

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 2, 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 On Break
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.

The Glorious Church By Sam Willcut

In Ephesians 5:25-27, Paul declared, "*Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; that he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, that he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.*" In this thoughtful text, Paul references the "*glorious church,*" and we ought to remember that it indeed is glorious! If we are not careful, we may look at all of the negative things that we are facing today, bemoan such with an attitude of "Woe is me!" and fail to remember that despite all of the evil and suffering ongoing in this world, we are still blessed to be a part of the glorious church! Why is the church so glorious?

The church is glorious because we have a glorious Father. The psalmist praised God when he exalted, "*Blessed be the Lord God, the God of Israel, who only doeth wondrous things, and blessed be his glorious name forever: and let the whole earth be filled with his glory; Amen, and Amen*" (Psa. 72:18-19). Stephen preached that "*the God of glory appeared to our father Abraham*" (Acts 7:2). As members of the church of our Lord, all that we do should give the proper glory to our Heavenly Father (cf. John 15:8; Rom. 15:6)! In the superb Sermon on the Mount, Jesus taught that disciples are to display their distinctive lives in such a way that God would receive glory (Matt. 5:16).

The church is glorious because it presents a glorious faith. Hebrews 11 paints such a vivid portrait of the great men and women of faith, and we may meditate and dream upon such for long periods of time. To consider the great faith that they displayed, we realize that they serve as wonderful examples for us, even today. Remember the great statement that Jesus told doubting Thomas: "*Thomas, because thou hast seen me, thou hast believed: blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed*" (John 20:29). Many of us may know wonderful seasoned saints who truly are the "salt-of-the-earth" people—those whose faith we not only admire, but we also emulate! The church is glorious because as members of the church, we are able to present a glorious faith!

The church is glorious because we are a part of a glorious family. Indeed, the church is described as a wonderful family—"*the house of God*" (1 Tim. 3:15). As brethren—sons and daughters of our Heavenly Father (cf. 2 Cor. 6:18)—we shower one another with love and compassion. We provide special attention to those who are "*of the household of faith*" (Gal. 6:10). Where would we be without our church family? For this reason, is not the church glorious?

The church is glorious because we have a glorious future. The hope of the resurrection inspires us, as well as comforts us (cf. 1 Thess. 4:13-18). Thus, we set our aims, affections and aspirations to the skies above (Col. 3:1-2; Heb. 12:1-2),

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*Who is a wise man and endued with knowledge among you?
let him shew out of a good conversation
his works with meekness of wisdom.*

James 3:13

Six Super Strategies for Students

By Bill Davis

Last month we present Six Super Strategies for Parents. This month we want to turn our focus toward students and offer them some guidelines that will help not only in school, but also in life!

1. Obey your parents—and honor them, Eph 6:1-2. You are going to be exposed to all kinds of sights, sounds, and suggestions. Don't ever lose touch with the voice and counsel of your Mother & Father. No one knows you like Mom & Dad—no one!
2. Make time for God. As you grow and mature, there will be an increasing need for you to build your own meaningful relationship with God. Timothy's faith first dwelt in his grandmother but it eventually found a resting place in his own heart and life, II Tim 1:5-7. God is not a priority in your life—He is the priority of your life! Get to know your Heavenly Father—for yourself.
3. Do television—don't let television do you! Watching television has become an obsession in our culture. Make a schedule and keep the "One eyed monster" on a tight leash! The less television you watch, the more time you will have to study your Bible, reflect upon your life and future, talk with your parents (what a concept!), and master your school work. Challenge yourself to do without television for one month—you will never be the same!
4. Learn the SMART Study Method. Countless numbers of people study harder—but don't know how to study smarter! The SMART Study method helps you develop and achieve meaningful goals in your life. The secret is in the meaning of each letter associated with the word SMART. Here's the key:

S-pecific (Make your goals concrete—as opposed to abstract)

M-easurable (If it can't be measured, it is not a goal)

A-ttainable (Keep it real—and within reason)

R-ealistic (Work within the framework of blessings from God)

T-ime bound (Put an end-date on the goals you set for yourself) The best way to turn a dream into reality is to put a completion date on it!

6. Be sensitive to the needs of others. The best way to be a blessing to others is to die to yourself, Jo 12:24-26. Hone your listening skills and ask God to give you the wisdom and insight to serve others. He will help you become a blessing to others. And you will be able to do things around the house without being told!
7. Take Jesus everywhere you go. Sometimes, we are the best sermon that people will ever see. Taking Jesus everywhere will allow you to model His character and behavior in all you say and do, Phil 2:5ff. Your light will shine brightly and you will give direction and hope to a lost and dying world.

Learning...growing...changing...maturing...excelling—this is hard work! But we must never lose sight of the "Big Picture." Make sure all of your future plans include God, and the ultimate goal of a heavenly home.

Class, dismissed!

[This article was published by Focus Press and gives some good points to ponder as many start back to school (and all of us). ~Ryan]

Something to think about....

“Christianity, if false, is of no importance,
and if true, of infinite importance.

The only thing it cannot be is moderately important.”

~C.S. Lewis

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 36

**Joshua 24—Judges 5
& John 3-4**

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)



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waiting for heaven to be a reality. Then, we may be able to dream of our future:

And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof. And the nations of them which are saved shall walk in the light of it: and the kings of the earth do bring their glory and honor into it. And the gates of it shall not be shut at all by day: for there shall be no night there. And they shall bring the glory and honor of the nations into it. [Rev. 21:23-26]

Therefore, when times may get tough, we are able to set such aside and realize the glorious future for the church (1 Cor. 15:22-26, 51-58).

The church is glorious because we are marrying a glorious husband. The context of our beginning text of this article shows the relationship of the church with Jesus providing lessons for the relationship between husbands and wives. As we view the church as the bride of Christ, we see the beautiful imagery of a wedding taking place, emphasized also in Revelation 21:2-9. When we consider the glory of Jesus Christ, it literally may take our breath away and bring tears to our eyes (cf. Rev. 5:4-5). The apostle John declared of Jesus, *“And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth”* (1:14). Let those words sink in—*“we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father.”* He prayed for glory from His Father (John 17:5), and one day, He will be returning in His glory—the same glory of His Father (Luke 9:26; cf. Matt. 16:27; Mark 8:38). The church is glorious because Jesus Christ, the head of the church (Eph. 1:22-23), is glorious!

Therefore, we ought never to lose sight of the fact that no matter how gloomy our future may perceive, we may look through the dark clouds that hover about us to see the many manifestations of the glory associated with the church! This sparks hope—hope that those who are hopeless in the world need to know and hear from us! May we ever be optimistic carriers of good news—we serve a glorious God who rules over a glorious church!

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 **31 contacts** were made.

News & Notes

- ◆ Today is the **first Sunday** of September and time for our monthly **fellowship meal**...we hope you can join us for lunch following the morning worship.
- ◆ We **welcome the Dennis family** to the congregation. They recently moved to the area and expressed their desire to work and worship with the congregation last Sunday night. Welcome Joe, Lasha, Shannon, Jessica, Caleb, & Caroline when you get a chance. I will try to get their directory page out soon.
- ◆ Remember our **gospel meeting** is just a few weeks away on September 16-19th with Josh Romo of San Angelo.
- ◆ September 15-16 **Brad Harrub** will be at 9th & Main in San Angelo speaking on “Isalm and Other World Religions”.

Celebrate

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

September Birthdays: James Fuller (06), Emily Ochoa (11), Gene Bannister (16), Billie Ford (17), Clarence Ford (17), Marie White (18), Matthew Ochoa (20), Cindy Proud (26), Garrett Barnum (27), Matthew Howell (28), Jimmy Seale (29).

September Anniversaries: Joyce & Jack Hill (10).

Mistakes? Left Out? Let Ryan know...



Records

	August 19, 2012	August 26, 2012
Bible Class	45	52
AM Worship	63	83
PM Worship	53	44
Wednesday PM	35	43
Contribution	\$1692	\$1492

	This Week: 9/2/12	Next Week: 9/9/12	September 2012	
Sunday AM:	Lead Singing: Tom Wilcox	Lead Singing: Gene Bannister	Make Announcements: Ken Maninger	
Greeters	Tom & Carol Wilcox	Allen & Linda Griffith	Prepare Communion: Gene & Barbara Bannister	
Opening Prayer	James Thomas	James Fuller	Clean Building: Jim & Peg Moore	
Communion	Hank Wheeler*, Garrett Barnum Gene Bannister, Allen Griffith	Ken Maninger*, John Barnum Garrett Barnum, Don Smith	Keep Grounds: Charles White	
Closing Prayer	John Barnum	Tom Wilcox	October 2012	
Attendance Cards	Chase Churchwell/Xavier Martinez	Seth Smithey/Matthew Ochoa	Make Announcements: Jim Moore	
Sunday PM:			Prepare Communion: Billy & Peggy Chism	
Opening Prayer	Don Smith	Billy Chism	Clean Building: Jessica Stultz	
Scripture Reading	John Barnum <i>Luke 8:22-25</i>	James Fuller	Keep Grounds: Jim Moore	
Communion	Hank Wheeler	Ken Maninger		
Closing Prayer	Jim Moore	Hank Wheeler		
Wednesday Devotionals:	August 29 Don Smith	September 5 James Fuller	September 12 Allen Griffith	September 19 Gospel Meeting

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 2, 2012	Sunday Class <i>Colossians (Chapter 1)</i> Wednesday Class <i>Redemption Through The Bible</i>
<p>Gospel of John: A Picture of God, The Son Other writers spoke of His authority and His work, John specifically shows us the deity of Christ.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> God, Who Dwelt Among Man (John 1). He is eternal—equal and united with the Father (1:1-2; 5:17-19; Phil. 2:6; Jn 4:34, 10:30, 33; 17:20-21), the maker of all things (Jn 1:3; Col. 1:16-17), and dwelt among us to save us (Jn 1:4-5, 29; 3:14-17; Matt. 1:21; Luke 19:10). God, The Worker of Miracles. Seven miracles are recorded during His ministry that show His power of all things He created. (See Jn 2:1-11; 4:46-54; 5:1-18; 6:1-14; 6:16-21; chap 9; chap 11; also 20:1-9 and 21:1-12) God, The Source of Life or The Great "I Am...". John records seven statements made by Jesus concerning Himself that show Him as the source and provider of life. (See 6:33-35; 8:12; 10:1, 7; 10:11, 14; 11:25-26; 14:6; 15:1-8). God, The Witnesses Agree. John 5:31-47 records a list of six witnesses (Himself, John the Immerser, His Works, the Father, the Scriptures, Moses) that testify to who Jesus is; Jesus also says that the Spirit will testify of Him (15:26) as well as the apostles themselves (15:27). God, The One On Whom We Must Believe (20:30-31). What John wrote (signs that pointed to Jesus' deity) were recorded that we might believe (in His deity) and that through that faith we might have life (the end/goal of our faith when we obey—John 3:36; Heb. 11:6). <i>John shows us Jesus, the Son of God, who came to give life...</i> 	<p>Calm in the Midst of the Storm At the eye of a storm there is often peace when all around is tumultuous. That is the peace that can characterize our lives by being like Christ who was asleep in a storm (Lk. 8:22-25).</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> He was Physically Exhausted—Keep Busy <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Jesus busied Himself with His Father's business (Luke 2:49; John 4:34). If we are busy and make good use of time, we have less time to worry and fret (Gal. 6:9; Matt. 6:33; Eph. 5:16). He was Mentally Serene—Clear Conscience <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Jesus could rest with a clear conscience knowing He was doing what was right (John 6:38; Matt. 5:11-12). How do we have this kind of conscience: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Stop ignoring (Heb 3:13; Acts 28:26-27; 1 Tim 4:1-2) Correct (Forgiveness) brings comfort (Ps. 38:4; Acts 2:38, 8:39, 22:16; 1 John 1:7-9; Heb. 8:12) Avoid (Be Faithful) (Titus 2:11-12; 1 Thess 5:21-22) Leads to peace with God/Others/Self (Phil. 4:6-9). He was Spiritually Secure—Have Confidence <ol style="list-style-type: none"> We can know we are secure with God (John 10:27-29; Rom. 8:38-39) We are safe in His boat—confidence in His word (Luke 8:22-25; 2 Tim. 1:12; 1 John 5:13) As long as we follow God, we can trust in His promises (2 Pet. 3:9; Rev. 2:10; 2 Tim. 4:8) <i>We will have problems (2 Tim. 3:12; James 1:2; etc.), but it does not have to shake our peace (Phil. 4:4, 11-13).</i>