

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



November 13, 2011

Contact Us:

3201 4th Street
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325-646-7102
www.4thstreetcoc.org
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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

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

Onesiphorus

By Roger D. Campbell

Remember him? He is a not-so-well-known character of the New Testament. Not Onesimus, not Eutychus, not Epaphroditus, but Onesiphorus. This man, about whom the apostle Paul spoke highly, is mentioned only in the book of 2 Timothy. Near the close of that epistle the aging apostle sent greetings to Onesiphorus' household (4:19). The message at the end of the first chapter, though, is what we want to consider now. There it is written, "*The Lord give mercy unto the house of Onesiphorus; for he oft refreshed me, and was not ashamed of my chain: But, when he was in Rome, he sought me out very diligently, and found me. The Lord grant unto him that he may find mercy of the Lord in that day: and in how many things he ministered unto me at Ephesus, thou knowest very well*" (2 Timothy 1:16-18). Let us note some things that we learn about Onesiphorus.

Onesiphorus was different. In what way? Just before Paul mentioned Onesiphorus, he stated that Phygellus and Hermogenes had turned away from him (2 Timothy 1:15). Not Onesiphorus. He did not lose his desire to be with and serve God's faithful. Many of Jesus' disciples turned away from Him (John 6:66). We must be willing to be different, not just for the sake of saying, "Hey, I'm different," but in order to be a holy vessel for our Lord (2 Timothy 2:20,21).

Onesiphorus often refreshed Paul (1:16). He did not refresh him once and leave it at that. He did it often. The word "refresh" comes from the Greek word "αναψύχω" (anapsucho), which means "to recreate by fresh air; to refresh, cheer" [*The Analytical Greek Lexicon Revised*, p. 27]. Surely every child of God can find opportunity to refresh or cheer others. Some have lost loved ones. Some are encountering troubles at work. Some have lost their sense of being useful in the Kingdom. Some are lonely. Some have grown weary in well-doing. Some feel unappreciated. Let each of us step out to give the attention and refreshing that others sometimes need.

Onesiphorus was not ashamed of Paul's chain (1:16). More than once Paul had been arrested and had his body bound with literal chains. Onesiphorus was not ashamed to be with and support Paul, despite the apostle's bondage. On one occasion Paul described himself as "*the prisoner of the Lord*" and said that for the sake of the gospel he was "*an ambassador in bonds*" (Ephesians 4:1; 6:19,20). If our brethren are faithful to our Lord and in the process suffer reproach in the eyes of men, even to the point of being imprisoned as innocent victims, let us not abandon them in their hour of trial. Let us be like Onesiphorus.

When Onesiphorus was in Rome, he diligently sought out Paul (1:17). We

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Know ye that Jehovah, he is God: It is he that hath made us,
and we are his; We are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

Psalm 100:3

Ten Things I Want My Daughter To Know As She Grows

(and good reminders for us all... ~Ryan)

By Andy Baker

My five-month-old daughter is just now becoming really aware of the world around her. She smiles often, laughs at the dog, cries at loud noises, and enjoys blowing bubbles at herself in the mirror. My wife and I are thinking and praying about her growing personality, character, and heart. There will be many other lessons taken from God's Word as she grows, but here are some fundamental lessons that I want her to know by heart:

- 1. The earth is a beautiful and exciting place because God made it that way.** Don't ever buy into the idea that this place or its inhabitants happened by accident (Gen. 1 :26-27; Psa. 8:5-6). Enjoy the earth and stand in awe at the God who created it and you (Psa. 19: 1).
- 2. Everyone matters to God, even those people whom you dislike.** Treat everyone with respect and love; remember that God loves them, and they need you to teach the Gospel in love (Rom. 14:12; 2 Cor. 5:10-11; Eph. 4:15).
- 3. Humility works in every situation.** Always treat others better than you would yourself. When you practice humility like Jesus did, you'll never go wrong (Matt. 67:12; Rom. 12:10, 16; Phil. 2:1-11).
- 4. Sometimes in doing right, people will be as mean as they can be.** When people mistreat you for choosing right, Jesus says it's reason to rejoice because you've pleased God by doing right (Matt. 5:11-12; John 15:18-21).
- 5. Learn to have a forgiving heart.** Everyone needs forgiveness. When your heart is full of forgiveness, you will also be forgiven and have peace in your life (Matt. 6:14-15; 18:21-35).
- 6. If you don't value your values, no one will.** Treat spiritual things with reverence and respect, and show others that your faith is important to you. Stand up for your beliefs (Matt. 6:19-24; Eph. 6:11-18).
- 7. Be thankful at all times.** Those moments where it is difficult to be thankful are moments when you can grow the most. Always find a way to express your

thankfulness (Eph. 5:20; Phil. 4:6-7; Col. 3:15-17; 1 Thess.5:17-18).

- 8. Learn to give whether you get anything in return or not.** When you give cheerfully and sacrificially of yourself, your time, your energy, and your money, your life will be blessed greatly (Acts 20:35; 2 Cor. 8:9).
- 9. Guard your words carefully.** A world of hurt can be done when you speak carelessly (James 3:1-13). Always find something positive and encouraging to say. Be careful about grumbling and complaining-it's contagious (Num. 11:1-6; Eph. 4:29; Phil. 2:14).
- 10. You are here on this earth to glorify God; obey Him above all else.** God is the reason you are here, and He's given you the choice to follow Him (Eccl. 12: 13-14; John 1:12-13). You will never go wrong following Jesus in His Word and He will lead you to the greatest of all places (Matt. 28:20; John 14:1-6; Rev. 2:10).

FOUR BRIEF RULES FOR BIBLE STUDY

- 1. Read It Through** (Read a passage of Scripture, look up the meaning of words that are unfamiliar, search for other verses which contain similar key words.)
- 2. Write It Down** (Take a sheet of notebook paper and write the book, chapter, and verse numbers at the top, then make a list of those words you looked up or write out phrases you would like to study further. Write down your notes from your study next to the words or phrases. Keep your notes in a notebook or folder and you'll eventually have a nice set of study notes that you'll go back to with further study to add to them.)
- 3. Live It Out** (Put the principles you are learning from your study into practice.)
- 4. Pass It On** (Tell others about what you have learned. Ask them what their ideas are about some of the words and phrases you have been studying. This is a great way to increase your own understanding.)

(author unknown to editor)

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:	Jeremiah 51	Hebrews 4
Mon	Jeremiah 52	Hebrews 5
Tue:	Lam. 1-2	Hebrews 6
Wed:	Lam. 3-5	Hebrews 7
Thu:	Ezekiel 1-3	Hebrews 8
Fri:	Ezekiel 4-7	Hebrews 9
Sat.	Ezekiel 8-11	Hebrews 10



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know that Paul was a prisoner in Rome for at least a couple of years (Acts 28:20,30). The text sounds as if that might be the occasion when Onesiphorus looked him up. No doubt it took some effort on his part to get to Paul. Companionship with God's people is a special part of life. It is so uplifting to be with those that walk faithfully with the Lord. We find it hard to understand why some Christians throughout their entire life seem to be satisfied with seeing one another at public assemblies and then never have any contact with other saints until the next assembly. Not Onesiphorus.

Onesiphorus ministered unto Paul (1:18). That simply means that he served him. He did so in "many" things or ways (1:18). One way in which we serve Jesus is by serving His and our brethren (Matthew 25:40). We are encouraged when we read, "*For God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labour of love, which ye have shewed toward his name, in that ye have ministered to the saints, and do minister*" (Hebrews 6:10). Onesiphorus was a servant. That did not put him in the spotlight or headlines, but it made him great in the eyes of the One that matters. Our Lord said, ". . . *but whosoever will be great among you, let him be your minister. And whosoever will be chief among you, let him be your servant*" (Matthew 20:26,27). The Bible does not tell us a whole lot about Onesiphorus, but what we read in the sacred text surely portrays him as a diligent servant. Reckon that's what we ought to be?

I don't recall personally meeting anyone by the name of Onesiphorus, how about you? I hope that in the future when we will think about Onesiphorus, we will not remember him just as one of those folks that had a funny name. Much more than that, we should keep him in mind as a zealous servant. Did I mention that the name "Onesiphorus" means "profit-bringer?" [*Thayer's Greek-English Lexicon*, p. 447]. After learning how he was not ashamed of Paul's bonds, but rather diligently sought, refreshed, and served him, that meaning shouldn't surprise us. Are you an Onesiphorus?

Thank You

Peggy Luker called this week and said she was feeling some better and wished to thank everyone for the kindness shown her especially for all of the prayers, calls, cards, and visits following her surgery.

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 **30 contacts** were made. Remember **next week is the 3rd Sunday**; join us for finger-foods following.

Ladies Bible Class

Remember the Ladies Bible Class that meets each Wednesday at 10 AM in the high school class room. We are continuing our study of the Life of Christ and would love to have you join us.

Also please note there will be no class on November 23.

Opportunities to Serve

I will soon be creating the schedule for the monthly service assignments for next year. If there is any area in which you are not scheduled and wish to help or you are scheduled and wish to be removed, please let Ryan know quickly. Areas include cleaning the building, preparing communion, keeping the yard, and making announcements. If you have questions, please let me know. ~Ryan

Celebrate

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

November Birthdays: Linda Jimenez (08), Emilee Evetts (13), Juanita Barnum (15), Xavier Martinez (28).

November Anniversaries: Barbara & Gene Bannister (06), Bennie & Charles White (19).

Mistakes? Left Out? Let Ryan know...



Records

	Oct. 30, 2011	Nov. 6, 2011
Bible Class	53	54
AM Worship	74	85
PM Worship	52	47
Wednesday PM	38	45
Contribution	\$1346	\$1672

	This Week: 11/13/11	Next Week: 11/20/11		
Sunday AM:			November 2011 Make Announcements: James Fuller Prepare Communion: Ryan & Priscilla Smithey Clean Building: Jim & Peg Moore Keep Grounds: Ryan Smithey December 2011 Make Announcements: Don Smith Prepare Communion: Tom & Carol Wilcox Clean Building: Jessica Stultz Keep Grounds: Tom Wilcox	
Greeters	Allen & Linda Griffith	Billy & Peggy Chism		
Opening Prayer	Gene Bannister	Garrett Barnum		
Communion	Jim Moore*, James Fuller Michael Bickford, Garrett Barnum	Ken Maninger*, Ken Makuta James Fuller, John Barnum		
Closing Prayer	Hank Wheeler	Gene Bannister		
Attendance Cards	Seth Smithey/Matthew Ochoa	Chase Churchwell/Xavier Martinez		
Sunday PM:				
Opening Prayer	Billy Chism	Allen Griffith		
Scripture Reading	Michael Fuller <i>Revelation 3:15-19</i>	Michael Bickford		
Communion	Jim Moore	Ken Maninger		
Closing Prayer	Tom Wilcox	Jim Moore		
Wednesday Devotionals:	November 16 Allen Griffith	November 23 Tom Wilcox	November 30 Garrett Barnum	December 7 James Fuller

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 November 13, 2011	Sunday Class Romans 2; Next Chap. 3 Wednesday Class Zechariah 13-14
<p>Psalm 23: Watchful Shepherd (v3) <i>The loving Shepherd is attentive to His flock and ready to act as necessary to save and help His sheep.</i></p> <p>1. Seeking Shepherd – The Watchful Shepherd will notice weak and wondering sheep and seek them out in order to restore them to the flock.</p> <p>a. Capability of being lost—recognizes the danger and urgency of one who is in trouble (Isa. 59:1-2; Rom. 3:23, 6:23; 2 Cor. 5:10-11; Eph. 2:1, 12; 1 John 1:7; Heb. 10:19-27; Gal. 5:1-4).</p> <p>b. Reality of the Shepherd's love—He will immediately seek to find and restore the lost/troubled (Luke 15:4; 2 Pet. 3:9; John 3:16; Lk. 19:10; John 10:11-13; Rom. 5:8; Gal. 6:1).</p> <p>c. Joy of Restoration—such a return is a cause for great joy (Luke 15:5-7, 22-24; Isa. 1:8; Rom. 6:23; Eph. 2:1, 13, 19; James 5:19-20).</p> <p>2. Leading Shepherd – The Watchful Shepherd will lead His sheep in ways that are best.</p> <p>a. For the Sheep's good—they don't always like it, for change is hard, but it is best (John 10:9-10; 14:6; Ps. 119:172; 1 Cor. 6:9-11; Col. 3:2, 5-10; 2 Pet. 1:5-11; 1 John 1:7).</p> <p>b. For His Glory—the flock of the shepherd reflects on him, he seeks their best for their benefit but his reputation as well (1 Cor. 6:20; Eph. 5:25-27; 1 Pet. 2:9; Rom. 12:2; Matt. 5:16).</p>	<p>Tofu Christians: Imitation Or The Real Thing <i>One can debate the value of tofu as a food product but it is interesting to note that many people live their lives with some of its same characteristics. Some of these qualities are beneficial in tofu but have no part in the Christian life:</i></p> <p>1) Bland – Tofu is bland in color, texture, and taste; in fact many people find it totally unappealing and unfit as a food product. Many Christian's live a similar life; Jesus counseled the church at Ephesus to return to their first love (Rev. 2:4-5) and warned the Laodiceans that they were simply unpalatable (Rev. 3:15-18). Regardless of their own spiritual evaluation, they were unappealing in their religious zeal and at risk of being spit out.</p> <p>2) Easily Flavored/Influenced By Others – Another characteristic of tofu is that it easily takes on the flavors of other foods that are added to it so that it can fit in many different dishes. So too many Christians are like this; they can easily fit into any environment and are easily influenced by those who surround them. Certainly one must learn to watch the company he keeps and the things he submerses himself into (1 Cor. 15:33; Phil. 4:8) but he also needs to learn to stand out from others (Matt. 5:14-16; Phil. 2:12, 15-16; 2 Cor. 6:17) and stand up for the truth (Gal. 1:6-7, 10; Acts 5:29; Eph. 4:14-16; 1 Tim. 3:15; Rom. 1:16-17; Phil. 1:17; Jude 3).</p> <p>3) Imitation – The two previous qualities of tofu mean that it can easily be used as a substitution or imitation for some other food (i.e. – it will act like it). But again, how many act like being a Christian rather than truly becoming one? We go through the motions but our heart is not in it; instead what we need is a total transformation (Matt. 6:1ff, 24; Mark 12:30; Luke 9:23; John 4:24; Matt. 12:30; 6:24; Rom. 12:2).</p>