

# 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



February 16, 2014

## 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:

Johnny McCaghren

## 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 Was Young, And Now I Am Old

By Stan Mitchell

*"I have been young and now am old, yet I have not seen the righteous forsaken or his children begging for bread" (Psalm 37:25, ESV).*

There has been a lot said on the internet about young people leaving the church, and why that might be so. Some observations are legitimate. The church needs to find ways to reach young people in ways that are effective; the church cannot simply cling to tradition as if it is God's word; the church needs to teach discipleship and not merely dogma.

On the other hand, recall that these older members have dedicated a lifetime building the local church. Brick by brick, soul by soul, leader by leader, they have handed down to young people the most valuable organization on earth, Christ's church. It's hard to pour a lifetime into the footings and walls of the church and have your efforts dismissed by the untested.

What can the young legitimately ask of his elders? What can the older Christian rightly ask of his younger brethren?

Here is my appeal to older Christians, parents and grandparents: I believe our young people expect authentic Christianity on our part. We cannot fool them indefinitely. If we sit at church and act as if being there is as rewarding as watching paint dry, our children will take note. If worship does not change our lives, sweeten our attitudes and deepen our spirituality, they will notice.

But I am not hearing young people say, "interpret Scripture as liberally as you can," or "surrender your biblical convictions." Instead, they say, "When you worship, you should really mean it. It should change your way of life. It should filter into your words and actions." I think they are looking for leadership, for genuineness, for discipleship. They have a right to expect this.

Here is my appeal to younger Christians, teenagers, college students and young couples: When you observe your older brethren, do not assume that they are doing nothing just because you do not see what they do. They do many things for the Lord's cause, and they care deeply about the church and the spread of the gospel. How do I know this? Because they have dedicated a lifetime of service to these things!

Young person, when you have dedicated forty or fifty years to serving the Lord, come back and talk to me about what people "ought" and "ought not" to be doing! Learn to appreciate the heritage of deep biblical study in churches of Christ. Older saints are not asking you to lose your zeal or sense of discovery. They are simply asking, "before you make wholesale changes in the congregation we have worked a lifetime to build, please undergo deep Bible study on the issue. Please do not exchange the restoration plea for the shallow slogans of 'Evangelical Christianity.'

Older Christians are passing the baton on; you receive a precious heritage. Could there be a more precious heritage than a fellowship that speaks where the Bible speaks and is silent where it is silent? The answer to the church's problems is not to abandon biblical authority for mushy feel-good clichés but with deeper Bible study.

The church should be a place where all of us, whether young or old, should be nourished. The church is worth preserving. Neither government nor charity can do what the church does.

Young people, don't leave the church; stay and help us build!

*Stan Mitchell teaches in the Bible Department at Freed-Hardeman University*

*And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord."*

*Luke 2: 10,11*

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



# Two Fundamentally Different Understandings of RIGHT and WRONG

by Wes McAdams



It seems to me, the number one reason many of us cannot seem to agree on what is right and wrong behavior for Christians is that we have a fundamentally different way of viewing right and wrong. I

hope you will take a minute and examine these two viewpoints, while examining your own viewpoint. Perhaps we can move a step closer to biblical unity.

Here are the two viewpoints and how they radically differ from one another:

## 1. “If it isn’t WRONG, it’s alright.”

The first viewpoint is that if a behavior isn’t *specifically* condemned, then it must be acceptable to God. These folks reason, “If God didn’t want people to do this, He would have specifically told them not to.” There is certainly a long list of prohibitions in Scripture (yes, even in the New Testament), but this viewpoint runs on the assumption that these lists are exhaustive.

Furthermore, although many who hold this view accuse the second group of being legalistic, this viewpoint actually tends to be more legalistic in nature. After all, isn’t it legalistic to treat the New Testament like a legal document, demanding it explain in detail all the things we’re not allowed to do? This viewpoint also lends itself to searching for loopholes, saying, “Well, God only condemns this certain behavior under these circumstances, but not under these circumstances. So, I guess it’s fine for me to do it.” Those who hold this viewpoint tend to think more like a lawyer than a disciple.

## 2. “If it isn’t RIGHT, it’s wrong.”

The second viewpoint is that if a behavior is not good, righteous, and pleasing to God, it should be abstained from. In other words, if there is any question about whether a behavior

is pleasing to God, then the Christian should stay away from such a behavior. The reasoning here is, “If God was pleased with this behavior, He would have told me to do it. But since He didn’t tell me to, it would be presumptuous to assume it’s alright.” This viewpoint doesn’t assume the Bible’s list of sins is exhaustive, but it does assume the Bible paints a complete picture of righteous living (2 Timothy 3:17).

The key here is making an effort to please God. Instead of relating to God like a lawyer, we relate to Him like a loved one. We search His word to see what kind of behavior is *pleasing* to Him. We concern ourselves – not with how close we can get to “the line” without stepping over but – with how close we can get to God and far we can remove ourselves from sin.

## Scriptural Basis for the Second Viewpoint

Here are some passages of Scripture to consider pertaining to this issue.

### 2 Timothy 3:16-17

All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

### Colossians 3:17

And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

### 2 Corinthians 5:7-10

for we walk by faith, not by sight. Yes, we are of good courage, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil.

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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

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

### Radio

Preaching the Word (Michael Light)

Sunday @ 9:00am on KOXE 101.3

### Internet

TheGospelRadioNetwork.org

Gospel Broadcasting Network

Gbntv.org and on Roku

### 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 112

**Ecclesiastes 8—Song of Solomon 1 & 1 Peter 1-2**

Study sheets are available at the back of the auditorium.

*“Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.”*

*(2 Timothy 2:15)*



(Continued from page 2)

**Romans 14:23b**

...For whatever does not proceed from faith is sin.

**1 Corinthians 10:23-24**

‘All things are lawful,’ but not all things are helpful. ‘All things are lawful,’ but not all things build up. Let no one seek his own good, but the good of his neighbor.

We could go on and on with passages of Scripture, but to me the whole issue comes down to this question, “Who are you trying to please?” As a husband, I do not insist my wife make a list of all the things she does not want me to do. I do not try to get as close as possible to “the line” of what bothers her and displeases her. Because I love her, I make it my goal to please her and avoid things that might bother her.

As Christians, shouldn't we have that mindset when it comes to the Lord? Shouldn't our goal simply be to please Him?

**Application**

This principle touches so many issues in Christian life. It is the reason some Christians abstain from alcohol and others see no problem with having a few beers with their friends. It is the reason some Christian women wear dresses to the floor and others see no problem with wearing an “itsy-bitsy” bikini. It is the reason some Christians do not worship with an instrument and others see no problem with a rock band in worship.

If we're honest though, most of us would have to admit we are somewhat inconsistent in how we view certain behaviors. Sometimes we view things through the second viewpoint and sometimes we view things through the first viewpoint. And what's even worse, sometimes we use one standard for ourselves and another standard for others. We say, “You can't do that because God hasn't given you permission, but I can do this because God never said I couldn't.” This double standard is one of [the] traps the Pharisees fell into and it is one we must make every effort to avoid.

We must simply be people who use the standard of Scripture to determine what pleases God and live accordingly. That's what true discipleship is all about. Furthermore, we must teach and admonish each other to do the same (2 Timothy 3:16-17).

I love you and God loves you.

*Wes McAdams is minister for the Baker Heights church of Christ in Abilene, TX, and has a blog page [Radically Christian: 1st Century Christianity in a 21st Century World](#).*

**Special Note**

We have had several occurrences over the past few weeks where we have lost our recording of the services for our CDs and the internet due to the equipment in the nursery being pampered with. Please do not allow your children to play in the nursery unattended, as there is some sensitive and expensive equipment in that room. Thank you.

**Visitation Meeting**

- ◆ Each Sunday night following the evening worship. Last week **24 contacts** were made.

**Special Announcements**

- ◆ **Gospel Meeting with Loy Mitchell: May 11-14, 2014.**
- ◆ Services at **Vicksburg** this afternoon @ 3:30.
- ◆ Services at **Care Inc.** every Sunday afternoon @ 2:30.

**In The Area**

- ◆ Apr. 6-9—**Gospel Meeting @ Hamilton** (Mike Vestal)
- ◆ Apr. 6-9—**Gospel Meeting @ Deleon** (Paul Shero)
- ◆ Apr. 20-23—**Gospel Meeting @ San Angelo** (BJ Clarke)
- ◆ May 4-7—**Gospel Meeting @ Gordon** (Michael Light)
- ◆ Jun. 29-Jul. 3—**Junior Camp**
- ◆ Jul. 20-25—**Senior Camp**

**Celebrate**

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

**February Birthdays:** Cindy McCaghren (2), Johnny McCaghren (2), Peggy Chism (3), Carol Wilcox (5), Lunday Maninger (8), Conner Vera (13), Patti Bannister (14), Jack Turner (22), Jonathan Fuller (28).

**February Anniversaries:** Steven & Mariah Martinez (4), Billy & Peggy Chism (26).



**Records**

	Feb. 2, 2014	Feb. 9, 2014
Bible Class	55	35
AM Worship	69	52
PM Worship	NA	38
Wednesday PM	42	44
Contribution	\$1879	\$1499

# Privileged To Serve

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

	This Week: 2/16/14	Next Week: 2/23/14	February 2014	
<b>Sunday AM:</b>	Song Leader: Mike Bannister	Song Leader: Mike Bannister	<b>Make Announcements:</b> Jim Moore	
<b>Greeters</b>	James and Cindy Fuller	Dennis Family	<b>Prepare Communion:</b> Johnny & Cindy McCaghren	
<b>Opening Prayer</b>	Garrett Barnum	Jim Moore	<b>Clean Building:</b> John Barnum Family	
<b>Communion</b>	Jim Moore*, Gene Bannister Don Smith, Chase Churchwell	Ken Maninger*, Hank Wheeler Joe Dennis, Caleb Dennis	<b>Keep Grounds:</b> Tom Wilcox	
<b>Closing Prayer</b>	John Barnum	James Thomas	<b>March 2014</b>	
<b>Attendance Cards</b>	Caleb Dennis	Chase Churchwell	<b>Make Announcements:</b> Gene Bannister	
<b>Sunday PM:</b>	Song Leader: Joe Dennis	Song Leader: Tom Wilcox	<b>Prepare Communion:</b> Tom & Carol Wilcox	
<b>Opening Prayer</b>	Billy Chism	Mike Bannister	<b>Clean Building:</b> Cindy Fuller	
<b>Scripture Reading</b>	James Fuller	Hank Wheeler	<b>Keep Grounds:</b> James Fuller	
<b>Communion</b>	Jim Moore	Ken Maninger		
<b>Closing Prayer</b>	James Thomas	Hank Wheeler		
<b>Wednesday Devotionals:</b>	February 19 Jim Moore	February 26 Joe Dennis	March 5 Don Smith	March 12 Tom Wilcox

# 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)

<i>Studies for the week of February 16, 2014</i>	<i>Sunday Class ..... Identity of the New Testament Church</i> <i>Wednesday PM ..... Mark: Chapter 5</i>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>What Is Worship?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ <b>"Worship" Defined by New Testament Vocabulary</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ <u>Proskuneo</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ "To kiss"</li> <li>◆ "The custom of prostrating oneself before a person and kissing his feet, the hem of his garment, the ground, etc." (Bauer)</li> </ul> </li> <li>◆ <u>Sebomai</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Root "seb" - "to step back from someone or something, to maintain a distance"</li> <li>◆ "Denotes religious veneration, including acts of worship" (Chadwell)</li> </ul> </li> <li>◆ <u>Latreuo</u>—To "serve" - used "only of the carrying out of religious duties, esp. of a cultic (religious) nature, by human beings" (Bauer)</li> </ul> </li> <li>◆ <b>"Worship" Defined by Implications of its NT Vocabulary</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ <u>Proskuneo</u> reveals that worship involves humility on the part of the worshiper.</li> <li>◆ <u>Sebomai</u> reveals that worship involves an attitude of reverence and respect.</li> <li>◆ <u>Latreuo</u> reveals that worship involves service rendered to God.</li> <li>◆ Worship is something done intentionally.</li> <li>◆ "An act or series of religious acts characterized by a feeling of reverence and love. These acts are addressed to God (thus they involve purpose and intent to worship God)" (Spearman)</li> </ul> </li> <li>◆ <b>"Worship" Defined by its NT Practice</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Worshipping God acceptably involves the proper attitude, authority and actions ("in spirit and truth" - Jn. 4:24)</li> <li>◆ Worshipping God acceptably is not a form of entertainment.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Unleashing God's Word In Your Life</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Lesson 10—The Word Promotes Change In You</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Text: Psalm 19:7-9</li> <li>◆ <b>"The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul"</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Some are not interested in having their soul revived, transformed, converted—if so, they probably are not interested in the Bible.</li> <li>◆ The key to this transformation is the Lord Jesus Christ.</li> </ul> </li> <li>◆ <b>"The testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple"</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ "Sure" - absolute, trustworthy, reliable.</li> <li>◆ The Bible can make a "simple" person wise.</li> </ul> </li> <li>◆ <b>"The precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart"</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ The Bible sets out a right path, lays out a right track.</li> <li>◆ "Blessed are those who hear the word of God and keep it" (Lk. 11:28)</li> </ul> </li> <li>◆ <b>"The commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes"</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ The Bible makes things clear to us that are not clearly seen by others.</li> <li>◆ We can see hope, where others see only despair.</li> </ul> </li> <li>◆ <b>"The fear of the Lord is clean, enduring forever"</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ The only things that endure forever are things untouched by sin.</li> <li>◆ There is one thing that never changes—the eternal Word of God.</li> </ul> </li> <li>◆ <b>"The rules of the Lord are true, and righteous altogether"</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Do you know how hard it is to find something true and righteous today?</li> <li>◆ People find it easy to lie because they are fed up trying to find truth—yet truth has been available all along in God's Word.</li> </ul> </li> <li>◆ <b>The Bible is the answer!</b></li> </ul>