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 1, 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

Tuesday:

Redstone Class...... 9:30 AM

Worship......6:00 PM

Wednesday:

Ladies Bible Class On Break Bible Study7:00 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.

How Do You Treat This Book?

By Jeff Jenkins

It must be a very important document.

The rules associated with it show that it is loved and respected.

- 1) One should make formal ablutions before handling this book or reading from its text
- 2) One who is in need of a formal bath should not touch this book until after bathing.
- 3) A non-member should not handle the sacred text, but may listen to tapes of it or handle a translation or exegesis.
- 4) Those who are unable to handle this book based on these reasons should either avoid handling it completely, or in necessity hold it while using some sort of barrier covering the hand, such as a cloth or a glove.

"In addition, when one is not reading or reciting from this book, it should be closed and stored a clean, respectable place. Nothing should be placed on top of it, nor should it ever be placed on the floor or in a bathroom.

To further show respect for the sacred text, those who are writing it should use clear, elegant handwriting, and those who are reading from it should use clear, beautiful voices."

Some of you may be thinking that these rules are surely being applied to the Bible. Oh, how we could wish. According to the Islam religion this is how a follower is to treat the Koran.

Compare those rules to the way that some people treat their Bibles.

Leave it at the church building and never open it except when they come to Bible class or worship.

Leave it in the car where it can become discolored by the sun and where it can be stepped on, sat on, or otherwise treated poorly.

Throw it around as if it is just any book and treat it like it is just another book in the library.

I know that not everybody treats their Bible like this, but I'm afraid that many do.

So, how should we treat the Bible?

Do we have to be gentle, do we have to treat it with kid gloves?

Do we need to bathe or wash our hands before we read the Bible?

A recent research project by the Barna Group revealed the following facts about what Americans think about the Bible.

• 85 percent of households own at least one Bible, with a household average of 4.3

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And many people shall go and say, Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

Bibles.

- 69 percent of Americans believe the Bible provides answers on how to live a meaningful life.
- 36 percent of Americans read the Bible less than once a year.
- 79 percent of those surveyed believe they are knowledgeable about the Bible, but 54 percent were unable to identify the first five books of the Bible.
- 46 percent believe the Bible, the Koran, and the Book of Mormon are different expressions of the same spiritual truths.

Allow me to share a few thoughts, and always please feel free to add your thoughts.

TREAT THE BIBLE LIKE IT IS GOD'S INSPIRED WORD. "All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness." (2 Timothy 3:16)

This is how God has chosen to communicate His Word, His will, and His way to us.

It is a history book, but it is so much more...

It is a book filled with science, but it is so much more...

It is a book that teaches us about finances, but it is so much more...

It is a book that teaches us about marriage, the family, how to raise children, but it is so much more...

It is a book that teaches us about church organization, but it is so much more...

It is a book about relationships, but it is so much more...

IT IS THE INSPIRED, INERRANT, IRREFUTABLE, WORD OF OUR LOVING FATHER.

TREAT THE BIBLE LIKE IT IS YOUR GUIDE FOR THIS LIFE. The Psalmist said, "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path. (Psalm 119:105) The Bible is like a road map.

If you are lost, it will help you find your way.

If you are in darkness, it will lead you to light.

If you are alone, it will serve as your companion.

If you are out of spiritual energy, it will fill your tank.

If you are meeting road blocks, it will redirect your to better roads.

If you are struggling with storms it will help protect you.

TREAT THE BIBLE LIKE YOU LOVE IT. The words of the Psalmist come to mind. "O how I love Your law! It is my meditation all the day." (Psalm 119:97)

I have a wonderful library of books. Some of them I purchased. Many of them were passed down to me by my father. Some were given to me by other preachers or given to me as gifts. They are all precious to me. Some are more precious than others.

There are some that I will loan anyone that can use them to help in their study. There are others that I am more careful about loaning them out.

There are a few, that IF I let you touch them...

TREAT THE BIBLE LIKE IT IS THE ONLY BOOK THAT CAN GET YOU TO HEAVEN. There are millions of self-help books available.

There are many books to help you diet...

There are many books to help you exercise...

There are many books to help you with home repairs...

There are many books to help you with fixing a broken down car...

There are many books to help you learn about history...

There are many books to help you learn about the arts...

There are many books to help you with relationships...

There are many books to help you with parenting...

There are many books to help you with your struggling marriage...

THERE IS ONLY ONE BOOK TO HELP YOU GET TO HEAVEN. "In humility receive the word implanted, which is able to save your souls." (James 1:21)

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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 27 Deuteronomy 4-9 & Luke 9-10

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)



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 **33 contacts** were made.

News & Notes

- ◆ We will be having our **first Sunday fellowship meal** following the morning worship...we hope you can join us.
- ◆ The **Summer Youth Series** will not be held this week during Jr. Camp but will resume next week when it will be hosted by Hico.
- ◆ Saturday, July 7, at 2 PM there will be a **memorial service** here at the building for **John Bickford**, Michael Bickford's father.

Overlooking an Insult

By Eddie Parrish

How do you respond when you believe you have been insulted? Sometimes we find ourselves filled with the desire to strike back and let the other person know just how it feels. So we verbally unload on them.

God has offered us another option. "The vexation of a fool is known at once, but the prudent ignores an insult" (Prov. 12:16). It is the foolish person who, when insulted, pours out his displeasure without delay. It is the wise person who controls his passions.

I hope you're not insulted today. But if you are, try the route of self-control.

Choose Jesus

By Eugene Adkins via bulletin-digest.com

If you have the ability to read and understand this right now, then by the time your life is over you are going to be a person who has the ability to make no less than a million choices. That's right; I mean what I say!

Have you ever thought about how many choices you make a day? From the time you chose to get up this morning to the time that you will choose to go to bed tonight and everywhere in between you're making choices.

Some choices will only affect you, some choices will affect those closest to you like family and friends, and some choices will even affect strangers that you may never meet.

What makes us choose the choices we make? How often do we make choices because we have chosen Jesus?

On multiple occasions Jesus urged His follower's to choose wisely (John 8:24-32).

He encouraged them to

- choose a heavenly reward over an earthly one (Matthew 6:19-24).
- to choose the narrow way over the broad (Matthew 7:13-14).
- to choose courage over fear (Matthew 10:28-33).
- to choose faith over family (Matthew 10:34-39).
- to choose forgiveness over anger (Matthew 18:21-35).
- to choose Him (Matthew 11:28-30).

Why choose Jesus? Because there's no other choice that makes sense – because there's no one better to choose (Matthew 16:21-27; John 6:66-69).

Celebrate "Rejoice with those who rejoice..." [Romans 12:15]

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

July Anniversaries: Priscilla & Ryan Smithey (26).

Records	June 17, 2012	June 24, 2012
Bible Class	44	46
AM Worship	55	62
PM Worship	40	47
Wednesday PM	38	41
Contribution	\$1476	\$1613

	This Week: 7/1/12	Next	Week: 7/8/12		July 2012 Make Announcements:		
Sunday AM:	Lead Singing: Gene Banniste	er Lead Sin	ging: James Fuller	Ma			
Greeters	Billy & Peggy Chism	Jack	Jack & Joyce Hill		James Fuller Prepare Communion:		
Opening Prayer	John Barnum	J	im Moore		Tom & Carol Wilcox		
Communion	Hank Wheeler*, Tom Wilco Garrett Barnum, Ken Maning		ster*, Allen Griffith omas, Don Smith		Clean Building: Cindy Fuller Keep Grounds:		
Closing Prayer	James Fuller	На	nk Wheeler		James Fuller		
Attendance Cards	Chase Churchwell/Xavier Mart	inez Seth Smith	Seth Smithey/Matthew Ochoa		August 2012		
Sunday PM:				Ma	Make Announcements:		
Opening Prayer	Allen Griffith	В	Billy Chism		Don Smith Prepare Communion: John Barnum Family Clean Building: Smithey Family Keep Grounds: Tom Wilcox		
Scripture Reading	Tom Wilcox	Gai	Garrett Barnum				
Communion	Hank Wheeler	Ger	Gene Bannister				
Closing Prayer	Don Smith	Matth	Matthew Churchwell				
Wednesday Devotionals:	July 4 Garrett Barnum	July 11 Jim Moore	July 18 Don Smi		July 25 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 July 1, 2012

Take Heed How Ye Hear (Luke 8:18)

In handling the word of God, we must take heed to:

1) What We Hear (Mark 4:24)

- a) What exactly is it that we are listening to and allowing to guide us? It needs to be the seed, the word of God (Mark 4:14; Luke 8:11).
- b) This word is a seed that will accomplish its purpose (Gen. 1:11-12; Isa. 55:11; Rom. 1:16), unless prevented or altered (Gal. 1:6-9).
- c) There are many things that can be listened to, but it is the word of God we must hear (Ps. 19:7; 2 Tim. 3:16-17; 1 John 4:1; 2 Pet. 2:1-2).

2) How We Hear (Luke 8:18)

- a) Also important is our attitude toward what we hear; hearing God's word is good but will we allow it to bear fruit?
- b) This is shown in the parable of the soils, the difference is what the soil did with the seed. Some rejected (Heb. 4:2; Hos. 4:6), some allowed it to be choked out (2 Pet. 2:20-22), and yet some allowed it to mature (Matt. 12:43-45).
- c) In hearing will we allow it to affect our lives and continue listening to it?

3) Standing Firm On What We Hear (Eph. 4:14)

- a) Having heard and known the truth, let us then stand securely on it and not be moved, knowing the joy it will bring (Eph. 4:14; James 1:21; Acts 20:32).
- b) Be not as others who will turn away (2 Tim. 4:2-4).

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THREAT THE BIBLE AS IF YOUR ETERNAL LIFE DEPENDS ON IT. Jesus said, "He who rejects Me and does not receive My sayings, has one who judges him; the word I spoke is what will judge him at the last day." (John 12:48)

In Revelation 20:12 John gives us a glimpse of what it will be like on the great Day of Judgment. "And I saw the dead, the great and the small, standing before the throne, and books were opened; and another book was opened, which is the book of life; and the dead were judged from the things which were written in the books, according to their deeds."

Someday we will all stand before the judgment throne of God. When we do will be judged on how we lived in view of our what the Bible teaches.

How do you feel about your Bible?

Dear Father, help us realize how important Your Word is to our lives here on this earth as well as our eternal destination. Help us to treat Your Word with as much love and respect as we can find in our hearts. Help us, Dear Lord to obey Your Word and help us to use it as the basis of every decision in our life. In the Name of Jesus we pray, Amen.