

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



June 1, 2014

Contact Us:

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Brownwood, TX 76801

325-646-7102

www.4thstreetcoc.org
office@4thstreetcoc.org

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.

I Hope the World Hates My Son

As a 5-year-old, I remember my parents asking me what I wanted to be when I grew up. My answer, of course, was "a school bus driver." For some reason, that career choice never materialized. But I ended up doing the next best thing – being a preacher.

This past January I found out I am going to be a father, and this month I found out he will be a boy. Lord willing he will arrive mid-September. Now my imagination about the future is going wild. I'm finding that my hopes and dreams about the future are beginning to revolve more around my son than they are with me. What will *he* be when he grows up? Will he be a smart, straight-A student? Will he be funny and popular? Will he be an impressive specimen of health, charm, and style, like his dad? I suppose I will just have to wait and find out.

I daydream about my son being well behaved and pleasant when he is around others. I want his teachers to be impressed by his intelligence and the respect he gives them. I want his coaches to admire his dedication to the team. I want his employers to be surprised by the positive attitude and hard-work ethic he brings to the workplace. I want him to have a healthy influence on his peers and to be a role model to the generation that follows him. I want him to break the mold by being a true leader and example to others. Maybe this is just my pride, but I want to be proud of him. I want him to succeed, and I want to be the father, along with his mother, who will set him up for that success.

I don't think my hopes are unique; I think every [good] parent has big dreams about who their children will be. **At the same time, I never want to confuse worldly achievement with spiritual success. More than I want my child to be popular and make good grades, I want him to become a strong and courageous Christian.**

Because we have a different allegiance and value system than the world, Christian parents must put the dreams they have for their children in the context of John 15:19: *"If you were of the world, the world would love you as its own; but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you."*

Above all, I want my son to be faithful to the Lord. **And if my prayers and hopes are answered, the world will hate him.** Without a doubt, some people will be completely disgusted with him.

I want my son to know there is a Creator, and that his purpose is to serve Him (Ecc. 12:13). I want my son to know that God's Word is inerrant and sufficient (Matt. 24:35; 2 Tim. 3:16-17), being the very map to heaven (2 Tim. 3:15). I want him to know that there is a right way and a wrong way to worship God, and that everything must be done by the authority of Christ (Col. 3:17). I want him to know about God's plan for human sexuality (Matt. 19:1-12), and that he is to be unshakably committed to his wife (Eph. 5:25). I want him to be a gentle and loving parent (Eph. 6:4). I want him to know that pornography is wicked (Matt. 5:27-30), and that women need to be treated with respect (1 Tim. 5:2). I want him to love the church of Jesus Christ more than his own life (Matt. 16:18; Eph. 5:28; Acts 20:28), being wholeheartedly dedicated to preserving the church just as she is found in the New Testament (Eph. 5:27). I want him to be eager to share the gospel with others (Matt. 28:19-20), zealous to contend for the faith (Jude 3), and willing to stand against error (2 Tim. 4:2). I want him to be a bright example of Christ's love to our dark and dreary world (Matt. 5:13-16; John 13:35).

In turn, the world will call him a bigot and a homophobe for not endorsing homosexuality. Secular academia will call him ignorant and close-minded for not believing in evolution and the "big bang." His peers will mock him for being "old-fashioned" for not having sex before marriage. So-called Christians will ridicule him for not worshiping with instruments and refusing to compromise with denominations. The world will call him "judgmental" for calling sin what it is: sin. Weak Christians will tease him for not laughing at wicked entertainment and will deride him for attending every worship service (even if it means pulling his kids out of baseball practice). And the world will scratch its head when he responds to all of this in love.

I hope the world will hate him. Because if Hannah and I raise him in the Way of the Lord, the world will certainly know he is not one of them (John 7:7; 17:14-17). He will definitely feel its hatred.

When the world sees you as an abomination, God calls you righteous (Prov. 29:27). And that is true success.

Ben Giselbach, via www.plainsimplefaith.com

"This is not the wisdom that comes down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic. For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there will be disorder and every vile practice. But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere. And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace."

James 3:15-18

The Value of Endurance—Part One

Sometimes we act like being a Christian should be easy, that discipleship is some cushy job with great perks. Discipleship offers great blessings, but there is a difference. True discipleship practically guarantees great resistance and open hostility. Jesus Himself warned the apostles, *“Do not think that I came to bring peace on earth. I did not come to bring peace but a sword”* (Mt. 10:34). Our Lord knew the nature of the discipleship to which He calls us, as much as He knew the path He Himself faced marching toward the cross (Lk. 9:22). He understood its struggles and its heartaches. He considered its adversity and pain. Nevertheless, to this He called us, because the hardships of life and the challenges created by a heartless enemy (1 Pet. 5:8), can yet refine our character.

Therefore, disciples must consider how prepared they are to endure the onslaught of open negativity, unwarranted criticism, and irrational arguments the world will throw their direction. Jesus reminds us, *“A disciple is not above his teacher, nor a servant above his master. It is enough for a disciple that he be like his teacher, and a servant like his master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebub, how much more will they call those of his household!”* (Mt. 10:24-25). Perhaps we have enjoyed relative peace in this world for too long. If so, the devil simply has lulled us to sleep. The vitriol spewed forth against the Bible and morality in recent years should fortify our faith rather than cause us to shrink away. Satan has not called a truce! He is still fighting—even while knowing his defeat. Like something injured in the wild, he does not accept it well. To the contrary, he lashes out at anything and everything around him. Christians must prepare themselves for this, including attacks from those claiming some affinity to Christ (2 Cor. 11:14-15). Disciples must therefore strengthen themselves to withstand these assaults on their faith, to hold fast despite insults to their intelligence, and hang on regardless of how much the world turns against the truth. The world does not value faith because it does not value Christ. But take heart, Jesus still values your endurance.

More than even this, disciples must guard against over-

estimating their own value and trying to insulate themselves from attack. This only leads to compromise. Some Christians act as if their strength and faithfulness needs no improvement. They place themselves at the pinnacle of knowledge and spirituality and consider this self-built fortress sufficient protection from the tempter’s fiery darts. They are wrong. They have forgotten the experience of one Simon Peter. On the night of Jesus’ betrayal, *“Having arrested Him, they led Him and brought Him into the high priest’s house. But Peter followed at a distance. Now when they had kindled a fire in the midst of the courtyard and sat down together, Peter sat among them. And a certain servant girl, seeing him as he sat by the fire, looked intently at him and said, ‘This man was also with Him.’ But he denied Him, saying, ‘Woman, I do not know Him.’ And after a little while another saw him and said, ‘You also are of them.’ But Peter said, ‘Man, I am not!’ Then after about an hour had passed, another confidently affirmed, saying, ‘Surely this fellow also was with Him, for he is a Galilean.’ But Peter said, ‘Man, I do not know what you are saying!’ Immediately, while he was still speaking, the rooster crowed. And the Lord turned and looked at Peter. Then Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how He had said to him, ‘Before the rooster crows, you will deny Me three times.’ So Peter went out and wept bitterly”* (Lk. 22:54-62). Judas followed Jesus for more than three years but failed completely in the end. Our value as disciples cannot be accurately measured at any one point in life—no matter how active, knowledgeable, or spiritual we may seem. As proved by the life of Jesus Himself, the only proper measurement of a given person’s spiritual value will be of His spiritual endurance, and that valuation will be determined only after death (Phil. 2:5-11; Heb. 9:27).

Kevin Rhodes

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 6/1:	Genesis 48-50
Monday 6/2:	Exodus 1-3
Tuesday 6/3:	Exodus 4-6
Wednesday 6/4:	Exodus 7-9
Thursday 6/5:	Exodus 10-12
Friday 6/6:	Exodus 13-15
Saturday 6/7:	Exodus 16-18

“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)



please see Tom.

- ◆ June 14—**Ladies get together** at McCaghren's. 9:00am-12noon. Bring snacks/finger foods.

In The Area

- ◆ June 9-12 **VBS @ Bangs** (They will have a scale model of the tabernacle set up)
- ◆ June 9-12 **VBS @ Dublin**—*"How we got the Bible"*
- ◆ June 10—**SYS @ Bangs**. This Year's Theme—*"In the Days of Their Youth."*
- ◆ June 17 **SYS @ DeLeon**
- ◆ June 21 **VBS @ DeLeon**—*"The Race is On! Running with Jesus Every Day!"*
- ◆ June 24 **SYS @ Hamilton**
- ◆ June 29-July 3—**Junior Camp**
- ◆ July 20-25—**Senior Camp**
- ◆ **Aug. 12 SYS @ 4th & Stewart**

Visitation Meeting

- ◆ Each Sunday night immediately before the evening worship. Last week **18 contacts** were made.

Special Announcements

- ◆ **Today—Fellowship lunch** after morning service, with **Elders, Deacons, & Preacher's meeting** to follow.
- ◆ **Today**—Cindy McCaghren will be starting a **new class** for the **Jr. High and High School girls**. It will meet Sunday morning and Wednesday evenings in the library.
- ◆ Tom Wilcox will be taking **pictures** over the next few weeks **to update the directory and picture board**. If you would like to get your picture updated,

Now I sit me down in school
 Where praying is against the rule,
 For this great nation under God
 Finds mention of Him very odd.
 If scripture now the class recites,
 It violates the Bill of Rights.
 And anytime my head I bow
 Becomes a Federal matter now.
 Our hair can be purple, orange or green,
 That's no offense; it's a freedom scene.
 The law is specific, the law is precise;
 Prayers spoken aloud are a serious vice.
 For praying in a public hall
 Might offend someone with no faith at all.
 In silence alone we must meditate;
 God's name is prohibited by the Provenance.
 We're allowed to cuss and dress like freaks,
 And pierce our noses, tongues and cheeks.
 They've outlawed guns, but **FIRST** the Bible.
 To quote the Good Book makes us liable.
 We can elect a pregnant Senior Queen,
 And the "unwed daddy" our Senior King.
 It's "inappropriate" to teach right from wrong;
 We're taught that such "judgments" do not belong.
 We can get our condoms and birth controls,
 Study witchcraft, vampires and totem poles.
 But the Ten Commandments are not allowed;
 No word of God must reach this crowd.
 It's scary her I must confess;
 When chaos reigns the school's a mess.
 So, Lord, this silent plea I make:
 Should I be shot, my soul please take! Amen.

Written by a 15-year-old child in Winnipeg, Manitoba

Celebrate

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

June Birthdays: Mike Bannister (3), Caleb Dennis (6), Loutrell Dobbins (8), Shannon Dennis (13), Tiffany McCaghren (22), Donnie Evetts (24), David Greer (26), Stormy Barnum (27), Ashley Kahlich (29).

June Anniversaries: James & Laverne Thomas (5), Johnny & Cindy McCaghren (8), Wayne & Mileen Kahlich (19), David & Lisa Greer (28).

Mistakes? Left Out? Let Johnny know...



Records

	May 18, 2014	May 25, 2014
Bible Class	48	50
AM Worship	67	69
PM Worship	60	49
Wednesday PM	45	52
Contribution	\$1,986	\$1,725

Privileged To Serve

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

	This Week: 6/1/14	Next Week: 6/8/14		
Sunday AM:	Song Leader: Mike Bannister	Song Leader: Mike Bannister	June 2014 Make Announcements: James Fuller Prepare Communion: Billy & Peggy Chism Clean Building: Jack & Judie Turner Keep Grounds: Tom Wilcox July 2014 Make Announcements: Don Smith Prepare Communion: Peggy Moore Clean Building: John Barnum Family Keep Grounds: James Fuller	
Greeters	John Barnum Family	Allen & Linda Griffith		
Opening Prayer	Gene Bannister	Garrett Barnum		
Communion	Joe Dennis*, Caleb Dennis Hank Wheeler, Kevin Wilcox	Tom Wilcox*, John McCaghren Ken Maninger, Chase Churchwell		
Closing Prayer	Joe Dennis	Billy Chism		
Attendance Cards	Caleb Dennis	Chase Churchwell		
Sunday PM:	Song Leader: Ken Maninger	Song Leader: James Fuller		
Opening Prayer	Mike Bannister	Hank Wheeler		
Scripture Reading	James Fuller	Mike Bannister		
Communion	Joe Dennis	Tom Wilcox		
Closing Prayer	Billy Chism	Gene Bannister		
Wednesday Devotionals:	June 4 Joe Dennis	June 11 Allen Griffith	June 18 Tom Wilcox	June 25 Kevin 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)

Studies for the week of June 1, 2014	Sunday Class <i>What Must I Do To Be Saved?</i> Wednesday Class <i>Mark 10</i>
<p>Studies in Luke—The Rich Man & Lazarus—16:19-31</p> <p>The setting is still the same as begin in 15:1. A parable or actual events? The answer does not really affect the message, unless one tries to allegorize the message away.</p> <p>Characters</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ A rich man—he dressed in purple and feasted sumptuously every day. ◆ Lazarus—a beggar, covered with sores, laid at the gate of the rich man desiring only the crumbs from the rich man's table. <p>Conflicts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ In a significant turn of events both men die, unveiling the real character of each and the condition of the souls. ◆ The rich man is buried—probably with much ceremony. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ However he finds himself in torment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ He sees Lazarus in comfort, contrasting his torment. ◆ He is in anguish in the flames and in need of water. ◆ He has agonizing memories of his family and Lazarus. ◆ He realizes his state is eternal and unchangeable. ◆ He is unable to help his brothers ◆ Lazarus—is at Abraham's side and comforted <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ It must be implied that Lazarus was a man of faith (people are not saved or lost merely by economic status). <p>The Final Insult</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ The rich man's final request, while appearing noble, implies that it is God's fault he is in torment—he did not have sufficient warning. ◆ The rich man is one of several in our study taken by surprise. <p>When our Lord comes as a thief in the night, will he find you ready? Or will He take you by surprise?</p>	<p>Epistle of James—Admonition to Teachers (2)—3:13-18</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ After mentioning the teacher in v. 1, James discusses the more specific subject of the tongue's influence and evil. Now he goes back to the subject of the teacher. <p>Those Who Should Not Teach (13,14)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Since a teacher has a reputation of more skill and knowledge than others, he should show by his conduct that it is, in fact, true. ◆ We should teach with meekness and gentleness. ◆ James shows four characteristics of wrong teaching: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Fanatical—not based on sound reasoning. ◆ Bitter—regards its opponents as enemies rather than friends to be helped. ◆ Selfishly Ambitious—more interested in showing off knowledge than showing truth. ◆ Arrogant—pride in knowledge rather than humility in ignorance ◆ "What you <u>are</u> speaks so loudly that I cannot hear what you <u>say</u>." <p>The Wrong Kind of Wisdom (15,16)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ The wisdom described in v. 14 is not from God, but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic. ◆ This type wisdom is worthless for bring one to Christ. ◆ It drives people apart and produces strife, rather than bringing people together and producing peace. <p>True Wisdom (17,18)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ The foundation for true wisdom is purity (freedom from these undesirable traits). ◆ One then builds on that foundation, peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere. ◆ If the teacher sows in peace, he can expect a great harvest.