

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



January 15, 2012

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

The Most Important Things To Teach Your Children

By Dan Jenkins

She was pregnant and expecting her first child. Like all mothers, she was concerned about what others might think, but there was no way she could not be excited about what was about to happen. Then it hit her. This gift from God was His, and she and Joseph were only caretakers with the responsibility to train up the child so this gift could be given back to God.

What do you teach that child? What values do you give to prepare the child for the trials which lie ahead? What expectant mother has not had these thoughts? As you think about these matters, consider that these same responsibilities were faced by Mary the mother of Jesus. Read Matthew 4 to see what Mary taught Jesus as she trained Him in the way He should go.

A child must be taught the meaning of life. When Satan appealed to Jesus to live by the rule of self-gratification, to fulfill the lust of the flesh, and to make that the dominate force which controlled His life, He was ready! He had learned one important truth in His upbringing: "Man shall not live by bread alone." If one lives by the rule of self-gratification, he misses life. The only way for man to live is to understand that every word which God speaks gives life!

A child must be taught that God is more important than material things. The Lord was offered all the treasures of this world, but He turned them down. Those who had trained Him for life put in His heart that only God is to be worshipped. "Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve." Look at the two verbs — *worship* and *serve*. They cover not just formal times of adoring God, but aspects of daily living. When one craves material things, they become his lord and he becomes subservient to them. A child must know that materialism cannot become a master!

A child must be taught about the nature of God. Satan's misuse of the Bible did not confuse Jesus for a moment, for He knew God. He had not just been taught the Word of God, He had been taught the nature of God. He did not just know about God, He knew God!

Let me encourage all young mothers and fathers (the same could apply to "expectant" grandmothers and grandfathers) . Look at the child of yours as Mary looked at the child God gave to her. He was simply a gift from heaven, loaned and entrusted to her for a short time, with the grave responsibility to prepare the child for the next time the child would see God. Prepare your child! Teach him the Bible. Teach him about life, about "things," and about Him.



*Oh, magnify the LORD with me,
and let us exalt his name together!*

Psalm 34:3

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

A Cappella

By John Gipson

Church, music. Without accompaniment. That's a capella. A *capella* comes from the Latin, *ad*, to according to, and *capella*, chapel. A cappella is the style of church chapel music.

But the term a *cappella* could hardly be applied to the music heard in most churches today. That which used to be the only means of praising God in church (a cappella) is seldom seen in most houses of worship.

When Everett Ferguson was doing his graduate study at Harvard, he lived in the same dormitory with a Greek Orthodox student who was a graduate of the University of Athens and a candidate for an advanced degree at Harvard. Everett asked him if it was correct that the Greek Orthodox churches did not use instrumental music in their public worship. He said, "Yes." When asked the reasons why, he replied: "We do not use instrumental music because it is not in the New Testament and it is contrary to the nature of Christian worship."

Under the Old Testament, instruments of music certainly had a part in the worship of God. But when we come to the New Testament they are not mentioned. The nature of Christian worship is spiritual. Thus even those who had formerly used the instrument failed to adopt it in primitive Christian worship. In fact, the general introduction of instrumental music can certainly not be assigned to a date earlier than the fifth and sixth centuries. Even Gregory the Great, who toward the end of the sixth century added greatly to the existing church music, absolutely prohibited the use of instruments.

Chrysostom gives us a picture of what Christian worship was like up to the fifth century. "It was the ancient custom, as it still is with us, for all to come together, and unitedly to join in singing. The young and the old, rich and poor, male and female, bond and free, all join in one song . . . All worldly distinctions here cease, and the whole congregation forms one general chorus."

In the words of the apostle Paul, "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him" (Colossians 3:16-17).

Vegetarians

By Wade Webster

Paul Harvey, much-beloved radio personality, once quipped, "Vegetarian is an old Indian word for 'doesn't hunt well.'"ⁱ

I like vegetables, but I am no vegetarian. I like meat – all kinds. I like beef, pork, chicken, fish, and squirrel. You didn't expect the last one, did you? Did you forget that I grew up in rural Alabama?

I'm convinced that there are many Bible vegetarians today. There is no meat in their diet because they don't hunt well. They do not search or hunt through the Scriptures as they should. Jesus declared, "Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me" (John 5:39). Had the Pharisees truly searched, they would have known that Jesus was the long-awaited Messiah (John 7:52).

In contrast to the Pharisees, the Bereans were great hunters. Of them, Luke records, "These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so" (Acts 17:11).

What about us? How well do we hunt (2 Timothy 2:15)? Are we Bible vegetarians?

If we are searching the Scriptures as we should, there will be plenty of meat in our diets. In fact, there might even be some strong meat or squirrel (Hebrews 5:12-14). Don't knock it until you have tried it! It tastes kind of like chicken.

ⁱWait, Marianne. *Laughter: The Best Medicine*. Pleasantville, NY: Reader's Digest Publishing Company, Inc., 2006, p. 204.

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)

Bible Study Schedule

Week 3

Genesis 13--18 & Matthew 5-6

Study sheets are available at the back of the auditorium.

Also anyone interested can join us at 5 PM each Sunday in the fellowship hall to discuss the questions and answers.

"...desire the sincere milk of the work, that ye may grow thereby;" (1 Pet. 2:2)



Seven Walks Of Ephesians

Walk denotes activity; more than that, it denotes continuous activity. In Paul's letter to the Ephesians, the figurative use of walking for living or carrying on our life is employed seven times. How very important and impressive is the lesson.



- ◆ **Walking in disobedience:** "And you hath quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins; wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience" (2:1-2)
- ◆ **Walking worthily:** "I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called, with all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love; endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace" (4:1-3).
- ◆ **Walking in vanity:** "This I say therefore, and testify in the Lord, that ye henceforth walk not as other Gentiles walk, in the vanity of their mind" (4:17)
- ◆ **Walking in love:** "And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet smelling savour" (5:2).
- ◆ **Walking as children of light:** "Now are ye light in the Lord: walk as children of light" (5:8).
- ◆ **Walking in wisdom:** "See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, redeeming the time, because the days are evil" (5:15-16).

~Author unknown

How are we walking?

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 **21 contacts** were made. Remember this **week is the 3rd Sunday** and time for finger-foods again!

Ladies Bible Class meets each Wednesday at 10 AM in the high school class room. Hope you can join us as we continue our study of the life of Christ.

Bible Bowl... Rising Star will be hosting the next Bible Bowl on Sunday, January 29 at 2 PM. We will be hosting in March and will have more details on that soon.

Want to get involved?

Remember Vicksburg devotional today at 3:30 and CARE worship service every Sunday at 2:30...we would love to have you there.

New Spiritual Sword

New editions of the Spiritual Sword were received this week. They are available on the back table and at the exits. The theme is "**Facing The Future.**" Make sure you pick one up and study it with an open Bible. Then keep it for reference or pass it along for someone else to study!



Celebrate

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

January Birthdays: Kathy Burcham (3), Billie Jean Walters (5), Bennie White (16), Tom Wilcox (17), Anita Boyd (19), Jaceten Evetts (20), Lily Martinez (22), Mattison Churchwell (25), Charles White (30).

January Anniversaries: Peg & Jim Moore (22).

Mistakes? Left Out? Let Ryan know...

Records

	Jan. 1, 2012	Jan. 8, 2012
Bible Class	61	46
AM Worship	84	66
PM Worship	47	39
Wednesday PM	34	37
Contribution	\$1832	\$1682



This Week: 1/15/12		Next Week: 1/22/12		January 2012	
Sunday AM:				Make Announcements: Tom Wilcox	
Greeters	Tom & Carol Wilcox	Allen & Linda Griffith		Prepare Communion: Gene & Barbara Bannister	
Opening Prayer	John Barnum	Allen Griffith		Clean Building: John Barnum Family	
Communion	Allen Griffith*, Garrett Barnum Jim Moore, Ken Maninger	Don Smith*, John Barnum James Fuller, Hank Wheeler		Keep Grounds: Ryan Smithey	
Closing Prayer	Tom Wilcox	Gene Bannister		February 2012	
Attendance Cards	Chase Churchwell/Xavier Martinez	Seth Smithey/Matthew Ochoa		Make Announcements: Ken Maninger	
Sunday PM:				Prepare Communion: John Barnum Family	
Opening Prayer	Gene Bannister	Jim Moore		Clean Building: Cindy Fuller	
Scripture Reading	James Fuller <i>Psalm 56:9-13</i>	Allen Griffith		Keep Grounds: James Fuller	
Communion	Allen Griffith	Don Smith			
Closing Prayer	Billy Chism	James Thomas			
Wednesday Devotionals:	January 18 James Fuller	January 25 Jim Moore	February 1 Don Smith	February 8 Allen Griffith	

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 January 15, 2012		Sunday Class <i>Romans 6</i>	Wednesday Class <i>Malachi (Chap. 3-4)</i>
<p>Emmanuel, God With Us (Matt. 1-4)</p> <p><i>Matthew presents in these opening chapters the Christ, the One who had been anticipated that was now come and presents reasons why He should be listened to and followed.</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Fulfiller of Prophecy — From His lineage, His birth, His life, and His death Jesus was exactly who the prophets foretold of and who men should have been looking for. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Matthew shows Jesus legal right as the son of David (Matt. 1:1-17) and mentions often prophecies fulfilled (1:22-23; 2:1, 5-6; 15, 17-18; 23; 3:3; 4:13-16). The apostles would point back on these events as proof that Jesus is the Christ (Luke 24:25-27, 44; Acts 17:2, 3) Doer of God's Will — All the accounts of Jesus remind us of a central desire in His life – to please His Father. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Both His baptism (3:13-17) and His temptations (4:1-11) show a desire to please His Father and do His will. Others highlight this desire as well (John 4:34; 8:29) Fisher of Men — Likewise Jesus shows His purpose in life of drawing men to Himself, the One we need to hear and follow, the One who would save us from our sins. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> His was come to save men from their sins (1:21), now He begins preaching, teaching, and working miracles (4:17, 23-24) in the presence of the people (4:25) and His disciples who will carry on this work (4:18-22). All this showed His interest in people (Matt. 9:36) and the desire to fulfill His Work (Luke 19:10; John 12:32). <p><i>Thus Matthew sets the stage to present Jesus' teaching/work...</i></p> 	<p>O For A Faith That Will Not Shrink</p> <p><i>The result of exercising our spiritual senses unto discernment (cf. Heb. 5:14) should be spiritual growth/maturity that will be seen in our faith, a faith that will not shrink but rather is one that is pleasing to God. As the song we will consider indicates such is a faith that:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Will Stand (rather than shrink in face of opposition or persecution) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> One can know he will face some persecution in the Christian life (2 Tim. 3:12; Matt. 5:10-12) Question is, what will we do in that situation? (Matt. 13:20-23; Heb. 10:38-39; 1 Pet. 5:8-9; James 5:10-11; Heb. 11:36-12:4). Will Grow (rather than complain, it will learn to trust God and accept discipline) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Likewise the Christian can expect some correction/discipline in life (2 Tim. 3:16-17; Heb. 12:5-11). Again, we have to choose what to do with it (Prov. 12:1; 15:32; 2 Cor. 1:3-4, 8-10; James 1:2-4). Will Shine (rather than doubt or fear, it will be an example to others) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Doubt and fear will cause us to draw back, be silent; faith ought to drive us to stand out (Ps. 118:6; Heb. 13:6; Matt. 10:26-39). Stand out in the way we live and evangelism (Matt. 5:16; Phil. 2:15-16; Matt. 28:18-20; Acts 8:4; 2 Tim. 4:2; 1 Pet. 3:13-15). Will Hope (regardless of what may come, we will trust in God and look forward with expectation to our eternal home). <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Regardless of what it meant enduring Paul trusted God and walked with Him (2 Tim. 1:12, 4:6-8; Rom. 8:18). Such a one has confidence in God and His promises now and in eternity (Jn 10:10; Mk 10:29-30; Jms 1:12; Rev 2:10; 1 Jn 5:13) 		