

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



May 19, 2013

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 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.

I Am So Embarrassed: I Was Wrong

By Denny Wilson

I don't know about you, but there are times in my life where I was involved in things that I thought were the right things to do and I gave it my all thinking it would be the solution to the world's or the church's problems (ok, maybe not so dramatic but you get the point). I poured myself into the activity, work, event or group. Yet, as time went along, I soon realized I was wrong about the people in the group or I was wrong about the motives of others or even about the results that would be accomplished through my efforts. In times like these, I have been tempted to take my ball and go home, to give up, to hide out or to avoid my brethren. It is hard to admit defeat. It is hard to fail. It is hard when people you trusted in let you down. It is especially hard when the people you are working with don't want to go the same direction you want to go. As difficult as it may be, the last thing we need to do is run away. However, that is exactly what we do sometimes when we are embarrassed.

In this instance, let us learn from the apostle Paul. The first we learn of Saul of Tarsus, he was consenting to the death of Stephen. He was involved in what is described as a "great persecution" against the church. He "made havoc of the church, entering every house, and dragging off men and women, committing them to prison" (Acts 8:1-3). It wasn't long before he would have to face the reality that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the Living God. He came to the reality that Jesus Christ is the Savior of those who believe and obey through the events on the road to Damascus and in the teaching of Ananias (Acts 9,22,26). Ananias challenged him with the greatest question of all, "And now why are you waiting? Arise and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord" (Acts 22:16). Paul was able to put his past mistakes behind him and move forward as a servant of the Lord.

When we make mistakes that turn out to be contrary to the will of God or when we try to do something thinking we are doing right but it turns out to be oh so wrong, we must not give up. We can change our lives and get right back to doing great things for Christ and His church. Oh, we may never forget those mistakes, but we can be forgiven of them and we can learn from them. Notice what Paul said about his former life:

"And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord who has enabled me, because He counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry, although I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, an insolent man; but I obtained mercy because I did it ignorantly in unbelief...This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief" (1 Tim. 1:12-15). What is amaz-

(Continued on page 2)



*I will love thee, O LORD, my strength.
The LORD is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer;
my God, my strength, in whom I will trust;
my buckler, and the horn of my salvation, and my high tower.*

Psalm 18:1-2

(Continued from page 1)

ing to me is that Paul tried so hard to do what he thought was right...and yet he was as wrong as could be. He sincerely gave it his best. He said in this passage he did it in ignorance and in a lack of faith in Christ. In Acts 23:1, he said that he had lived his life in “all good conscience before God until this day.” He did his absolute best with the best intentions, but he was wrong. When faced with the truth of his actions, Paul admitted his mistakes and learned from them. He then went to work for the Lord.

Notice the continuation of his thoughts for 1 Timothy 1:16: “However, for this reason I obtained mercy, that in me first Jesus Christ might show all longsuffering, as a pattern to those who are going to believe on Him for everlasting life.” Paul is a pattern for us in many ways. For the purpose of this discussion, he is an example of what we do when we gave it our best, trying to do what is right, thinking we were on the right side of the equation, only to find out that we were wrong. When we are wrong, it is not the end of the world...as long as we repent and get right back to work for the Lord doing things His way. God is patient and longsuffering and He wants us to repent (2 Peter 3:9). We can overcome our mistakes through Christ.

Of course we realize that none of us are perfect and righteous before God in all things (Rom. 3:10). We realize that we have all fallen short of the glory of God (Rom. 3:23). Yes, we understand that sin hurts God, others and even ourselves. Learn from David in his sins with Bathsheba: “I acknowledge my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me” (Ps. 51:3). He didn’t run and hide. He wanted to be restored to God and then he said he would “teach transgressors Your ways, and sinners shall be converted to You” (vs.12,13). There is no need to be embarrassed. We all make mistakes and need God’s grace. While difficult to bear at times, sins are not fatal if we repent of them, learn from them, and then get to work for the Lord.

Willingness to Prepare

by Tom Moore

In 1976, Indiana University’s basketball team was undefeated throughout the regular season and captured the NCAA National Championship. Controversial and colorful coach Bobby Knight led them to that championship. Shortly afterwards, Coach Knight was interviewed on the television show “60 Minutes.” The commentator asked him, “Why is it, Bobby, that your basketball teams at Indiana are always so successful? Is it the will to succeed?”

“The will to succeed is important,” replied Bobby Knight, “but I’ll tell you what’s more important it’s the will to prepare. It’s the will to go out there every day training and building those muscles and sharpening those skills!” No wonder Bobby Knight was successful as a coach.

Another famous coach believed the same thing. “Hurry Up” Yost was the football coach at the University of Michigan. A player once assured Coach Yost that their team was sure to win on Saturday because the players had “the will to win.” “Hurry Up” Yost answered: “Don’t fool yourself. The will to win is not worth a plugged nickel unless you have the will to prepare.” That is true. Whether we are talking about sports, or education or science or business or any worthwhile endeavor in life, success goes to the person who has the will to prepare!

Most importantly, though, spiritual success comes to those who prepare. Do you remember how the five foolish virgins of Matthew 25 we unable to enter the marriage feast because they were unprepared? Are you preparing yourself for spiritual success? Are you preparing yourself for the coming of the Lord? Preparation can only come through an obedient study of the word of God (2 Tim. 2:15; Mat. 7:21). “But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief: for ye are all sons of light, and sons of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness; so then let us not sleep, as do the rest, but let us watch and be sober” (1 Thess. 5:5-6).

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 and on Roku
TV: Sunday @ 6:30 am on
Dish: 267, DirectTV: 376

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 73

Esther 7—Job 2 & 1 Corinthians 12-13

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)



Thank You

To the 4th & Stewart Church of Christ from the children and grandchildren of Paul McClung:

Fourth & Stewart was the church home of Paul and Lucille McClung from 1983, so it is difficult to realize that another phase in the cycle of life has been completed. Mom and Dad served you faithfully, loved you, and had so many dear ones there, many of whom passed on before them.

Thank you for your care in this difficult time of Dad's passing on.

A special thanks to the Don Smiths, Officer James Fuller, and the others who have conducted services at CARE on Sunday afternoons so that Dad and others could continue to worship together, and for looking in on Neil's Mom Anna Carroll.

A special thanks to those who fixed and served food to the family on Tuesday before the funeral. We give our love and gratitude.

Please remember to pick up your dishes in the fellowship hall if you brought food.

Dear Sunday night workers for the Master,

I really appreciated the card you sent. It did help make the day brighter. I am very blessed to have a church family that cares about its members.

Thank you, Cindy Proud

Congratulations

We have many talented, fine young people here with varied accomplishments but we especially congratulate **Mattison Churchwell and Lunday Maninger** who were conducted into the National Junior Honors Society this past week. We know they are great examples to others around them and want to continue encouraging them.

Upcoming Events: Mark your calendars in advance:

- ◆ June 2-6: VBS at Bangs
- ◆ June 3-7: VBS at San Angelo; 6:30-8 PM nightly
- ◆ June 10-13: VBS at Dublin
- ◆ June 11: Summer Youth Series starts at Bangs. Every Tuesday night through the summer begins at 7 PM. There is a schedule on the bulletin board. The Theme this year is: "Significant Lessons from 'Insignificant' People".
- ◆ June 22: VBS at 5th & Grape in Abilene
- ◆ June 24-28: VBS at Ranger
- ◆ June 30– July 4: Jr. Camp at Brady
- ◆ July 14-19: Sr. Camp at Brady
- ◆ August 7-9: VBS at Hamilton
- ◆ August 14: We will be hosting the final Summer Youth Series here at 4th & Stewart.
- ◆ October 20-23: Our Spring Meeting with Rick Popejoy

Visitation Meeting

Remember our visitation meeting each Sunday night following the evening worship to sign cards and discuss the work going on. Last week **41 contacts** were made. Also remember tonight is the 3rd Sunday so we hope you can join us for finger foods after the meeting tonight.

Celebrate

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

May Birthdays: Ian Barnum (05), Barbara Bannister (10), Nita Karla Boyd (14), Kami Hardy (14), Pam Teague (14), Caitlin Barnum (15), Billy Chism (15), Peg Moore (17), Randy Brubaker (23), Ryan Smithey (23), Gracen Hardy (30).

Mistakes? Left Out? Let Ryan know...



Records

| | May 5, 2013 | May 12, 2013 |
|--------------|-------------|--------------|
| Bible Class | 41 | 43 |
| AM Worship | 62 | 77 |
| PM Worship | 48 | 48 |
| Wednesday PM | 46 | 44 |
| Contribution | \$1572 | \$2068 |

| | This Week: 5/19/13 | Next Week: 5/26/13 | May 2013 | |
|-------------------------------|---|---|--|----------------------|
| Sunday AM: | Song Leader: Tom Wilcox | Song Leader: Gene Bannister | Make Announcements: Ken Maninger | |
| Greeters | Mileen & Ashley Kahlich | John Barnum Family | Prepare Communion: Jim & Peg Moore | |
| Opening Prayer | Garrett Barnum | John Barnum | Clean Building: Cindy Fuller | |
| Communion | Joe Dennis*, Hank Wheeler James Fuller, Allen Griffith | Ken Maninger*, Don Smith Jim Moore, Tom Wilcox | Keep Grounds: Jim Moore | |
| Closing Prayer | Jim Moore | Allen Griffith | June 2013 | |
| Attendance Cards | Seth Smithey/Caleb Dennis | Chase Churchwell/Xavier Martinez | Make Announcements: Jim Moore | |
| Sunday PM: | | | Prepare Communion: Don & Darlene Smith | |
| Opening Prayer | Don Smith | Hank Wheeler | Clean Building: The Smithey Family | |
| Scripture Reading | John Barnum <i>James 5:7-12</i> | Tom Wilcox | Keep Grounds: Tom Wilcox | |
| Communion | Joe Dennis | Ken Maninger | | |
| Closing Prayer | Ken Maninger | Garrett Barnum | | |
| Wednesday Devotionals: | May 22 Garrett Barnum | May 29 Joe Dennis | June 5 James Fuller | June 12 Jim Moore |

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 May 19, 2013 | Sunday Class Titus (Chap. 1) Wednesday Class Redemption Through The Bible |
|---|--|
| <p>True Communion (1 Cor. 11:17-34) <i>In writing to the brethren at Corinth, Paul has much to say about unity (both with God and man) and the means by which to restore it (returning to the true standard, 1:10). In chapter 11, he turns his attention to things lacking concerning the Lord's Supper which should have been a time of:</i></p> <p>1. Unifying (v17-22)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> This should have been a time of coming together, but even in this they were not united. Earlier in teaching against idolatry, Paul reminded them that this communion brings us together (10:16-17). Christ is not divided (1:13) and neither is His body (12:12); they needed to remember the fellowship they had in God (1 Jn 1:3, 7), not highlight their differences. <p>2. Remembering (v23-26)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Not only were they not thinking of one another but it seems they were not thinking about the purpose of their actions—to commemorate the sacrifice of Christ. This was not something to be taken lightly; they needed to discern (know/see/distinguish) His body and show His death—to remember what had been done for them (Jn 10:11, 18; Matt. 26:26-30, 39, 42). <p>3. Examining (v27-32)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> One also should look inwardly, remembering it was for each individual that He died. His sacrifice should cause humility, examination, and needed alteration of our lives (2 Cor 13:5; Heb 12:11). | <p>Esther, Beauty from Within</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> She endured difficult circumstances. She was an orphan, brought up by her cousin (2:7), but she did not allow such circumstances hinder her life. Trials can break us down or build us up (James 1:2-4). She was respectful and obedient (2:10, 20). She not only obeyed Mordecai but respected his wisdom and counsel. Jesus show such an example (Luke 2:51), such should be instilled even today (Eph. 6:1-4; Heb. 12:7-11; Prov. 11:14). She was beautiful in body and spirit (2:7, 9, 17). She not only possessed physical beauty but also inner beauty shown not only in the favor she received but in her actions (4:16). She was willing to risk her life for others (John 15:12-13). Will we show ourselves to have inner/lasting beauty/character (1 Pet. 3:1-4; Prov. 31:30)? She used her beauty, charm, and position the right way (2:9, 15; 4:1-4; 4:26). When exalted she still cared for others and would use the things at her disposal, not for selfish gain or to manipulate, but to help others. How many let beauty, popularity, status, etc. destroy them? (1 Tim. 2:9-10; 1 Tim. 6:17-19; 1 Cor. 7:21; Matt. 5:16). She seized opportunities before her (4:14). Others might have been able to help, but she was currently in a position to do so and did (Eph. 5:15-16; Ps. 90:12; Eccl. 9:10). She exercised patience and wisdom in dealing with a serious problem (4:15-16; 5; 7-8). She did not react rashly, make a decision hastily, or rush to a solution. (Neh. 2:2; Lk. 6:12; Col. 4:2-6). |