



## 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 ..... 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

## Made In The Image Of God

By Ryan Smithey

Human beings hold a special place in the eyes of God; of all the creation only of male and female did He say they were created in His image and given dominion over the creation (Gen. 1:27, 28). When man forgets this fact, the results are disastrous—he forgets his Creator and, in his mind and actions, he lowers himself to animal status. However, when man considers the fact that he is made in the image of God, he will both be humbled before God, His creator, and exalted in his thoughts and actions.

Being made in the image of God should lead one to **humility and praise rather than pride and idolatry**. Contrary to what some say today, God created man, man did not create God! Humanists and atheists would have one believe that the idea of God is an outdated crutch for a simple-minded people. With such a mindset man exalts himself in pride and establishes an idol to be worshiped according to his own will, even if that idol is himself. Sadly the created being worships not the Creator but instead tries to make God in man's image, something he made with his own hand or in his own mind (Rom. 1:25; Psalm 114:4-8; Jer. 10:3-5). However, the one who will remember he was created in the image of God is humbled and praises his Creator. He will be as David in Psalm 8 who reflects on the greatness of God and his own status before Him and concludes: (1) "What is man, that thou art mindful of him?" (v4); even though he was given dominion over the created things, he also was a created being humbled before his Maker. (2) "O Lord, our Lord, how excellent is thy name in all the earth!" (v1, 9); God is worthy to be exalted and praised. Indeed, throughout the psalms one continues to be impressed with the spiritual posture of the writers as they humble themselves before God and worship Him. Yes, God "made the world and all things therein" (Acts 17:24) and "in Him we live, and move, and have our being" (17:28); therefore man should rightfully "seek the Lord" (17:27). May all remember man is created in the image of God and he should humble himself before God and worship Him.

Being made in the image of God should also lead one to **morality and worth rather than immorality and baseness**. The natural conclusion of rejecting the truth that man is created in the image of God is that he must have arrived by accident rather than design, he must have come forth from the animals, and he is little or no more than an animal himself (and so, unsurprisingly, acts much like an animal). Paul describes to the Christians at Rome this progression; when man forgets God, they become "vain in their imaginations...professing themselves to be

(Continued on page 3)



*So built we the wall; and all the wall was joined together unto the half thereof: for the people had a mind to work.*

*Nehemiah 4:6*

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

## The Golden Rule

By Tom Moore

Bernard Rimland, director of the Institute for Child Behavior Research, conducted a fascinating study on the principle of the Golden Rule. Rimland found that “The happiest people are those who help others.”

Each person involved in the study was asked to list ten people he knew best and to label them as happy or not happy. Then they were to go through the list again and label each one as selfish or unselfish, using the following definition of selfishness: “a stable tendency to devote one’s time and resources to one’s own interests and welfare—an unwillingness to inconvenience one’s self for others.”

In categorizing the results, Rimland found that all of the people labeled happy were also labeled unselfish. He wrote that those “whose activities are devoted to bringing themselves happiness...are far less likely to be happy than those whose efforts are devoted to making others happy.” Rimland concluded: “Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.”

Is this not what our Lord taught in what we call the Golden Rule? “*Therefore, whatever you want men to do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets*” (Matt. 7:12). This further emphasizes what Peter taught, “*As His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue*” (2 Pet. 1:3). The Bible is truly sufficient for our every need. The Bible not only shows us how to reach heaven, but also makes our life better in the here and now. True happiness comes as we adhere to biblical principles—one of those is following the Golden Rule.

## An Essential Purchase

By Andy Baker

*Buy the truth, and do not sell it,  
Also wisdom and instruction  
and understanding. [Prov. 23:23]*

**I have the choice to buy the truth.** Buying and selling is as natural as breathing in the consumer-driven culture of America. Advertisements and appeals bombard the average American from all over with one message: “Buy this to be happy!” Solomon says in Proverbs and throughout Ecclesiastes, “*Buy the truth,*” and accessorize it with “*wisdom, and instruction, and understanding*” in order to enrich your life. It is the buyer’s choice to make the purchase. Does he see value in what the truth offers? Does he understand the benefit of truth for his life? Solomon would classify this as the difference between being wise and being foolish (cf. Prov. 17:16).

**I have the choice not to buy the truth.** Many people go through life with evidence and truth all around them and never really buy into it. Atheists and secular scientists come to mind, looking at the universe around them in all its complexity, order and design and still being willfully blind to the grand Designer (Rom. 1:18-21). These are not the only ones who do not buy the truth, though. Many members of the church and those lost drift along through their lives and never really buy into the truth of the gospel, seeing it as essential for their lives. Thus, shallow and superficial Christians abound because they hear truth and do not do it (Matt. 7:24-27; James 1:22).

**I can buy something that is not true.** If someone chooses not to buy the truth, then it is assured that they will buy something that is not true. Consider again the atheists and secular scientists, along with people who refuse to keep God in their knowledge (Rom. 1:25). Truth is a hard thing to hear and accept sometimes. Truth caused men to hate Jesus to the

(Continued on page 4)

### 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 43**

**1 Samuel 17-22**

**& John 17-18**

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)



(Continued from page 1)

wise, they [become] fools” and God gives them “over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient,” or becoming (Rom. 1:18-32). Yes, the path away from God is a path away from morality (for who is to say what is right or wrong?) and away from a sense of worth (for man is not special in the eyes of his Creator, if he even has a creator). But a knowledge of God as one’s creator does exactly the opposite. The psalmist recognized the worth and value God placed in him; “When I consider thy heavens, the work of thy fingers, the moon and the stars, which thou hast ordained; What is man that thou art mindful of him?” (Psalm 8:3-4). Here are all the wonderful things God created and yet God crowned man with “glory and honor” and gave him dominion over creation (8:5)—he is special and valuable! Psalm 139 also reminds one that not only is man valuable, as judged by the attention God gives to him, but he is also accountable to God. Not only is man worth something in the sight of God, even from conception, but he is seen by God at all times and will one day give an account for how he has lived (2 Cor. 5:10). Being made in the image of God reminds man he has a standard to live up to, a standard not set in his own mind, but in the mind of God which is revealed in the gospel (2 Cor. 2; John 12:48; Rom. 2:16).

How sad that so much of the world has forgotten they were made in the image of God. It is seen in their thinking and their actions; they have lifted themselves up with pride and made themselves gods to decide what is right and wrong all while living as if they are nothing more than an animal who holds no accountability before its maker. But one who will trust God and His revealed will, learns he is special—he was made in the image of God. This, too, will show in one’s thinking and actions for he will humble himself before God, he will worship God, he will rise to the moral standard God has set for him, and he will see the value his Creator has placed in Him. Are you living as one made in the image of God?

### 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 **34 contacts** were made. Tonight is the **3rd Sunday** and time for the monthly finger food supper following the meeting.

### Upcoming Events (flyers on back bulletin board)

- ◆ **Today: Ladies Get-together at 4 PM**
- ◆ Oct. 20-21: “Back To The Bible” Lectureship at Hamilton.
- ◆ Oct. 21-24: Meeting/Lectureship at Rising Star.
- ◆ Oct. 28: Bible Bowl hosted here. There is a sign-up sheet for those who can bring cookies/brownies/etc. at the back of the auditorium. Thanks in advance for your help.
- ◆ Dec. 1: Blood drive here for David Harris

## Celebrate

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

**October Birthdays:** Jim Moore (03), Lisa Greer (05), Matthew Churchwell (07), Jo Maninger (12), Seth Smithey (13), Hank Wheeler (13), Tina Barnum (14), Cassie Freeman (23), Peggy Dudley (25).

**October Anniversaries:** Juanita & Stormy Barnum (25), Patti & Mike Bannister (27).

*Mistakes? Left Out? Let Ryan know...*



## Records

	Oct. 7, 2012	Oct. 14, 2012
Bible Class	44	45
AM Worship	60	73
PM Worship	47	57
Wednesday PM	42	42
Contribution	\$1402	\$1651

