



Contact Us:

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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.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

Inward-Focused, Outward-Focused or Upward Focused

I hear a lot of talk about inward-focused vs. outward-focused churches. In fact, the latest trend is to harshly criticize inward-focused churches for being consumer-minded and just existing to please the members. The only alternative, many experts suggest, is to be an outward-focused church. "Don't exist to please the members," they say, "exist to please the unchurched. Do whatever you can to attract and bring in people of the world." I want to suggest that this is a false dichotomy and that both inward-focused and outward-focused churches are wrong.

The biblical alternative to these two focuses is to be an upward-focused church!

The Upward-Focused Church Exists to Please God

The false dichotomy that's been set up says you either exist to please your *members* or you exist to please your *neighbors*. The outward-focused church accuses the inward-focused church of being consumer-minded, but the truth is they both are consumer-minded, they just have different consumers!

But the upward-focused church exists to please God! Paul wrote, "*We walk by faith, not by sight*" (2 Cor. 5:7) and "*we make it our aim to please Him*" (2 Cor. 5:9). The upward-focused church's primary question is not, "What will our members think about this?" Nor is it, "Will this attract the unchurched?" The upward-focused church's primary question is, "**Will this please and glorify God**" (1 Cor. 10:31)?

The Upward-Focused Church Ministers to Its Members

The church must minister to itself. The church is full of new Christians, hurting Christians, ailing Christians, and struggling Christians. The church must continually serve its members. Paul wrote, "*God has so composed the body...that the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honored, all rejoice together. Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it*" (1 Cor. 12:24-28).

We serve the church because the church is Christ's body. When we minister to the body of Christ, we minister to Christ Himself. I reject the idea that the church exists only to serve those outside of the church. This is an unbiblical concept. Galatians 6:10 says, "*So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.*"

The Upward-Focused Church Evangelizes to the Lost

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"Blessed is the man who makes the Lord his trust, who does not turn to the proud, to those who go astray after a lie! You have multiplied, O Lord my God, your wondrous deeds and your thoughts toward us; none can compare with you! I will proclaim and tell of them, yet they are more than can be told." **Psalm 40:4,5**

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



Congregational Meeting—Next Sunday Morning!

Next Sunday morning (5/17) we will have a somewhat abbreviated worship service, followed by a congregational meeting. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss various service opportunities/needs and to gather information on where each member is willing to service.

Below is a sample work assignment sign-up sheet. Look it over and spend this week in prayer concerning the areas where you can best serve the Lord through this congregation. Consider growing into an area where you have not served before. If you can think of anything that has been left off, please bring it to our attention.

At the congregational meeting, each family will receive a sheet to fill out, with a column for each family member. We will attempt to answer any questions at that time.

To the work! To the work! We are servants of God, Let us follow the path that our Master has trod; With the balm of His counsel our strength to renew, Let us do with our might what our hands find to do.

To the work! To the work! Let the hungry be fed; To the fountain of life let the weary be led; In the cross and its banner our glory shall be, While we herald the tidings, Salvation is free!

Benevolence

- ◆ Provide transportation to/from services
- ◆ Coordinate food for funerals/sick
- ◆ Assist with calling food list
- ◆ Provide food for funerals/sick
- ◆ Take communion to shut-ins

Evangelism

- ◆ Teach World Bible School
- ◆ Teach Home Bible Studies
- ◆ Assist with Home Bible Studies

Edification

- ◆ Teach Adult Bible Class (Men Only)
- ◆ Coordinate Children's Education Program

- ◆ Teach Children's Bible Class
- ◆ Assist in Children's Bible Class
 - What age to teach/assist?
- ◆ Coordinate bulletin boards
- ◆ Assist with bulletin boards
- ◆ Coordinate Sunday Night for the Master
- ◆ Back up for Sunday Night for the Master
- ◆ Make cards for Sunday Night for the Master
- ◆ Back up for making cards

General Service

- ◆ Coordinate keeping of the grounds
- ◆ Assist with keeping of the grounds
- ◆ Coordinate cleaning of building
- ◆ Assist with cleaning of building
- ◆ Coordinate building maintenance
- ◆ Assist with building maintenance
- ◆ Clean/Maintain baptistery
- ◆ Prepare communion
- ◆ Serve as a greeter
- ◆ Head a food committee for fellowships/funerals
- ◆ Assist on a food committee
- ◆ Oversight of baptismal rooms
- ◆ Open/Close building
- ◆ PA system

Worship (Men Only)

- ◆ Lead singing
- ◆ Lead opening prayer
- ◆ Lead closing prayer
- ◆ Lead prayer at communion table
- ◆ Assist at communion table
- ◆ Read Scripture
- ◆ Give Wednesday night devotional
- ◆ Preach (fill in)
- ◆ Conduct services at nursing home

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

May 10	Psalm 50, 53, 60, 75
May 11	2 Sam. 10; 1 Chr. 19; Ps. 20
May 12	Psalm 65-67, 69-70
May 13	2 Sam. 11-12; 1 Chr. 20
May 14	Psalm 32, 51, 86, 122
May 15	2 Sam. 13-15
May 16	Psalm 3-4, 12-13, 28, 55
May 17	2 Sam. 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)*



(Continued from page 1)

The upward-focused church is evangelistic because that is what Christ told us to be (Matt. 28:18-20; Mark 16:15-16). The upward-focused church cannot help talking about Christ and what He has done for us (Acts 4:20). The upward-focused church seeks to be a reflection of Christ to the world – not to be a reflection of the world to itself! We will never draw men to Christ by acting like the world.

Show a person who is focused on being everything God would have him to be, and I will show you a person who is reaching the world with the gospel of Jesus Christ! Paul was certainly one of the most evangelistic men to ever live and he wrote in Colossians 3:1-4:

If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

Examine Your Worship

The inward-focused church sees worship as something **for themselves**. The outward-focused church sees worship as something to **attract the lost**. The upward-focused church sees worship as something sacred, **offered up to please God**. How you and your congregation see worship says a lot about your focus.

Wes McAdams (www.radicallychristian.com)

Celebrate

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

May Birthdays: Ian Barnum (5), Rosa Fuller (6), Tori Stewart (7), **Barbara Bannister (10), Nita Boyd (14), Pam Teague (14), Caitlin Barnum (15), Billy Chism (15),** Peggy Moore (17), Randy Brubaker (23), Isaac Stewart (28), Gracen Hardy (30).

May Anniversaries: Joe & Lasha Dennis (6).

Mistakes? Left Out? Let Johnny know...



Records

	Apr. 26, 2015	May 3, 2015
Bible Class	47	42
AM Worship	61	56
PM Worship	36	40
Wednesday PM	39	NA
Contribution	\$1,606	\$2.033

Privileged To Serve

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

Next Week: 5/10/15		Next Week: 5/17/15		May 2015 Make Announcements: John Barnum Prepare Communion: Tom & Carol Wilcox Clean Building: Jack & Judie Turner Keep Grounds: James Fuller June 2015 Make Announcements: James Fuller Prepare Communion: Gene & Barbara Bannister Clean Building: John Barnum Family Keep Grounds: Tom Wilcox
Sunday AM:	Song Leader: Mike Bannister	Song Leader: Mike Bannister		
Greeters	James & Cindy Fuller	Joe Dennis Family		
Opening Prayer	James Fuller	Don Smith		
Communion	Garrett Barnum*, James Thomas Don Smith, Tom Wilcox	Ken Maninger*, Chase Churchwell Joe Dennis, Caleb Dennis		
Closing Prayer	Gene Bannister	Tom Wilcox		
Attendance Cards	Jaceton Evetts	Chase Churchwell		
Sunday PM:	Song Leader: Ken Maninger	Song Leader: Joe Dennis		
Opening Prayer	Allen Griffith	Gene Bannister		
Scripture Reading	Hank Wheeler	James Fuller		
Communion	Garrett Barnum	Joe Dennis		
Closing Prayer	Billy Chism	Allen Griffith		
Wednesday Devotionals:	May 13 Prayer	May 20 Don Smith	May 27 Joe Dennis	June 3 Prayer

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 10, 2015

Sunday Class Acts 5:30ff
 Wednesday Class Ezekiel 5:1ff

Being A Godly Mother

Being a **mother** comes naturally for most women – being a **godly mother** is challenging. To be a godly mother one must first be **godly!**
 You are preparing your children to meet the King! What a challenge!

I. Pray with your children and for your children.
 A. Be bold in your prayers for your children (Heb. 4:16).

II. Teach your children to study and worship.
 A. Study God's word for yourself and find Him (Isa. 55:6; Jer. 29:12,13).
 B. Draw close to God, learning to love Him with all your heart, soul, and mind (Mt. 22:37).
 C. As you do this, show the Father to your children.
 D. Take them to worship with you.

III. Practice what you preach.
 A. Instead of telling our children to do good works – show them.
 B. The Virtuous Woman was known for her good works (Pr. 31:31) and showed her children by her example (31:20).
 C. Let your children see your good works (Mt. 5:16).
 D. Teach them that good works can make them rich! (1 Tim. 6:17,18)

IV. Teach your children self-control.
 A. Deut. 6:4-9 tells us how to prepare our children to face the world in which they will live. Godly mothers strive to prepare their children for this challenge – not shield them from it.
 B. We must train our children's consciences to discern right from wrong.
 C. Teach and train them to look for the "escape hatch" when temptation comes their way (1 Cor. 10:13).

V. The Seasons of Motherhood.
A. The early years.
 1. Spend as much time with your children as possible. If possible, stay home with them and train them – this window is short!
 2. Mothering little ones is a 24/7 job. Don't burn yourself out!

B. The teenage years.
 1. Your child want to be independent – but don't quite know how.
 2. The most important thing you can give them during this time is your love, trust, and respect.
 3. You can't control a teenager. Teach them to control themselves.

C. When they leave home
 1. Let your children live their own lives.
 2. Sometimes godly mothers have ungodly children.

The Gospel of John – 4:1-15 – Living Water

¹Jesus was making and baptizing more disciples than John. Just as it should have been!
²Jesus himself did not baptize.
³He left Judea and departed again for Galilee.

JESUS KNOWS MAN #2 – Samaritan Woman 4:4-42
 Special Study – Breaking Down the Barrier (Eph. 2:14-16)
 I. Jesus crossed the social barrier.
 II. Jesus crossed the gender barrier.
 III. Jesus crossed the racial barrier.
 IV. Jesus crossed the spiritual barrier.

Special Study – Samaritans: Who Were They?
 4-9: The Contact.
^{4,5}He came to...Sychar
⁶Wearied as he was from his journey – shows Jesus' humanity.
 The sixth hour = twelve o'clock, noon.
 Jacob's well. The word for "well" means a spring or flowing well.
⁷Give me to drink. Ironic in view of what Jesus had to give.
⁸Gone away into the city to buy food. Also ironic: Jesus is the "bread of life."
⁹A woman of Samaria. The woman is surprised by Jesus' request.
 10-15: Living Water
¹⁰Living water. Jesus changes the conversation from physical to spiritual.
 The phrase "living water" has an Old Testament background.
 In Hebrew, "living water" simply means running water or flowing water.
 Jesus brings out the symbolism of the term as it relates to "eternal life."
 Jesus calls Himself "the gift of God." Another name for Jesus.
¹¹Well (phrear) means shaft, deep well. Different from v. 6.
 Sir, you have nothing to draw water with. Like Nicodemus, the woman is having difficulty understanding the spiritual application.
¹²Are you greater than our father Jacob? The answer is "yes," but at this point the woman is thinking "no."
 John challenges his readers to determine the real importance of Jesus.
¹³Drinks (Ho pinon), present active participle – everyone who is drinking.
¹⁴Whoever drinks. How? Whoever believes in me shall never thirst (6:35).
¹⁵Sir, give me this water. Right request – wrong reason!
 So that I will not be thirsty or have to come here. She didn't get it!
 Begin with v. 16, the discussion takes a new and unexpected turn.
Are you longing for the "living water" that gives eternal life?