

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



July 27, 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

The following article is a great reminder of the proper Christian attitude toward our fellow-man, especially in light of many of things going on in the world today. *Johnny*



Fear of those who belong to the Islamic faith is not a completely irrational fear. It is *natural* to be afraid of those whose religion teaches them to kill infidels who will not convert to Islam. It is natural to fear those whose religion has motivated suicide bombings, hijackings, and all matter of atrocities all over the world. However, while fearing Muslims might be *natural*, it is certainly not Christian. It is not "of Christ" to fear "those who kill the body" (Matthew 10:28). Nor is it "of Christ" to hate them.

I have heard people – who claim to be Christians – speak with utmost disdain, hatred, and fear of those of the Islamic faith. Personally, I think we need an attitude adjustment.

1. They are Our Neighbors

Both the Old Testament and the New Testament teach the principle, "Love your neighbor as yourself" (Leviticus 19:18; Matthew 22:39; Galatians 5:14). Of course, the people of Jesus' day felt they were being obedient to the command by loving only those who were of their race and their religion. Jesus was discussing this principle with an expert in the Law, and the lawyer, "desiring to justify himself, said to Jesus, 'And who is my neighbor?'" (Luke 10:29)? In response, Jesus taught the parable of the "Good Samaritan."

If Jews and Samaritans were "neighbors" and God expected His people to love Samaritans as themselves, don't you think God would expect us to love our Muslim neighbors as ourselves?

2. They are Our Enemies

Obviously, not all Muslims would consider Christians their enemies, but many of them would. If you will not love Muslims because they are your neighbor, then at least love them because Jesus told you to love your enemies. Jesus said in Luke 6:27-31,

But I say to you who hear, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. To one who strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also, and from one who takes away your cloak do not withhold your tunic either. Give to everyone who begs from you, and from one who takes away your goods do not demand them back. And as you wish that others would do to you, do so to them.

We are not talking about having a warm and gushy feeling in your heart. We are talking about benevolent love. We are talking about love that can be seen. We are talking about giving to them generously and treating them in the same way you want to be treated. Jesus went on to say in Luke 6:35-36,

But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return, and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he is kind to the ungrateful and the evil. Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful.

Love, kindness, and gentleness are virtues we should express to everyone, including those who hate us, despise us, and persecute us. If we cannot be kind and merciful to our enemies, we cannot be "sons of the Most High."

3. They are Lost

I have heard many Christians express sentiments like, "We should just drop a nuclear bomb on the

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



"³⁷As he was drawing near—already on the way down the Mount of Olives—the whole multitude of his disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works that they had seen, ³⁸saying, 'Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!'... ⁴¹And when he drew near and saw the city, he wept over it, saying, 'Would that you, even you, had known on this day the things that make for peace!'"

Luke 19

The Value of Training—Part Two

Disciples of Jesus are lifelong pupils and followers because they never outgrow their Master. In his epistle to the Colossians, the apostle Paul reminded them, “*As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith, as you have been taught, abounding in it with thanksgiving*” (Col. 2:6-7). Writing to a group of Christians with some experience under their belt, Paul called on them to continue learning. More specifically, he wanted them in a perpetual learning relationship with their Lord that their lifestyle and personal growth reflected. Thus, discipleship does not stem from a short-term encounter with Jesus but from a lifelong commitment to Him.

We ought to aspire to greatness spiritually, because that is what Jesus modeled for us—greatness. The apostle Paul, when focusing on the sacrificial service inherent in Christianity, pointed to Jesus Himself as the ideal. “*Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bond-servant, and coming in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross. Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, that at the*

name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father” (Phil. 2:5-11). While the particular characteristics of humility, sacrifice, and obedience described in this passage with great theological significance remain the focus, the underlying principle deserves attention too. The model for every disciple should always be Jesus Christ Himself—how He lived, what He taught, and why He died. Sadly, some examine the pages of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John seeking excuses for exalting some scriptures while ignoring the rest. That does not match how Jesus lived (Mt. 5:17-18). Instead, as disciples, we should look at the perfect example of Jesus and constantly reassess our own lives—what we must correct and where we must grow—so as to become more like Him. Paul understood this. But he also understood that this goal of self-improvement was no mere humanitarian cause. To the contrary, he recognized it as a heavenly calling and a call to heaven, and so also should all disciples. “*Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus*” (Phil. 3:13-14).

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

Once again, we have come to the end of a study guide that someone started developing but never completed. If anyone knows of a good daily Bible study guide (looking for more than just a daily reading schedule), please let me know. I am certainly open to suggestions. Continue to study along with our current series in Mark, Luke and Daniel.

“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)



♦ **October 5-8—Fall Gospel Meeting** Speaker: Johnny McCaghren, Theme: “The Scheme of Redemption”

In The Area

- ♦ **July 29 SYS @ Gordon**—“Trusting God from Your Youth”
- ♦ **Aug. 5 SYS @ 5th & Grape**—“Proving Yourself from Your Youth”
- ♦ **Aug. 6-8 VBS @ Hamilton**—“Whole Armor of God” Classes for cradle roll thru adult
- ♦ **Sept. 27 Annual Auction @ Cherokee Home for Children** (Requested donation list on bulletin board)

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whole Middle East and turn the whole thing into a parking lot!” I’m not saying we don’t have a right – and even an obligation – to defend ourselves against attacks; but as Christians, our desire should be for Muslims’ salvation – not destruction. Doesn’t the book of Jonah teach us that? And doesn’t God’s nature teach us that as well, “*The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance*” (2 Peter 3:9).

I think Christians should study the religion of Islam, be familiar with the Quran, learn about the Sunnis and the Shiites, and know who Mohammed was. We don’t need to learn these things in order to fear them or hate them, but to know how to reach them with the saving Gospel of Jesus Christ. If they don’t hear and obey the Gospel, they will be lost eternally (Romans 10:14-16). And that breaks my heart!

What If...?

“What if they kill us?”

“That’s alright. I’m going to heaven. Besides, we don’t walk by fear. We walk by faith (Matthew 10:28; 2 Corinthians 5:7).”

“What if they don’t listen?”

“That’s alright. We’ll be like Ezekiel and preach whether they hear or refuse to hear (Ezekiel 2:5).”

The bottom line is this, we need to love and pity anyone who isn’t in Christ. We need to reach out to them in love. We need to share the gospel with them when we have the opportunity. Even when they attack us and hurt us, we must be careful not to develop a bitter and hate-filled heart. Let me leave you with the words of the apostle Paul from Romans 12:17-21,

Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, “Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.” To the contrary, “if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head.” Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Wes McAdams, via radicallychristian.com

Visitation Meeting

- ♦ Each Sunday night immediately before the evening worship. Last week **26 contacts** were made.

Special Announcements

- ♦ **Wednesday night will be singing night.** Pick out your favorite hymns and come praise the Lord together. Ladies, we will take requests, so pick out your favorites as well.
- ♦ Study sheets are available for Daniel Chapters 1, 2 & 3.
- ♦ Remember to study through “*Search The Bible: A Study Guide of God’s Plan for Man.*” If you don’t have a copy, see Allen.
- ♦ We need to get pictures of Justin Waldrip and Daphne Escamilla. Please see Tom Wilcox.
- ♦ If you have updates / information for the bulletin, please have them to Johnny by noon on Fridays, if possible.

Upcoming Events

- ♦ **Tonight—Ice Cream Social** after evening service at the home of Earlene Burge & Jessica Stultz (2510 Greenway Drive). Bring ice cream or snacks and enjoy a time of fellowship.
- ♦ Next Sunday—Fellowship Mean & Elder/Deacon/Preacher Mtg
- ♦ **August 12—Summer Youth Series**—Wes McAdams from Baker Heights in Abilene will be our guest speaker.

Celebrate

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

August Birthdays: Joe Dennis (9), Michael Fuller (10), Jessica Dennis (13), Don Smith (14), Royce Ford (16), Roy Dodson (29).

August Anniversaries: Susan & Chipper Bridges (1), Matthew & Kaci Churchwell (15), Terry & Pam Teague (16), Don & Darlene Smith (29).

Mistakes? Left Out? Let Johnny know...



Records

	July 13, 2014	July 20, 2014
Bible Class	42	48
AM Worship	63	83
PM Worship	44	34
Wednesday PM	41	47
Contribution	\$1,846	\$1,965

		This Week: 7/20/14	Next Week: 7/27/14		
Sunday AM:		Song Leader: Mike Bannister		Song Leader: Mike Bannister	
Greeters	John Barnum Family		Tom & Carol Wilcox		
Opening Prayer	John Barnum		James Thomas		
Communion	Joe Dennis*, Caleb Dennis John McCaghren, Hank Wheeler		John Barnum*, Don Smith Ken Maninger, Chase Churchwell		
Closing Prayer	Billy Chism		Joe Dennis		
Attendance Cards	Chase Churchwell		Gene Bannister		
Sunday PM:		Song Leader: Ken Maninger		Song Leader: Joe Dennis	
Opening Prayer	Don Smith		Allen Griffith		
Scripture Reading	Garrett Barnum		Kevin Wilcox		
Communion	Joe Dennis		John Barnum		
Closing Prayer	Don Smith		James Fuller		
Wednesday Devotionals:	July 30 Singing Night		August 6 Tom Wilcox	August 13 Kevin Wilcox	August 20 Garrett Barnum

July 2014
Make Announcements:
 Don Smith
Prepare Communion:
 Peggy Moore
Clean Building:
 John Barnum Family
Keep Grounds:
 James Fuller

August 2014
Make Announcements:
 Joe Dennis
Prepare Communion:
 Don & Darlene Smith
Clean Building:
 Cindy Fuller
Keep Grounds:
 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)

Studies for the week of July 27, 2014		Sunday Class Being A Member of the Body of Christ	Wednesday Class Mark 14
<p>Studies in Luke—Jesus Weeps Again—19:29-48 Jesus has set His course toward Jerusalem. Once there He will be "taken up" (9:51) and "Everything that is written about the Son of Man by the prophets will be accomplished" (18:31). Interestingly, His disciples "understood none of these things" (18:34)</p> <p>◆ Key Notes of Interest</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ The means by which Jesus approached & entered Jerusalem <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ He sent two disciples to go to Bethany and get a colt (donkey). ◆ Though we usually view the donkey as a dumb, stubborn beast of burden; in the ancient East, the donkey was held in high esteem. ◆ More significantly, this was a donkey "on which no one has ever yet sat" (30) ◆ This mode of entrance was a fulfillment of prophecy (Zech. 9:9). ◆ The irony of the situation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ The people are rejoicing and praising God as Jesus approaches Jerusalem, but Jesus is weeping. Obviously, they had two very different impressions concerning what awaited Him in the city. ◆ Notice what He says as He weeps (42-44). ◆ Jesus does not weep for His own fate in Jerusalem, but for the fate of the people of the city that rejected Him. ◆ Jerusalem has been threatened with destruction before—and survived. Why would God not save them from Rome? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ God had not always saved Jerusalem. Ex. The destruction by Babylon in 586 B.C. ◆ God would not save Jerusalem from Rome because they had rejected and murdered His Son. ◆ Thus, Jesus wept over the city. <p>◆ Application</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ This all prefigures another day Paul spoke of in 2 Thess. 1:7-10. ◆ Judgment against those who do not know God, and ◆ Those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. 		<p>Daniel 2—Dream-Image of Nebuchadnezzar—Part 2 (24-49) Daniel's Prudence, Prayer, Power & Promotion</p> <p>◆ Daniel's reliance is on God; the interpretation of the dream (24-45)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Daniel's reliance: "There is a God in heaven who reveals mysteries" (24-30) ◆ Daniel's interpretation—the king's dream revealed (31-35) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ "A great image" (31) ◆ The great image and the details noted (32-35) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Note the steady deterioration from the head to the feet. ◆ The image and "a stone was cut out by no human hand" <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ The "stone" "struck the image" on its feet and broke them in pieces (34) ◆ The "stone"... "Became a great mountain and filled the whole earth" (35) ◆ Daniel interprets the king's dream: "This is the dream. Now we will tell the king its interpretation" (36-45) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ "The God of heaven has given the kingdom, the power, and the might, and the glory...he has given" God is in charge! ◆ The head of gold—Nebuchadnezzar—the Babylonian Empire ◆ "Another kingdom" - the breast and arms of silver—the Medo-Persian Empire ◆ "Yet a third kingdom" - the middle and thighs of bronze—the Grecian Empire ◆ "A fourth kingdom" - the legs and feet—iron and iron mixed with clay—the Roman Empire ◆ A kingdom which shall never be destroyed set up by the God of heaven (44,45) <p>◆ Daniel's God praised by Nebuchadnezzar; Daniel promoted (46-49)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ The king's worship and confession (46,47) ◆ The king's promotion of Daniel (48) ◆ The king's grant concerning Daniel's request (49) 	