

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 22, 2015

Contact Us:

3201 4th Street
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.10:00 AM
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.

Kernels of Knowledge From our Daily Bible Reading

Faithfully Obey the Voice of God

It is a great blessing when people are willing to faithfully obey the voice of God. Moses wrote, "And if you faithfully obey the voice of the Lord your God, being careful to do all his commandments that I command you today, the Lord your God will set you high above all the nations of the earth. And all these blessings shall come upon you and overtake you, if you obey the voice of the Lord your God" (Deut. 28:1,2). Blessings will come upon us and overtake us if we obey the laws and teachings of the Lord our God. Always obey God and the Lord will bless you in many ways. It is good to be blessed. It is also good to know what the Lord considers a blessing and what He considers a curse. In verse 3 we observe that there are two places where God blesses His children. "Blessed shall you be in the city, and blessed shall you be in the field." Those who hearken unto the voice of the Lord will be blessed wherever they are!

Obedying the voice of God brings great blessings. "Blessed shall be the fruit of your womb and the fruit of your ground and the fruit of your cattle, the increase of your herds and the young of your flock" (v. 4). All of these things have to do with the production of offspring; whether it is our children, or our plants or our animals. I would especially like to point out that our children are a very special blessing from God. He tells us that our baskets and our kneading bowl will be blessed. I think that this means what we store for food will be blessed (v. 5). If we obey God we will be blessed wherever we are. We will be blessed when we come in and when we go out (v. 6). We are blessed indeed when we faithfully obey the voice of the Lord and there are many things that are a blessing.

It is a great blessing when people faithfully obey the voice of the Lord by becoming a Christian. It is man's greatest privilege to be a child of God. You can be just a Christian. God has a very simply plan of salvation. To become a Christian you must hear the gospel (Romans 10:17), believe in Jesus (John 8:24), repent of sins (Acts 2:38), confess Christ as Lord (Romans 10:9-10), and be baptized into Christ. (Romans 6:3-4) Jesus invites all to come to Him. "The Spirit and the Bride say, "Come." And let the one who hears say, "Come." And let the one who is thirsty come; let the one who desires take the water of life without price" (Rev. 22:17). Many are willing to become Christians and that is a great blessing.

It is a great blessing when people faithfully obey the voice of the Lord and as Christians stay faithful to Him. God both expects and deserves our faithfulness. Christians are living stones in God's spiritual house. In our faithfulness we must offer unto God spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to Him. "You yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ" (1 Pet. 2:5). Jesus is precious to the faithful. Those who are unfaithful are disobedient. "For it stands in Scripture: 'Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.' So the honor is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe, 'The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone,' and 'A stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense.' They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do" (1 Pet. 2:6-8) Christians must conduct themselves as ones called out of darkness. "But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light" (1 Pet. 2:9).

It is a great blessing when people faithfully obey the voice of the Lord and serve Him in His one true church. "To him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen (Eph. 3:21). Millions are Hindu, Islamic and all kinds of religions and

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"Now before faith came, we were held captive under the law, imprisoned until the coming faith would be revealed. So then, the law was our guardian until Christ came, in order that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian, for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith. For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ." **Galatians 3:23-27**



Area Gospel Meetings This Week

You're Invited!



To a Gospel Meeting
with Richard Massey
(Weatherford, Texas)

Come and Study God's Word with Us

The Way of Christ

- Sunday Bible Class—"What Constitutes Biblical Authority?"
- Sunday Morning Worship—"Greatest Questions of Man"
- Sunday Evening Service—"The Home, God's way to Happiness"
- Monday Evening—"The Ultimate Motivators"
- Tuesday Evening—"You Must be Born Again"
- Wednesday Morning class (10:00 am) - "Staying Plugged In"
- Wednesday Evening—"A Life of Power and Meaning"

Sunday Times:

Bible Class—9:45; Worship 10:45

Evening Services—7:00 pm

Attended Nursery

Bangs Church of Christ

(325)752-6464

(325) 642--2102

mclight43@verizon.net

All Welcome

The Bible has a lot to say about worship. While some want to argue about what is "best," we would prefer to listen to what God's word says about what He wants in worship.

Come learn with us from scripture about how we can get the most out of worship.



Stan Mitchell
Freed-Hardeman University,
Henderson, Tennessee

Stan's topics for the series:

- Sun 9 a.m. How To Get The Most Out Of Worship
- 10 a.m. Let The Redeemed Of The Lord Say So
- 5 p.m. Making Music In The Heart
- Monday 0 Sacred Head
- Tuesday Isaac, Charles and Fanny
- Wednesday When We Meet In Sweet Communion

SUNDAY - WEDNESDAY

March 22-25

How To Get The Most Out Of Worship

Sunday - 9 am, 10 am, 5 pm
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday - 7 pm nightly

Lake Shore Drive Church of Christ
2800 Lake Shore Drive
Waco, TX 76708 (254) 753-1503
lsdcfc@gmail.com
www.churchofchristlakeshore.net

9th & Main—San Angelo

GOSPEL MEETING March 22-25, 2015

**take
Time
to be
Holy**

*UNDERSTANDING THE HOLY BOOK
BY LIVING THE HOLY LIFE
LEARNING FROM OUR HOLY EXAMPLE
HOLY IN EVERY PHASE OF OUR LIFE
WE WILL GIVE AN ACCOUNT
HEAVEN AWARDS*

Sunday 9:30; 10:30 AM; 5:00 PM
Weeknights at 7:00 PM

NEIL POLLARD speaker

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that fact is discouraging. They are very sincere but they are not "in Christ." Neither are they in His one church. However, there are many good people who are in Christ and His church. "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come" (2 Cor. 5:17). Catholic and Protestant denominations are the works of men and not God. Jesus said "Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be rooted up" (Matt. 15:13). While many are outside of Christ there are many that are "in Christ" and "in His church." They are saved and it is such a great blessing that they serve Christ in His one true church.

It is a great blessing when people faithfully obey the voice of the Lord and these Christians study the Bible daily and pray often. Bible study time is very important time for Christians. "No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him. And I will raise him up on the last day. It is written in the Prophets, 'And they will all be taught by God.' Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to me" (John 6:44,45). Studying the Bible is one of life's greatest experiences. The Bible is the word of God and it

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Television

The Truth In Love (Robert Dodson)

Sunday @ 7:00am on KTAB

In Search of the Lord's Way (Phil Sanders)

Sunday @ 7:30am on KTAB

Life In The Light (Chris McCurley)

Sunday @ 10:30am on KTAB

Radio

Preaching the Word (Michael Light)

Sunday @ 9:00am on KOXE 101.3

Internet

TheGospelRadioNetwork.org

Gospel Broadcasting Network (Gbnv.org)

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 Reading Schedule

Mar. 22 Deut. 32-34; Psalm 91

Mar. 23 Joshua 1-4

Mar. 24 Joshua 5-8

Mar. 25 Joshua 9-11

Mar. 26 Joshua 12-15

Mar. 27 Joshua 16-18

Mar. 28 Joshua 19-21

Mar. 29 Joshua 22-24

*"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)*



Visitation Meeting

- ◆ Each Sunday night immediately before the evening worship. Last week **31 contacts** were made.

Special Announcements

- ◆ **No Ladies Bible Class this Wednesday**—all are encouraged to attend the 10:00am class at Bangs.
- ◆ **Gospel Meeting Flyers**—distribute them freely!

Upcoming Events @ 4th & Stewart

- ◆ **Saturday: Workday at the building**
- ◆ **Next Sunday thru Wednesday: Gospel Meeting with Chris McCurley.** See flyer for details.

Upcoming Events In The Area

- ◆ **This week**—see flyers on opposing page.
- ◆ April 5-8 **Gospel Meeting @ Hamilton** w/ Foy Forehand
- ◆ April 5-8 **Gospel Meeting @ Deleon** w/ Phil McIntosh.
- ◆ April 19-22 **Gospel Meeting @ Windmill Road** (Weatherford). Various speakers.
- ◆ April 25 **Ladies Day @ Comanche**, “Footprints of Jesus”
- ◆ May 17-20 **Gospel Meeting @ Gordon** w/ Jason Rollo

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is a great blessing that many Bibles are being used up by being read often. Many children of God also ask the Heavenly Father's blessings. The Lord will hear if Christians seek Him in prayer. *“I sought the Lord, and he answered me and delivered me from all my fears”* (Psalm 34:4). *“Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working”* (James 5:16).

It is a great blessing when people faithfully obey the voice of the Lord and these Christians would never destroy their bodies with tobacco, alcohol or other drugs. The body of a Christian is the temple of the Holy Spirit. *“Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body”* (1 Cor. 6:19,20). Christians should do nothing that can not be done to God's glory. Why spend half of your life doing something that will destroy the other half of your life? Tobacco, alcohol and other drugs have brought misery, pain and heartache to society. Nothing good has come from these enslaving habits. These habits are destructive and wasteful. Much misery and pain has been avoided by Christians who stay away from tobacco, alcohol and other drugs.

It is a great blessing when people faithfully obey the voice of the Lord and as faithful Christians never misuse their tongues. These people would never be guilty of profanity, lying, gossip, criticizing and backbiting. That wicked life style of misusing the tongue is a way of life for many, but there are numerous faithful Christians that never misuse their tongues. *“From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers, these things ought not to be so”* (James 3:10). Christians remember their accountability to God for every spoken word. *“I tell you, on the day of judgment people will give account for every careless word they speak, for by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned”* (Matt. 12:36,37).

Many other great blessings: It is a great blessing when people faithfully obey the voice of the Lord. It is a blessing to know many Christians who, (1) Know the truth and share it with others, (2) Attend all the services of the church, (3) Visit the sick and serve the needy, (4) Are kind and full of compassion, (5) Do much good to help those who are hurting (6) Stay married for a lifetime, (7) Contribute to the unity of the church (8) Stand strong for the truth and would never be swayed by false doctrine, (8) Practice Christ-like love, (9) Love their family and support them completely, (10) Would never live a day without Jesus, (11) Smile, are friendly, greet visitors and fellow members, and (12) Allow their Christian light shine.

Remember the words of Jesus, *“If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full”* (John 15:10,11).

Adapted from an article by Charles Box
(www.walnutstreetchurchofchrist.org)

Celebrate

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

March Birthdays: Ken Maninger (4), Aila Stewart (5), John Greer (7), Wayne Kahlich (9), Daphne Escamilla (12), 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), **Tom & Carol Wilcox (23)**.

Mistakes? Left Out? Let Johnny know...



Records

| | Mar. 8, 2015 | Mar. 15, 2015 |
|--------------|--------------|---------------|
| Bible Class | 39 | 47 |
| AM Worship | 48 | 55 |
| PM Worship | 38 | 48 |
| Wednesday PM | 29 | 48 |
| Contribution | \$2,351 | \$1,753 |

| This Week: 3/22/15 | | Next Week: 3/29/15 | | March 2015 Make Announcements: Ken Maninger Prepare Communion: Don & Darlene Smith Clean Building: John Barnum Family Keep Grounds: James Fuller April 2015 Make Announcements: Gene Bannister Prepare Communion: Johnny & Cindy McCaghren Clean Building: Cindy Fuller & Jessica Stultz Keep Grounds: Tom Wilcox |
|-------------------------------|---|---|-------------------|--|
| Sunday AM: | Song Leader: Mike Bannister | Song Leader: Mike Bannister | | |
| Greeters | Bannister Families | Mileen & Ashley Kahlich | | |
| Opening Prayer | Allen Griffith | James Fuller | | |
| Communion | Joe Dennis*, Caleb Dennis Ken Maninger, Chase Churchwell | Allen Griffith*, James Thomas Hank Wheeler, Caleb Dennis | | |
| Closing Prayer | Billy Chism | Gene Bannister | | |
| Attendance Cards | Jaceton Evetts | Chase Churchwell | | |
| Sunday PM: | Song Leader: James Fuller | Song Leader: Johnny McCaghren | | |
| Opening Prayer | Gene Bannister | Joe Dennis | | |
| Scripture Reading | John Barnum | NA | | |
| Communion | Joe Dennis | Allen Griffith | | |
| Closing Prayer | Don Smith | John Barnum | | |
| Wednesday Devotionals: | March 25 Don Smith | April 1 Gospel Meeting | April 8 Prayer | April 15 Joe Dennis |

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 March 22, 2015

Sunday Class Acts 3:20ff
 Wednesday Class Ezekiel 2:1ff

Holiness & Transformation: Spiritual Pillars of a Christian Life

I. Holiness.

A. *"Strive for peace with everyone, and for the holiness without which no one will see the Lord"* (Heb. 12:14).

- The Greek word rendered "holiness" here is used interchangeably with "sanctification" in: Rom. 6:19,22; 1 Thess. 4:3,4,7; 1 Tim. 2:15; 1 Cor. 1:30; 2 Thess. 2:13; 1 Peter 1:2.

B. What is the "holiness" that is so essential to the Christian life?

- "Personal dedication to the interests of the deity, holiness, consecration, sanctification; the use in a moral sense for a process or, more often, its result (the state of being made holy)."¹
- Holiness arises from the very nature of God (1 Pet. 1:15,16).
- The Hebrew word rendered "holy" 65X in the OT, apparently comes from a root with the "original idea of separation, withdrawal."²

II. Transformation (Romans 12:1,2)

A. **Responsibility** – implied by Paul's expectation of spiritual progress.

- The brethren were to "present" themselves to God in spiritual worship (service).
- This appeal is made in view of "the mercies of God,"
- The outcome is a "living sacrifice," "holy and acceptable" to God.

B. **Refusal** – "do not be conformed to this world"

- There are those things the Christian must refuse.
 - One is not to be (1) conformed (2) to this world.
 - "Conformed" – to form or mold one's behavior in accordance with a particular pattern or set of standards.
 - Do not shape your behavior to the standards of the world.
 - The "world" here refers to the particular time in which one lives – its customs, beliefs, etc.
 - God's people must not allow such a changing mass of moral and immoral ideas to shape and determine our values and actions.

C. **Renewal** – God's people are to be transformed.

- "The renewal of your mind"
- "That by testing you may discern what is the will of God"
- The insight gained that the will of God is "good and acceptable and perfect"

¹ A Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament and Other Early Christian Literature, p. 10.
² A Hebrew and English Lexicon of the Old Testament, p. 871.

John 1:19-34: The Testimony of John the Baptist

The first witness who takes the stand is also the most important human witness: **John the Baptist.**

¹⁹ "And this is the testimony [witness] of John..."

"The Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem" – John's ministry is catching the Sanhedrin's attention!

"Who are you?" – This is an important question throughout the Gospel.

²⁰ "I am not the Christ"

²¹ "What then? Art you Elijah? The Prophet?"

Three Major Lines of Jewish Messianic Expectation:

- The Christ "The Anointed." Ps. 2:6,7; 110:1; Isa 9:6.
- Elijah. Due to the promise of Mal 4:5,6.
- The Prophet. Like Moses foretold in Deut 18:15-18.

²³ "Make straight the way of the Lord"

²⁴ "Then why are you baptizing?" Do you have the authority?

"I baptize with water" – as opposed to the Christ, who will baptize with the Holy Spirit.

"Among you stands one you do not know." John is pointing to Jesus.

²⁷ "He who comes after me." Again, point them to Christ.

"The strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie" Jesus' position over John.

²⁹ "The next day." See 1:35,43. All the same day.

"Behold". Look at Him! Contemplate, discern Him!

"Lamb of God" – Jews would understand the meaning and significance.

"Who takes away the sin of the world"

"Jesus...the Lamb of God." (Jn 1:29-36):

- Jesus is the sacrificial Lamb.
- Jesus is the Lamb of God:

³¹ The reason for baptizing was that Jesus might be revealed to Israel.

³³ "He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain"

³⁴ "The Son of God."

Five points of John's witness.

- He is the Lord (23), the one prophesied about in Isa 40:3.
- He is greater than I (27,30).
- He is the "Lamb of God" ("sacrificial lamb" or Passover lamb).
- He is eternal (30) and the Son of God (34) – deity.
- He has the Holy Spirit (33). The Spirit "remains" upon Him.