

# 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



March 9, 2014

## Contact Us:

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Brownwood, TX 76801  
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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

### 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

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

## Why Satan Hates Your Family

Family is under attack. As Christians we are accustomed to hearing about divorce and pornography and gay marriage and so many other moral issues. Have you ever considered how many of these moral issues relate directly to family? If you look, you will see that the very notion of family—family as the Bible describes it—is under sustained and heavy attack. This means that *your* family is under attack.

We know that a distinctly Christian notion of family is crucial to raising children in the discipline and instruction of the Lord. But there is more at stake than raising the next generation of Christians. Family is crucial in at least two other ways: It teaches us fundamental truths of the Christian faith and it serves as an important kind of ministry. Allow me to explain.

### God Teaches Us Through Family

God uses family to teach us. There are several areas of Christian life and doctrine that God chooses to explain to us through metaphor, and one common metaphor is family. There are parts of Christian life and doctrine we can only rightly understand if we first understand family as God creates and intends it.

*God Uses Family to Teach About His Nature.* The relationship between parents and children is a distant glimpse of the relationships within the godhead, and, in particular, the relationship of the first person of the Trinity to the second—God the Father to God the Son. We can only describe and understand the relationship of God the Father to God the Son if we understand the relationship of earthly fathers to earthly sons. If Satan can distort or destroy family, he can distort and destroy our ability to understand God's triune nature.

*God Uses Family to Teach Us about His Gospel.* God tells us that when he justifies us through faith in Jesus Christ, he adopts us as his sons and daughters. Therefore we know that the relationship of parents to their children is not incidental or unimportant—no mere fragment of God's plan for his people. Rather, the relationship of children being brought into their parents' family is designed to teach us about our relationship to God and to teach us about the intimacy of our relationship to him. If Satan can distort or destroy family, he can distort and destroy our understanding of the gospel.

*God Uses Family To Teach Us about His Church.* Peter calls the church "the family of God" (1 Pet. 4:17) and Paul refers to it as "God's household" (1 Tim. 3:15). As Christians, we belong to the same family because we have been united to one another through our adoption as sons and daughters of the same Father. It is because we are sons and daughters of the same Father that Christians refer to one another as "brothers" and "sisters." If Satan can distort or destroy family, he can

(Continued on page 2)



"And Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness for forty days, being tempted by the devil.... And when the devil had ended every temptation, he departed from him until an opportune time." "...one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin."  
Luke 4:1,2,13; Heb. 4:15

distort and destroy our understanding of the church.

Do you see it? To understand God’s nature, God’s gospel, and God’s church, we first need to understand family. When a father abandons his family, the metaphors grow distorted. When a family has two fathers and no mothers, the metaphors grow distorted. Even when a Christian couple determines for selfish reasons not to have children, the metaphors grow distorted. But a strong family, built upon the Scriptures, serves as a powerful image of all of these truths.

### ***How Family Ministers***

Your family is under attack because of all it represents. Your family is also under attack because of what it does. God designed your family to serve as a kind of ministry to the church and to the world.

*Family Ministers to the Local Church.* Because the church is fundamentally a spiritual family, we learn how to function as a church by looking to the model of healthy families. This means that building strong, biblical families is critical to the life and health of the church. When Paul explains to Timothy how to relate to other people in the church he tells him to relate to older men as fathers, older women as mothers, younger women as sisters. He tells him to look at family and to behave as a family behaves. When Paul tells Timothy about church leaders he tells him he will be able to recognize elders in the church by looking for men who are good earthly father figures (see 1 Tim. 3:4-5). If a man is able to oversee and manage his own household, he may well be prepared to oversee and manage the church, since both tasks depend on many of the same skills and abilities. Therefore family ministers to the church by teaching how its members are to relate to one another (like brothers and sisters!); by teaching the church how to recognize leaders (the good fathers!); and even by teaching a bit of what God is like (the best parents, but infinitely more so!).

*Family Ministers to the World.* Family also ministers to the world. It was God’s desire that everyone would be prepared—to at least some degree—to hear the gospel. He designed the family to be a universal model of some of the deepest and most precious truths about who he is and what he is accomplishing in this world: He is father; he wants to adopt us as his children; Christians are brothers and sisters. Healthy, Bible-based, gospel-centered families are a crucial part of pre-evangelism, a way of introducing everyone on earth to the basic categories through which they can understand the Christian faith. If we lose or distort the notion of father, if we lose or distort the notion of parents, if we play fast and loose with brother and sister, we lose the very concepts that allow us to explain who God is and what he is doing.

Family teaches us about God’s nature, his gospel and his church, and family ministers to both the church and the world. No wonder, then, that Satan is always attacking the family and no wonder he will stop at nothing to attack your family. If he can destroy family, he can destroy these powerful metaphors and these powerful ministries. If he can distort or destroy the family, he can make the gospel opaque to those who are not yet saved.

When Satan’s purposes are clear, the Christian’s challenge is clear: We need to view building strong, vibrant, Bible-based, gospel-centered, distinctly Christian families as a critical part of protecting our faith and living it out.

*This article was borrowed from a denominational website (www.challies.com/christian-living/why-satan-hates-your-family). I do not endorse their teaching. However, I thought this article brought out some very good points.  
Johnny*

<b>Television</b>	<b>God’s Plan for Redeeming Man</b>	<b>Bible Study Schedule</b>
<p><u>The Truth In Love</u> (Robert Dodson) Sunday @ 7:00 am on KTAB</p> <p><u>In Search of the Lord’s Way</u> Sunday @ 7:30 am on KTAB</p> <p>Gospel Broadcasting Network Sunday @ 6:30 am on Dish:267, DirectTV:376</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 115</b> <b>Isaiah 6-11</b> <b>&amp; 2 Peter 2-3</b></p> <p>Study sheets are available at the back of the auditorium.</p> <p><i>“Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.”</i> (2 Timothy 2:15)</p>
<p><b>Radio</b></p> <p><u>Preaching the Word</u> (Michael Light) Sunday @ 9:00am on KOXE 101.3</p> <p><b>Internet</b></p> <p>TheGospelRadioNetwork.org Gospel Broadcasting Network Gbnv.org and on Roku</p>		



### In The Area

- ◆ Mar. 16-18—**Gospel Meeting @ Glen Rose** “*Joash: The King that Dedicated His Heart to God*” (Craig Shackelford)
- ◆ Mar. 30—**Bible Bowl @ Hamilton** (2 Cor. 9-13)
- ◆ Apr. 6-9—**Gospel Meeting @ Hamilton** “*Getting at the Heart of Things*” (Mike Vestal)
- ◆ Apr. 6-9—**Gospel Meeting @ Deleon** (Paul Shero)
- ◆ Apr. 20-23—**Gospel Meeting @ San Angelo** (BJ Clarke)
- ◆ Apr. 20-23—**Gospel Meeting @ Bangs** (Tyler Young)
- ◆ Apr. 26—**Bible Bowl @ Stephenville**
- ◆ May 3—**Cherokee Day @ Cherokee Home for Children** (see bulletin board for details and donation needs)
- ◆ May 4-7—**Gospel Meeting @ Gordon** (Michael Light)
- ◆ **May 11-14—Our Gospel Meeting with Loy Mitchell**
- ◆ Jun. 29-Jul. 3—**Junior Camp**
- ◆ Jul. 20-25—**Senior Camp**

### Market Driven Ministry?

Perhaps you heard of the church that polled its neighborhood to determine what “the person in the street” wants in a church? The idea was to shape the church’s appeal and its preaching to meet the desires of its community. But there is a peril in such an approach. Do we find an audience to hear our message, or do we find a message to hold our audience? When the audience, and not the message is sovereign, the Gospel becomes secondary to messages that build good self-esteem, the cross takes a back seat to sermons that affirm diverse lifestyles.

Perhaps it is unclear whom the preacher represents? Does he represent the desires of the unchurched? Is it his task to let the older members know the thinking and “felt needs” of the younger? Conversely, does he communicate the desires of an older generation to younger members to change nothing, under any circumstances, for any reason at all?

It has always been the temptation of listeners to demand messages that demand little and promise plenty. Remember the prophets who proclaimed “peace, peace” when “there was no peace” (Jer. 6:14)? It has always been the temptation of proclaimers to court popularity, and dilute a message that should challenge, at times offend, to make demands on behalf of a Holy God.

The church is in danger of presenting “a God without wrath, men without sin entering a kingdom without judgment through the ministrations of a Christ without a cross” (Richard Niebuhr).

Gone are the hard sayings of Jesus. Gone is a proclamation about sin, self-sacrifice, judgment, and a hell. Gone is the narrow way. We become market driven. We must return to being message driven!

We cannot forever pander to the demands of the least spiritual, the most self-indulgent. We didn’t lose them because we failed to fulfill their wishes. We lost them when we lost our message! We cannot have the Christ of the cross...without the cross of Christ.

Stan Mitchell

### Visitation Meeting

- ◆ Each Sunday night following the evening worship. Last week **23 contacts** were made.

### Special Announcements

- ◆ Newsletters received this week from **Loy Mitchell** and **Rohan Jones**. They are on the back bulletin board.
- ◆ **Mar. 22—Ladies Get Together @ McCaghren’s.** 9:00a—12:00n. RSVP to Cindy by Mar. 19.

## Celebrate

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

**March Birthdays:** Ken Maninger (4), John Greer (7), Wayne Kahlich (9), Brian Leftwich (14), Susan Ford (17), Allen Griffith (20), Mileen Kahlich (21), James Thomas (23), Jessica Stultz (28), Ethel Adams (29).

**March Anniversaries:** James & Cindy Fuller (2), Billie Ford (20), Tom & Carol Wilcox (23).



## Records

	Feb. 23, 2014	Mar. 2, 2014
Bible Class	50	35
AM Worship	64	56
PM Worship	50	23
Wednesday PM	44	41
Contribution	\$1793	\$1842

# Privileged To Serve

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

		This Week: 3/9/14	Next Week: 3/16/14		<b>March 2014</b> <b>Make Announcements:</b> Gene Bannister <b>Prepare Communion:</b> Tom & Carol Wilcox <b>Clean Building:</b> Cindy Fuller <b>Keep Grounds:</b> James Fuller  <b>April 2014</b> <b>Make Announcements:</b> Garrett Barnum <b>Prepare Communion:</b> Gene & Barbara Bannister <b>Clean Building:</b> Johnny & Cindy McCaghren <b>Keep Grounds:</b> Tom Wilcox	
<b>Sunday AM:</b>		Song Leader: Mike Bannister		Song Leader: Mike Bannister		
<b>Greeters</b>		John Barnum Family		Tom & Carol Wilcox		
<b>Opening Prayer</b>		James Thomas		Allen Griffith		
<b>Communion</b>		Don Smith*, John Barnum James Fuller, Kevin Wilcox		James Fuller*, Kevin Wilcox Garrett Barnum, James Thomas		
<b>Closing Prayer</b>		Hank Wheeler		John Barnum		
<b>Attendance Cards</b>		Chase Churchwell		Caleb Dennis		
<b>Sunday PM:</b>		Song Leader: James Fuller		Song Leader: Joe Dennis		
<b>Opening Prayer</b>		Garrett Barnum		Billy Chism		
<b>Scripture Reading</b>		Allen Griffith		Tom Wilcox		
<b>Communion</b>		Don Smith		James Fuller		
<b>Closing Prayer</b>		John Barnum		Gene Bannister		
<b>Wednesday Devotionals:</b>		March 12 Tom Wilcox	March 19 Kevin Wilcox	March 26 Garrett Barnum	April 2 Don Smith	

# 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 March 9, 2014</b>		Sunday Class ..... Identity of the New Testament Church Wednesday PM ..... Mark: Chapter 6
<p><b>Studies in Luke—The Temptation of Jesus—4:1-12</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Luke has shown the Holy Spirit's role in identifying Jesus</li> <li>◆ In 3:23-38, Luke gives Jesus' genealogy through Mary</li> <li>◆ After Jesus' baptism, the Holy Spirit leads him "in the wilderness for forty days, being tempted by the devil" (4:1,2)                         <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Apparently Jesus was tempted during those forty days, however, only the temptations at the end of the forty days are recorded</li> <li>◆ Luke, as well as Matthew, records three of the temptations                                 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become bread" (4:3)</li> <li>◆ "To you I will give all this authority and their glory, ... If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours" (4:6,7)</li> <li>◆ "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here" (4:10,11)</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>◆ This follows the Father's statement, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased" (3:22) - Satan is putting this claim to the test</li> <li>◆ All three of Jesus' responses quote from Deut. 6 &amp; 8—Observations Moses made concerning Israel's wilderness wanderings</li> <li>◆ The nature of the temptations—Each temptation, if succumbed to, would question the sufficiency of God to care for our needs</li> <li>◆ Notice Satan's use of Scripture—quoted accurately, but out of context</li> <li>◆ Notice with each temptation, Jesus pointed to the all-sufficiency of God to care for Him and to accomplish His will</li> <li>◆ Let us honor God by trusting Him in every area of life</li> </ul>	<p><b>Unleashing God's Word In Your Life</b>  <b>Lesson 13—The Word Stimulates Growth</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Text: 1 Peter 1:22—2:3</li> <li>◆ It is disheartening to see Christians who do not grow and mature                         <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ They do not grow because they refuse to feed themselves</li> <li>◆ Peter describes God's word as "the living and abiding word of God" (1 Pet. 1:23)                                 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ It is through this "living word" that we are "born again"</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>◆ <b>The Word of God Is Alive and Produces Life</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ The Word of God is alive in an eternal sense</li> <li>◆ We see its life in its:                                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Perennial freshness</li> <li>◆ It never becomes obsolete</li> <li>◆ Its power</li> <li>◆ It produces growth</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>◆ <b>We must get rid of "spiritual junk food"</b> - malice, deceit, hypocrisy, envy, slander</li> <li>◆ <b>Feed on God's Word and Grow</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ The cure for spiritual malnutrition is a regular diet of God's Word</li> <li>◆ "Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk" (2:2)</li> <li>◆ As we grow, we should come to desire more solid food—the deeper things that God's Word has to offer</li> </ul> </li> <li>◆ <b>Eat All of God's Word and Watch Yourself Change</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ "...be transformed by the renewal of your mind" (Rom. 12:2)</li> <li>◆ Paul's example from Israel (2 Cor. 3:14-18)</li> <li>◆ As we immerse ourselves into God's Word, His Word transforms us into the image and glory of the Lord.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	