

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



March 4, 2012

Contact Us:

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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:

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

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

Shelter in the Storm

A young man named Gus was taking a walk through the English countryside one day in 1753 when a sudden storm swept across the landscape. Running for cover, he spotted a wide rock formation with an opening where he sought shelter until the storm passed. He had been fortunate to find this hiding-place so quickly, and he began to muse on the connection between his shelter and God's help in life's storms.

And as he contemplated this scenario, the words for a poem began to form in his mind, but he had no paper on which to write them. Looking down on the floor of the cave-like structure, he saw a playing card -- considered a sinful thing by the young cleric. Nevertheless, he picked it up and began to formulate his thoughts and write them onto the card.

The life of the writer of those words, Augustus Toplady, was cut short by tuberculosis, and on August 11, 1778 he passed from this life. He was buried in Tottenham Court Chapel in London. A "memorial stone" was erected in his memory. And on this stone was inscribed the words that he had jotted down on a playing card some years before;

"Rock of ages, cleft for me, Let me hide myself in Thee;
Let the water and the blood, From Thy riven side which flowed,
Be of sin the double cure, Cleanse me from its guilt and power."

These words are part of a poem that has become a beloved Christian hymn: "Rock of Ages." Toplady took his experience of finding shelter in a storm and made application to the Shelter that provides salvation from sin. Just as Gus found shelter under a rock formation, even so you and I may find "shelter" (forgiveness and life) from the "storm of sin" in the Rock of Ages, Jesus Christ.

Jesus endured God's wrath (storm) against sin on our behalf by dying on the cross. He paid the price for our redemption (Ephesians 1:7). Through Him, we receive the "double cure": through His blood we are cleansed from the guilt and dominion of sin.

We find shelter in the Rock of Ages when we: place our faith and trust in Him (Acts 16:30-31), turn from our sins in repentance (Acts 17:30-31), confess Him before men (Romans 10:9-10), and are baptized (immersed) into Christ for the forgiveness of our sins (Acts 2:38; Galatians 3:26-27).

"From the end of the earth will I cry unto Thee,
When my heart is overwhelmed:

Lead me to the Rock that is higher than I." (Psalm 61:2)

Won't YOU find shelter in the Rock of Ages by trusting and obeying Him today?

(From "Living Water", a publication of the Church of Christ at Creekwood,
Mobile, AL by Mike Eddlemon and David A. Sargent)



For the LORD God is a sun and shield: the LORD will give grace and
glory: no good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly.
O LORD of hosts, blessed is the man that trusteth in thee.

Psalm 84:11-12

In the second book of Chronicles we are introduced to Jehoshaphat, one of the few good kings of the Israelites. He ruled over the kingdom of Judah for 25 years and was described as a king who “walked in the first ways of his father David” (2 Chr. 17:3). He ruled in Judah at the same time Ahab and Jezebel were enforcing their reign of terror on God’s people in the northern kingdom of Israel.

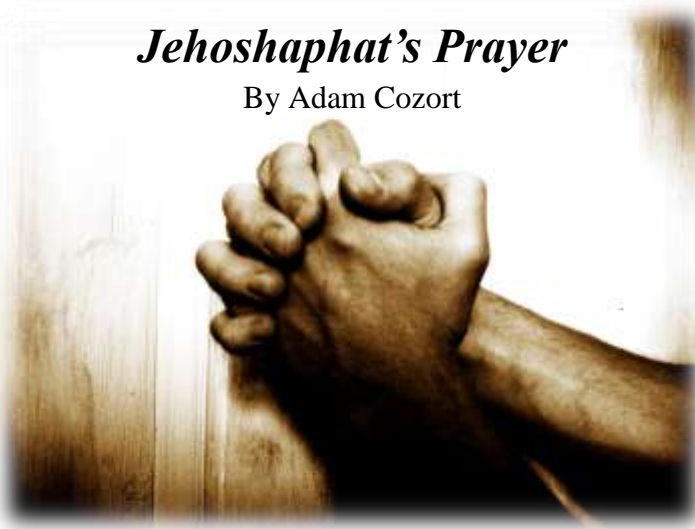
In 2 Chronicles 20 Jehoshaphat is faced with a crisis. The Moabites, Ammonites, and Edomites have invaded the land of Judah (2 Chr. 20:1, 10). Judah’s forces are heavily outnumbered, and it is a frightening proposition for this good king to have to face them head-on in battle. Jehoshaphat’s first reaction is to set himself and the people to seek the Lord (Vs. 3). He calls for a feast to be held throughout all Judah that they might petition God for his assistance against this great army.

As Jehoshaphat stands in the midst of those assembled and prays to God, one verse sums up the sentiments of the king. In verse 12, Jehoshaphat states, “O our God, wilt thou not judge them? For we have no might against this great company that cometh against us; neither know we what to do: but our eyes are upon thee.” Please take a moment to consider the importance of Jehoshaphat’s statements and how we can relate it to our approach to God today.

“**For we have no might against this great company that cometh against us.**” Man often feels he has to fight all of the battles himself. He tries to tackle the problem without God believing that if he is strong enough, smart enough, and lucky enough, everything will work out alright. Jehoshaphat does no such thing. Instead, he

Jehoshaphat’s Prayer

By Adam Cozort



goes directly to God and admits that he and his people have no strength compared to the large army coming against them. Without God, they will not obtain victory, and they know it. Sometimes mankind has to be willing to admit that, by themselves, they don’t have the strength to deal with the problems before them. It is not a sign of weakness, but an acknowledgment that man needs help

from a source greater than himself.

“**Neither know we what to do.**” Every individual will have problems and difficulties arise in life that will leave him without a ready course of action. Instead of calling a council meeting of his advisors, Jehoshaphat goes straight to the one who has all of the answers to every problem. God has promised us that with every temptation there is a way of escape (1 Cor. 10:13); he has also promised that he has given us all things that pertain to life and godliness (2 Pet. 1:3). Though we will face problems that will leave us without the knowledge of what to do next, we must have the strength and courage to do exactly what Jehoshaphat did; recognize that we do not have the answer and go to the source of all wisdom.

“**But our eyes are upon thee.**” Jehoshaphat knew where to go in times of trouble. His faith and confidence was, not in himself, but in God. Therefore, he knew that if he kept his focus on God, the Creator of the Universe would take care of him. We must have the same level of confidence in God in our own lives. There should never be a time in our lives where we are not focused on God: whether it be his blessings, his comfort, his assistance, or his strength.

(Continued on page 3)

Television

The Truth In Love (Robert Dodson)
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 10

Exodus 5-10 & Matthew 19-20

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)



Happening Today:

- ◆ This is the first Sunday of March and so we hope you can stay for our **monthly potluck lunch** following the morning worship.
- ◆ Also tonight following services we will have a **cake and punch reception for Mike and Patti Bannister** before they head back to Singapore...hope you can join us in saying goodbye.



Upcoming Events:

- ◆ **Ladies Bible Class** will meet for the final time this year on this Wednesday morning, March 7 at 10 AM in the high school class room. It will resume again in the fall. Also they are planning on going out to eat after class if you can join them.
- ◆ We will be hosting the last **Bible Search** here on March 25 at 2 PM. We will need some help with graders and other tasks if you can help and also will need cookies/brownies/etc...there will be a sign-up sheet at the back of the auditorium if you can help.

Upcoming Meetings:

- ◆ Bangs—March 18-21 with Rick Popejoy
- ◆ Gordon—Ladies Day at Night March 20 @ 6 PM
- ◆ 5th & Grape—March 25-28 with Mike Vestal
- ◆ Hillcrest/Stephenville—March 25-28 with Carl McCann

(Continued from page 2)

But Jehoshaphat did not just look to God himself; he led others to do the same. Verse 13 records, "And all Judah stood before the Lord, with their little ones, their wives, and their children." Jehoshaphat brought an entire nation before God seeking his aid. When others come to us with problems and dilemmas, how do we respond? Do we endear them to us with words proclaiming our own wisdom, or do we direct them to the one who truly has the answer for every problem mankind faces?

God delivered Judah from their enemies as he had promised he would. He was faithful to his people, and aided them in their time of need. He will do the same for us, if we will look to him as Jehoshaphat did; with courage, purpose, and faithful recognition that we need his help and cannot do it alone. Let us take a lesson from Jehoshaphat and in times of trouble make God, not the last choice, but the first.

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 **25 contacts** were made.

Thank You...I appreciate so much all of the cards & visits I have received. It has helped me so much. Please continue to keep me in your prayers—I am slowly getting better. Thanks so very much.
~Love Cassie Freeman

Daylight Savings Time Begins

Daylight Savings time begins once again next **Sunday, March 11th...**
Make sure and set your clocks one hour ahead before you go to bed next Saturday night!



Celebrate

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

March Birthdays: Ken Maninger (04), Billy Graham (07), John Greer (07), Allen Griffith (20), Mileen Kalich (21), James Thomas (23), Kaitlyn Graham (28), Jessica Stultz (28), Ethel Adams (29)

March Anniversaries: Cindy & James Fuller (02), Billie & Clarence Ford (20), Tom & Carol Wilcox (23)

Mistakes? Left Out? Let Ryan know...



Records

	Feb. 19, 2012	Feb. 26, 2012
Bible Class	43	59
AM Worship	63	83
PM Worship	45	48
Wednesday PM	26	41
Contribution	\$1641	\$1948

Privileged To Serve

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

	This Week: 3/4/12	Next Week: 3/11/12	March 2012	
Sunday AM:	Lead Singing: Ken Maninger	Lead Singing: Tom Wilcox	Make Announcements: Jim Moore	
Greeters	Charles & Bennie White	Gene & Barbara Bannister	Prepare Communion: Billy & Peggy Chism	
Opening Prayer	James Thomas	James Fuller	Clean Building: The Smithey Family	
Communion	Hank Wheeler*, Garrett Barnum Gene Bannister, Tom Wilcox	Ken Maninger*, John Barnum Garrett Barnum, Don Smith	Keep Grounds: Tom Wilcox	
Closing Prayer	John Barnum	Gene Bannister	April 2012	
Attendance Cards	Seth Smithey/Matthew Ochoa	Chase Churchwell/Xavier Martinez	Make Announcements: Gen Bannister	
Sunday PM:			Prepare Communion: Jim & Peg Moore	
Opening Prayer	Matthew Churchwell	Jim Moore	Clean Building: Jim & Peg Moore	
Scripture Reading	James Fuller <i>Proverbs 2:1-9</i>	Allen Griffith	Keep Grounds: Charles White	
Communion	Hank Wheeler	Ken Maninger		
Closing Prayer	Jim Moore	Hank Wheeler		
Wednesday Devotionals:	March 7 Jim Moore	March 14 Don Smith	March 21 Allen Griffith	March 28 Tom Wilcox

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 March 4, 2012	Sunday Class Romans 9 Wednesday Class Bible/Redemption Survey
<p>Matthew 18: Humility & Forgiveness In this chapter Jesus deals with two great characteristics of His disciples toward each other: humility and forgiveness.</p> <p>1. Humility: God's Care For All (18:1-14)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> This chapter opens with a question of who is the greatest – Jesus says it is the one who turns and becomes as a child. He further warns against making even one of those children stumble (cf. Rom. 14; Phil. 2:3-4) because it is not God's will for even one to perish (2 Pet. 3:9; 1 Tim. 2:4; Luke 19:10, 14; John 3:16; cf. Luke 15). <p>2. Forgiveness: Responsibility To Restore & Forgive (v15-35)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Seeing God's desire to seek out His children, should create the same desire within us (Eph. 5:1; 1 Cor. 11:1). Thus if one has sinned against us we should seek to restore that one and forgive him when he repents. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Note responsibility of both parties when we sin against another occurs (v15 & 5:23-24). Note also the desire to solve the matter as quickly and quietly as possible (meekness - cf. Gal. 6:1). One who will not repent after due process (based on heavenly authority – v18-20) is treated as one who is lost — yet still with the hope of restoration (1 Cor. 5:1-5; 2 Cor. 2:6-8; 2 Thess. 3:14-15). When such a one would repent we should be ready to forgive them again and again (Luke 17:4) lest we not be forgiven by God — for by God has forgiven us a greater debt (cf. Matt. 6:12, 14-15; Col. 3:13). 	<p>The Glory of Youth (Prov. 20:29) This verse reminds us that just as older individuals have much to offer, so do younger ones.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> They Have Strength With Which To Serve <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Focus on those things you can do rather than what you cannot do. Solomon reminds us that we should use the time of our youth wisely before we lose physical abilities and eventually die (Eccl. 11-12). Be about the Lord's business (1 John 2:14; John 9:4; Eph. 5:15-16; Matt. 6:33) and remember you are setting a tone for the rest of your life! They Can Be Strengthened In Wisdom <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Seek out true wisdom (Jer. 9:23-24; Ps. 119:9-16; Matt. 5:6; Prov. 3:5-12). Requires humility in listening to and honoring others (God/parents/elders/wise counselors) (Prov. 2:3-9; Eph. 6:1-3; Prov. 1:1-5, 7-9; 4:1-4; 19:26-27). They Can Set A Strong Example <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Implement/choose the way of wisdom you have learned (Prov. 1:10, 15:16; 4:11-15, 26-27) Some will despise your youth regardless but don't given them reason to; rather be an example to all—younger, peers, and older (1 Cor. 11:1; Prov. 20:11; 1 Tim. 4:12; 2:9-10; 2 Tim. 2:22). <p><i>Let each remember we have something to offer in the Lord's kingdom and encourage one another whether old or young.</i></p>