

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 4, 2014

Contact Us:

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Brownwood, TX 76801
325-646-7102
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Meeting Times:

Sunday:

Bible Study9:45 AM
Worship10:40 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..... 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.

There Is a Great Day Coming!

To see this title, people of the world might think of a birthday, graduation day, wedding day, or any number of events that might happen in their lives. But, to the Christian it means the Judgment Day, the day for which all days are made and into which all former days to that time are included (Acts 17:30,31; Rev. 20:11,12). Thus, we have sung the strains of the beautiful and thoughtful song by this title many times.

Other Great Days

Let us also think of several other great days which we have already experienced and some which we anticipate before the final great day arrives. The greatest day in our life on earth has to be the day when someone had enough interest in us to teach us the plan of salvation, when we fully obeyed the Gospel and had our sins completely washed away (Acts 22:16). How very happy we were on that day—a day which shall be emblazoned in our memory throughout eternity! Like the Ethiopian eunuch, it was then that true happiness and rejoicing came into our lives (Acts 8:35-39).

Then, there might be mentioned the great day that our mate (after our much patience) or our children (so loving, tender, and teachable) obeyed the Gospel or were restored to faithful service in the Lord's kingdom. Or, we might think of the great day when we taught and baptized another precious soul into Christ (Gal. 3:26,27). What joy it is to see one put on their Lord in baptism and rise to begin to live in newness of life (Rom. 6:3,4). All of these great days are the result, of course, of the power of God, the Gospel, being sown in the good and honest heart of individuals (Lk. 8:11-15).

Our Gospel Meeting—A Great Day

We are thinking just now of another great day (or series of days) soon to come. That is May 11-14, when brother Loy Mitchell will be with us to present a special series of Gospel lessons. If any wonder why we have this meeting and why we consider this a great day we would answer:

1. Because it pleases God to preach the Gospel (1 Cor. 1:21).
2. Because it carries out our mission in the church (Mt. 28:18-20).
3. Because it honors our Lord Jesus Christ (1 Cor. 2:2)
4. Because the Gospel is the Holy Spirit's means of saving the lost (Jn. 16:7,13; Acts 2:36-38).
5. Because souls need salvation (Rom. 1:18; 6:23).
6. Because many of our brethren have fallen away and need to return to faithfulness (Gal. 6:1; Jas. 5:19,20).
7. Because the Gospel is God's powerful means by which all men can be saved (Rom. 1:16,17).
8. Because we want to be saved and must teach others to accomplish our salvation (1 Tim. 4:16).
9. Because we want to edify and strengthen our brethren (1 Cor. 14:12).
10. Because we want better homes. We need better fathers, mothers, husbands and wives, children, young adults, middle-aged and older adults (Ps. 127:1).

Since we believe God's power through the Gospel and the Gospel reigning in our hearts can accomplish far more than we may "ask or think" (Eph. 23:21,22), let us put our hands to the work and have a great day (or four days) of spiritual feast!

Can the Lord depend on us to pray, advertise, and be present for each service? Can we afford to do any less for our gracious God and loving Savior?

Adapted from an article by Gary Colley, Good News From Getwell



"If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not bear his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple.... So therefore, any one of you who does not renounce all that he has cannot be my disciple."

Luke 14:26,27,33

Being A Christian Is Costly

The devil would like nothing more than for one to believe that it does not cost to be a Christian. Some well-meaning folks will even declare that after one becomes a child of God, his troubles are over. Those who expect their problems and sorrows to disappear after obeying the Gospel are then discouraged when the devil attacks with all his fury. One must remember that the word of God warns: “*Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour*” (1 Peter 5:8). When Satan loses a soul because of one’s obedience to the Gospel, he will unleash his fury in seeking to tempt the new convert to apostatize from the faith.

If people are taught and realize that Christianity is costly, it will be more difficult for Satan to sow seeds of discouragement. Let us consider some of the costs of becoming a Christian.

First, **one must be willing to give up the pleasures of sin.** Not all are willing to turn from certain sins. The devil will do all in his power to convince one to continue the wickedness that brings temporary pleasure. This is why many folks continue to live in and enjoy an adulterous relationship. They do not desire to forsake that which is pleasurable! The Bible, however, encourages all to imitate Moses. God’s Word says, “*By faith Moses, when he was grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh’s daughter, choosing rather to be mistreated with the people of God than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin*” (Heb. 11:24-25).

People need to see sin for the bad investment it is. God makes it clear that those who live in or practice sin will not inherit the kingdom of heaven (1 Cor. 6:9-10). The wages of sin is death (Rom. 6:23).

Second, **one must be willing to surrender to the will of God.** Even the majority of the “religious world” has no desire to turn from their man-made doctrines and surrender to God’s plan of salvation. Jesus said, “*If you love me, you will keep my commandments*” (John 14:15). Countless thousands say they love Christ, but their actions speak louder than their words! So many claim to believe in and accept Christ but reject the command to be baptized for remission of sins

(Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; 22:16).

The truth is that many people today are related to the Pharisees of Jesus’ day. John stated, “*Nevertheless, many even of the authorities believed in him, but for fear of the Pharisees they did not confess it, so that they would not be put out of the synagogue; for they loved the glory that comes from man more than the glory that comes from God*” (John 12:42-43). One must be a “doer” of the word and not a “hearer only” (James 1:22).

Third, **one must be willing to be separate from the world.** The apostle Paul said, “*But far be it from me to boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world*” (Gal. 6:14; cf. Gal. 2:20). Paul taught the brethren at Corinth: “*Do not be unequally yoked with unbelievers. For what partnership has righteousness with lawlessness? Or what fellowship has light with darkness? What accord has Christ with Belial? Or what portion does a believer share with an unbeliever? What agreement has the temple of God with idols? For we are the temple of the living God; as God said, ‘I will make my dwelling among them and walk among them, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people’*” (2 Cor. 6:14-16).

If a man is in love with the world, the love of the Father is not in him (1 John 2:15-17).

Fourth, **one must pay the cost of self-denial.** Many determine this is too high a price to pay as they will not say “No” to themselves. The Lord taught, “*...If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me*” (Luke 9:23).

It is true that it costs to be a faithful Christian. But the costs are greater when one rejects Christianity. Can you afford to live your life in such a way that it costs you your soul, heaven, and eternal fellowship with God and those of like precious faith?

The cost is great to be a Christian, but the cost is far greater to be a servant of Satan.

Marvin Weir, via [Seek The Old Paths](#), March, 2014

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

Sunday 5/4:	Genesis 1-3
Monday 5/5:	Genesis 4-7
Tuesday 5/6:	Genesis 8-11
Wednesday 5/7:	Job 1-5
Thursday 5/8:	Job 6-9
Friday 5/9:	Job 10-13
Saturday 5/10:	Job 14-16

“*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)



- ◆ **May 18—Graduation Party for Garrett Barnum** after evening services. Finger foods and snacks.

In The Area

- ◆ May 4-7—**Gospel Meeting @ Gordon** (Michael Light)
- ◆ Jun. 10—**Summer Youth Series begins @ Bangs**. This Year's Theme—*"In the Days of Their Youth."* Will continue each Tuesday through the summer.
- ◆ Jun. 29-Jul. 3—**Junior Camp**
- ◆ Jul. 20-25—**Senior Camp**

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO COME AND HEAR

LOY MITCHELL

PRESENTING A SERIES OF GOSPEL LESSONS

MAY 11-14, 2014

THE TRUTH

THINGS EVERY PERSON NEEDS TO KNOW

4TH & STEWART CHURCH OF CHRIST
3201 4TH STREET
BROWNWOOD, TEXAS



"You will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." Jn. 8:32

Service Times & Topics

Sunday	9:45am	The Bible Is Our Only Guide
	10:40am	Rightly Dividing the Word
	6:00pm	The Destructiveness of Sin
Monday	7:00pm	Jesus Christ is the Answer
Tuesday	7:00pm	The Church Jesus Built
Wednesday	11:00am	The Lord's Work in Zimbabwe
	7:00pm	What Must I do to be Saved?

Lunch will be provided after services Sunday and Wednesday
Snacks and fellowship after each evening service

Loy was born in Lawrence, Kansas, in 1932, to Owen and Maude Mitchell, along with three sisters and six brothers. All seven boys became gospel preachers. Loy married Donna Taylor in 1954. They have four children. Donna passed away in 2002. Loy married Debra Griffin, a widow, in 2004.

In 1958, Donna, Loy and their first child Stanley, left for Southern Rhodesia (now Zimbabwe) to spread the gospel of Christ and to train the indigenous people to preach and teach. Loy and Donna spent 28 years in Africa. Each year he and Debra return to Africa to preach and to check on the work and the brethren there.

Loy started preaching at Wilmington, Kansas, in 1950 and has done local work in Kansas, Oklahoma and Texas. He taught at Freed Hardeman University from 2006-07. He and Debra just moved from Dyersburg, TN, to Knott, TX, where he will continue to preach and teach the gospel. Loy also holds Gospel meetings, Mission Seminars, and speaks to churches by appointment and reports on the work in Africa.

Loy loves the Lord and his greatest desire is that all men know about Jesus Christ and become Christians.

What Can I Do To Help Make Our Gospel Meeting A Success?

1. Pray for the meeting and for brother Mitchell.
2. Resolve to attend every service.
3. Bring someone with you.
4. Concentrate on one person you want to obey the Gospel.
5. Make visitors feel at home.
6. Arrive early at each service.
7. Participate joyfully in the worship.
8. Use the flyers to promote the meeting.
9. Encourage brother Mitchell.

Visitation Meeting

- ◆ Each Sunday night immediately before the evening worship. Last week **22 contacts** were made.

Special Announcements

- ◆ A big **"Thank You"** to everyone who helped with the work day yesterday.
- ◆ **Cindy and I will be out of town this week**, including Wednesday evening, attending Focal Point Preacher's Workshop. We will be available by cell phone or email.
- ◆ **Sign-up sheet to provide meals for Loy & Debra** on the back table. They are just ordinary folks, so it doesn't have to be fancy. You will be blessed by your time together.
- ◆ **Flyers for the Gospel Meeting** are available at the back of the auditorium. Please take them and use them!
- ◆ **Today—Fellowship Lunch & Elders, Deacons and Preacher's Meeting.**
- ◆ **Today—Going Away Party for Ethel Adams**, 4:00pm at the building.
- ◆ **May 11-14—Gospel Meeting with Loy Mitchell**
- ◆ **May 11—Fellowship Meal** following morning services. Please bring extra for visitors.
- ◆ **May 14 11:00am—Special Session: "The Lord's Work in Zimbabwe"**. Salad luncheon to follow. Bring extra for visitors.

Celebrate

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

May Birthdays: Ian Barnum (5), Barbara Bannister (10), Nita Karla Boyd, Kami Hardy & Pam Teague (14), Caitlin Barnum & Billy Chism (15), Peggy Moore (17), Randy Brubaker (23), Gracen Hardy (30)

May Anniversaries: None

Mistakes? Left Out? Let Johnny know...



Records

	Apr. 20, 2014	Apr. 27, 2014
Bible Class	42	44
AM Worship	78	61
PM Worship	39	42
Wednesday PM	31	42
Contribution	\$1,948	\$1,759

Privileged To Serve

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

	This Week: 5/4/14	Next Week: 5/11/14		
Sunday AM:	Song Leader: Mike Bannister	Song Leader: Johnny McCaghren	May 2014 Make Announcements: John Barnum Prepare Communion: John Barnum Family Clean Building: Jessica Stultz & Cindy Fuller Keep Grounds: James Fuller June 2014 Make Announcements: James Fuller Prepare Communion: Billy & Peggy Chism Clean Building: Jack & Judy Turner Keep Grounds: Tom Wilcox	
Greeters	Tom & Carol Wilcox	Joe Dennis Family		
Opening Prayer	Hank Wheeler	Gene Bannister		
Communion	John Barnum*, Joe Dennis Garrett Barnum, Caleb Dennis	Don Smith*, Hank Wheeler Ken Maninger, Chase Churchwell		
Closing Prayer	James Thomas	Billy Chism		
Attendance Cards	Caleb Dennis	Chase Churchwell		
Sunday PM:	Song Leader: Joe Dennis	Song Leader: Johnny McCaghren		
Opening Prayer	James Fuller	James Thomas		
Scripture Reading	Allen Griffith	Garrett Barnum		
Communion	John Barnum	Don Smith		
Closing Prayer	Gene Bannister	Joe Dennis		
Wednesday Devotionals:	May 7 Allen Griffith	May 14 Gospel Meeting	May 21 Garrett Barnum	May 28 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)

Studies for the week of May 4, 2014	<i>Sunday Class Terms of Entrance into the New Testament Church Wednesday PM Video: Giving</i>
<p>Studies in Luke—The Cost of Discipleship—14:25-35</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ While Jesus is at the house of one of the rulers of the Pharisees, someone states, "Blessed is everyone who will eat bread in the kingdom of God!", evidently assuming himself in that number. ◆ Jesus tells a parable about a man who sent servants out to bid his invited guests, "Come, for everything is ready", but they refused to come. ◆ Why would men refuse to come to the feast? Because of the cost! ◆ Jesus gives 3 classes of people who cannot be his disciple. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ One who is not willing to place Jesus first in his life (26). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Jesus must of necessity, come first! There can be no rivals! ◆ Not only must Jesus have priority over those closest to us, He must also have priority over self. ◆ Christianity is not a life of convenience, but a life of sacrifice. ◆ One who is not willing to bear his own cross (27). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ A cross had one purpose—to kill the person put on it. ◆ A disciple must put self to death. ◆ Not a one time process at baptism, but a continual dying. ◆ One who is not willing to renounce all that he has (33). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Song—"All to Jesus I Surrender, All to Him I freely give" ◆ The Rich Young Ruler (18:18-30) ◆ What would Jesus have you sell? ◆ Are you willing to pay that price? ◆ Notice Jesus did not say it would be difficult for such a person to be His disciple—but, "He cannot be my disciple." ◆ We must consider the cost of being a disciple. ◆ We must also consider the cost of not being a disciple. ◆ What price are you willing to pay? 	<p>Epistle of James—The Sin of Respect of Persons (2) 2:8-13</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ In the previous lesson, James introduces the sin of showing partiality. He used the example of a rich man and a poor man coming into the assembly. The rich man is honored, but the poor man is dishonored. James points out the inconsistency of both following Christ and showing partiality. ◆ The Royal Law (8-11) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Evidently some had tried to justify their showing partiality by referring to the law of love ("You shall love your neighbor as yourself"). ◆ They had missed the point—"If you <u>really</u> fulfill...you are doing well" ◆ "But if (Since) you show partiality, you are committing sin" <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ The Lord did not consider this a mere oversight on their part. ◆ They were "working sin", participating habitually in it. ◆ Thus, they became transgressors of the whole law. ◆ It only takes one sin, however small (partiality, gossip, etc.) or great (adultery, murder, etc.) we may consider it to be, to make us a transgressor, and thus to stand condemned. ◆ They Law of Liberty and of Mercy (12,13) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ "So speak and so act" - our actions should be consistent with our words. ◆ They were free from the "law of slavery", but were still under law. They would be judged for their actions. ◆ When we stand before God in judgment, we all desire mercy. ◆ Have we shown mercy? Was mercy shown to the poor man? ◆ James has shown that partiality in the church is a sin clearly inconsistent with the Christian's profession of faith in Jesus Christ.