

# 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



December 9, 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

## I Want to Go to Heaven

By Charles Box

Heaven is the eternal inheritance of all faithful children of God. "To an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you." (1 Peter 1:4) If we are children of God then we are heirs of heaven. "If children, then heirs--heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together." (Romans 8:17) God blesses all those that live upon earth, but this inheritance is to none but His children. By regeneration we receive the promise of eternal inheritance. "And for this reason He is the Mediator of the new covenant, by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions under the first covenant, that those who are called may receive the promise of the eternal inheritance." (Hebrews 9:15) Heaven is our incorruptible inheritance. This inheritance is undefiled; It is reserved in heaven for you. Let us observe:

***I want to go to heaven because I want to be with the Lord.*** Sin separates man from God both now and forever. "But your iniquities have separated you from your God; And your sins have hidden His face from you, So that He will not hear." (Isaiah 59:2) The joy of the Christian is an eternity in the presence of the Lord. "For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord." (1 Thessalonians 4:16-17) The great joy of heaven will be that we will see the Lord, enjoy His presence and be with Him forever. Paul would have been happy to put off the rags of mortality to be clothed in the glory of the Lord's presence. "We are confident, yes, well pleased rather to be absent from the body and to be present with the Lord." (2 Corinthians 5:8)

***I want to go to heaven because that means an end to all the struggles of this life.*** John wrote, "And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away." (Revelation 21:4) Heaven will be free from all the troubles and sorrows of this life. "All tears shall be wiped away." All the pains of past sorrow will be removed and all causes of future sorrows will be prevented. At this "living fountains of water God will wipe away every tear from their

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*The way of the wicked is an abomination unto the LORD:  
but he loveth him that followeth after righteousness.*

Proverbs 15:9

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

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eyes." (Revelation 7:17) Isaiah 25:8 says, "He will swallow up death forever, And the Lord God will wipe away tears from all faces." There is no more sorrow because sin is no more. "They shall obtain joy and gladness; Sorrow and sighing shall flee away." (Isaiah 51:11) It will be wonderful to enjoy heaven where there will be no more problems! Peace, joy and happiness will be there forever.

***I want to go to heaven because I don't want my Lord to have to died in vain.*** The gospel of Christ is the good news that Jesus died for sinners, was buried and was raised as Lord and Savior. (1 Corinthians 15:1-4) I do not want His death to have been in vain. Paul wrote, "For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him." (2 Corinthians 5:21) The fact that Christ suffered sin's penalty in man's place is great motivation for going to Heaven. Jesus said, "Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you." (John 14:1-2) Heaven is man's greatest goal to gain and greatest loss to lose!

***I want to go to heaven because I surely don't want to go to hell.*** Hell is described as a place of "everlasting punishment." "And these will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life." (Matthew 25:46) Jesus warned us to "Fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell." (Matthew 10:28) The horrors of that lake, burning with fire and brimstone are indescribable. (Revelation 20:15) Hell is a place of "weeping and gnashing of teeth." (Matthew 13:42) It is a place of outer darkness inhabited by the Devil and his angels. (Matthew 25:30,

Matthew 25:41) I want to go to heaven because surely I do not want to go to hell.

***I want to go to heaven because it is a place of beauty and splendor.*** Our hope is, "laid up for you in heaven, of which you heard before in the word of the truth of the gospel." (Colossians 1:5) Heaven is described as, "a better and an enduring possession for yourselves in heaven." (Hebrews 10:34) Heaven is a "city which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God." (Hebrews 11:10) Heaven is that "Holy City" -- "New Jerusalem." (Revelation 21:1-2) Imagine being in a place where, "the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb" are its temple. (Revelation 21:22) Heaven is a place of beauty, joy, comfort and delight. I want to go there!

***I want to go to heaven because it is eternal -- everlasting life.*** Jesus said, "And these will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life." (Matthew 25:46) Paul described heaven as an eternal place. "Therefore we do not lose heart. Even though our outward man is perishing, yet the inward man is being renewed day by day. For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory, while we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal." (2 Corinthians 4:16-18) Heaven is a place of eternal treasures. "Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal." (Matthew 6:19-20)

***I want to go to heaven because I want to be with***

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Television	God's Plan for Redeeming Man	Bible Study Schedule
<p>The Truth In Love (Robert Dodson) Sunday @ 7:00 am on KTAB</p> <p>In Search of the Lord's Way Sunday @ 7:30 am on KTAB</p> <p>Gospel Broadcasting Network Online: 24/7 @ gbntv.org and on Roku TV: Sunday @ 6:30 am on Dish: 267, DirectTV: 376</p> <p><b>Radio</b></p> <p>Preaching the Word (Michael Light) Sunday @ 9:00am on KOXE 101.3</p>	<p><b>Hear</b> Learn the saving message of Christ's sacrifice (1 Cor. 1:18; Rom. 10:17).</p> <p><b>Believe</b> Jesus is the Son of God (John 8:24)</p> <p><b>Confess</b> Jesus as your Lord, Lawgiver, and King (Rom. 10:9-10; Matt. 10:32-33)</p> <p><b>Repent</b> of your sinful conduct (Luke 13:3,5)</p> <p>Complete your initial obedience to the gospel by being <b>baptized</b> for the forgiveness of your sins (Acts 2:38; 22:16)</p> <p><b>Live faithfully</b> (Rev. 2:10; 2 Tim. 4:7-8)</p>	<p><b>Week 49</b> <b>1 Kings 4-9</b> <b>&amp; Acts 10-11</b></p> <p>Study sheets are available at the back of the auditorium.</p> <p>Also anyone interested can join us at 5 PM each Sunday in the fellowship hall to discuss the questions and answers.</p> <p><i>"...desire the sincere milk of the work, that ye may grow thereby;" (1 Pet. 2:2)</i></p>



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**others who will be there.** In heaven we will be in the presence of the Lord. Jesus said, "And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also." (John 14:3) In heaven you will also be with those that have done the will of God and those who died innocent. David knew he could be with his little child in heaven. "But now he is dead; why should I fast? Can I bring him back again? I shall go to him, but he shall not return to me." (2 Samuel 12:23) In heaven you have the opportunity of being with the redeemed of all ages.

To be in heaven you must, (a) Hear the gospel of Christ (Acts 15:7), (b) Believe in God and in Jesus (Hebrews 11:6), (c) Repent of sins (Luke 13:3), (d) Confess Christ as Lord (Romans 10:9-10), and (e) Be baptized to wash away your sins. (Acts 22:16) After baptism you must "walk in the light" to be kept clean by Jesus' blood. (1 John 1:6-10.) I want to go to heaven! Do you? To go there we must be faithful to God. "Do not fear any of those things which you are about to suffer. Indeed, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison, that you may be tested, and you will have tribulation ten days. Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life." (Revelation 2:10)

### 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 **27 contacts** were made.

### Upcoming Events

- ◆ The **Ladies class** will be on break until January 9th.
- ◆ Dec. 15: **Youth Holiday Party and service project**; flyer on the bulletin board; see Cindy Fuller or Priscilla for more info.

**New editions of House to House** are available at the back of the auditorium. Please use these materials for your study and also consider passing them along to others who will benefit from them as well.



*For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. For in this we groan, earnestly desiring to be clothed upon with our house which is from heaven: If so be that being clothed we shall not be found naked. For we that are in this tabernacle do groan, being burdened: not for that we would be unclothed, but clothed upon, that mortality might be swallowed up of life.*

*2 Corinthians 5:1-4*

## Celebrate

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

**December Birthdays:** James Womack (04), Freda Cox (05), Estelle Guthrie (07), Laverne Thomas (13), Veneta Nolen (17), Kaci Churchwell (18), Priscilla Smithey (18), Linda Griffith (20), Mia Stroope (22), Joyce Hill (24).

**December Anniversaries:** Linda & Allen Griffith (20), Ginger & Howard King (24), Jo & Ken Maninger (25).

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



## Records

	Nov. 25, 2012	Dec. 2, 2012
Bible Class	46	55
AM Worship	71	70
PM Worship	50	60
Wednesday PM	44	45
Contribution	\$2068	\$1642

# Privileged To Serve

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

	This Week: 12/9/12	Next Week: 12/16/12	December 2012	
<b>Sunday AM:</b>	Lead Singing: Ken Maninger	Lead Singing: Jim Moore	<b>Make Announcements:</b> Garrett Barnum	
<b>Greeters</b>	Jim Moore & Hank Wheeler	James & Cindy Fuller	<b>Prepare Communion:</b> Don & Darlene Smith	
<b>Opening Prayer</b>	Allen Griffith	James Fuller	<b>Clean Building:</b> Cindy Fuller	
<b>Communion</b>	Hank Wheeler*, Garrett Barnum Gene Bannister, Joe Dennis	Gene Bannister*, Tom Wilcox Ken Maninger, Don Smith	<b>Keep Grounds:</b> James Fuller	
<b>Closing Prayer</b>	John Barnum	Garrett Barnum	<b>January 2013</b>	
<b>Attendance Cards</b>	Chase Churchwell/Xavier Martinez	Seth Smithey/Caleb Dennis	<b>Make Announcements:</b> John Barnum	
<b>Sunday PM:</b>			<b>Prepare Communion:</b> Tom & Carol Wilcox	
<b>Opening Prayer</b>	Billy Chism	James Thomas	<b>Clean Building:</b> The Smithey Family	
<b>Scripture Reading</b>	Jim Moore <i>Hebrews 3:12-15</i>	John Barnum	<b>Keep Grounds:</b> Charles White	
<b>Communion</b>	Hank Wheeler	Gene Bannister		
<b>Closing Prayer</b>	Jim Moore	Hank Wheeler		
<b>Wednesday Devotionals:</b>	December 12 Allen Griffith	December 19 Tom Wilcox	December 26 Garrett Barnum	January 2 Joe Dennis

# 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)

<b>Studies for the week of December 9, 2012</b>	Sunday Class ..... <i>Colossians (Chap. 4)</i> Wednesday Class ..... <i>Redemption Through The Bible</i>
<p><b>Evidence of Conversion (Acts 8-9)</b> <i>These chapters give us a glimpse into some of the lives of those who were changed by the gospel.</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>The Deceived to Convicted:</b> Samaritans (8:5-12)               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Had thought they were following a man of God, but saw the difference and were willing to change.</li> <li>Shows the importance of investigating and following what is true (Matt. 7:21-23; 1 Jn 4:1; 2 Cor. 11:13-15; Acts 17:11). Also shows the reaction we should have when we are corrected (Acts 19:17-19; 1 Thess. 1:9-10).</li> </ol> </li> <li><b>The Haughty to Humble:</b> Simon (8:13-24)               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>He professed to be something he was not but at least was willing to recognize "the real thing" and follow God. Even later, when convicted of sin, he was willing to repent.</li> <li>This same humility must be exhibited by God's children today (Acts 3:12-16; 14:14-18; Matt. 5:3-6; 23:12)</li> </ol> </li> <li><b>The Searcher to Rejoicer:</b> Ethiopian Eunuch (8:26-39)               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>He is one who truly wanted to know more, was willing to act on what he learned, and so could go rejoicing.</li> <li>Such is true of all do the same (Jn 8:30-31; 2 Pet. 1:16ff; Heb. 1:1-2; 2:1-4; 2 Thess. 2:14-15; Lk 2:10-11).</li> </ol> </li> <li><b>The Persecutor to Proclaimer:</b> Saul (9:1-30)               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>One who once worked to put Christians to death was now proclaiming the gospel he once tried to silence.</li> <li>We can be zealously wrong (Rom 10:1-4; 1 Tim. 1:12-13; Acts 22:2-3; 23:1); but like Paul we can change and zealously do right (Acts 22:16; Gal. 1:23; Titus 2:14).</li> </ol> </li> </ol>	<p><b>Barnabas: A Model Christian</b> <i>Here is a man that played a vital role in the first century church; he was not perfect (Gal. 2:13) but was highly praised (11:24) and worthy of imitation (Phil. 3:17; 1 Cor. 11:1).</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Generous (Acts 4:36-37; 11:30)</b> - He, like others, was praised for giving generously and cheerfully (2 Cor. 8:1-5; 9:7). In this was shown a love for the brethren (1 Pet. 4:9; Rom. 12:13; Phil. 2:3-5). It also seems that he had gained the trust and respect of others (Rom. 12:17).</li> <li><b>Forgiving and Patient (9:26-27; 15:36-41)</b> - He was willing to receive others and give them a chance when others would not; truly exhibited love in his dealings (1 Jn 4:11; 1 Pet. 1:22, 3:8; 1 Cor. 13:1-7).</li> <li><b>Encourager (11:22-26)</b> - a known exhorter, it is no wonder he would be sent out by the church and be a traveling companion to Paul. He was useful both in encouraging people to become Christians and to strengthen those who already were (4:36; 11:23; 13:1-3, 43ff; 14:1; 15:35-36) We need to be this person to others (2 Cor. 5:10-11; Heb. 3:13, 10:23-25; Rom. 14:19; 1 Thess. 5:11).</li> </ol> <p><b>Notes:</b> _____            _____            _____            _____</p>