – He listened to, accepted, and followed the truth; sadly many reject it instead but some will seek and follow (John 6:66, 68; Matt. 10:34-35; Acts 2:41, 13:46; 1 Pet. 2:2, James 1:22, Matt. 7:24). He Restored True Worship – He taught the people ,destroyed false worship, and restored true worship; do we stand ready to do the same (John 4:24; Col. 3:17; Gal. 1:9-10; Matt. 16:24)? He Did What He Could – He could not erase the past or force the path of his descendants, but he could do right and exert his influence in his time; will we do the same (Phil. 2:15-16; Matt. 28:19-20; 2 Tim. 4:2)? <p><i>Josiah reminds us that restoration is a times necessary and always possible when we turn back to God and His Word.</i></p>		<p>A Servant Like Christ <i>Imitate Christ in all things (1 Pet. 2:21), even as a servant...</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> A Working Servant (Luke 2:49; John 4:34; Acts 1:1, 10:38) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Any surprise Jesus often speaks of the church in terms of a vineyard or a kingdom (ie Matt. 20:1ff)? Indeed we are expected to be active in doing good (Lk. 6:46; James 1:22, 2:14-26; 1 Tim. 6:18; 2 tim. 2:21; Titus 2:14, 3:1, 8, 14). A Faithful Servant (Constant/Dedicated) (John 8:29; Matt. 4:10) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Strive to be a good and faithful servant (Matt. 25:21). Requires choosing to serve God (Matt. 6:24; Rom. 6:16-18), pleasing God (Heb. 12:28; 2 Cor. 5:9; Gal. 1:10, 1 Cor. 7:23, Acts 20:28), and doing so consistently (Dan. 6:6; Lk 9:23, 62). A Humble Servant (Matt. 20:28; John 13:4-5; Phil. 2:5-7) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> If Jesus is our master, we will serve too (Matt. 10:24, 5:3, 5; 20:27, 23:11; Luke 22:26; Mark 9:35, 10:44; Matt. 18:4). Imitate great examples (John 3:30; Acts 20:19; 1 Tim. 1:15; 1 Cor. 3:5-6, 9; Micah 6:8; James 4:6, 10). A Cheerful Servant (cf. Jn 4:24, 8:29) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The goodness of God ought to motivate our service to Him cheerfully (Ps. 100:2; 1 Sam. 12:24; Luke 1:74; Rom. 12:11; Eph. 6:5-6; Matt. 11:28-30). It is a voluntary (cf. Josh. 24:15; 1 Kings 18:21; Acts 2:40) submission to Him that loves and leads us (Eph. 5:22-25). <i>When we do so, though we are still only unprofitable servants (Lk 17:10), God will graciously receive us as sons (Gal. 4:7)!</i> 	