

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



September 13, 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.

Where Does the Bible Condemn Gambling?

Occasionally someone will ask, "Where does the Bible condemn gambling?" They would like a book, chapter, and verse that specifically mentions the practice.

Like many other sins, gambling is not directly named in Scripture. It is nonetheless, condemned in principle numerous times.

Gambling is a violation of faithful stewardship.

The Bible teaches that what we have belongs to the Lord and that it is entrusted to us for our stewardship.

Imagine leaving money to care for your children with a relative while you were away on a trip. How would you feel if your relative put the whole wad on Powerball Lotto tickets? The flippant person will say, "Great if he won!" But the reality is gambling empires are built on people losing, not winning.

To put at risk of loss our Father's money on games of chance is poor stewardship.

- 1 Corinthians 4:2
- Luke 12:42
- 1 Peter 4:10

Gambling ignores the welfare of your neighbor.

Gambling ignores the law of love for one's neighbor. It is a zero-sum game. It is stealing by deception, because the loser, even though he grants permission never anticipates losing.

Love for other people means acting in their best interest even when they do not.

- Matthew 22:39
- Romans 13:10
- 1 Corinthians 10:24

Gambling is dishonest.

Gambling violates the principle of doing honest work for one's bread. It places your prosperity in the hands of Lady Luck, rather than a fair exchange of value for value. Lady Luck owes you nothing!

- 2 Thessalonians 3:10

Gambling enslaves.

Gambling is highly addictive. According to the National Gambling Impact Study Commission, 15 to 20 million adults and adolescents have either problem or pathological gambling addictions, which is about 5-7 percent of the U.S. population.

"If you take 15 million people and place them in average-sized NFL Football stadiums that hold about 70,000 people, you could fill approximately 214 stadiums to capacity with problem and pathological gamblers in the U.S. alone!" (CitizenLink.com)

- 1 Corinthians 6:12
- Galatians 5:23

(Continued on page 2)

"For even when we were with you, we commanded you this: If anyone will not work, neither shall he eat. For we hear that there are some who walk among you in a disorderly manner, not working at all, but are busybodies. Now those who are such we command and exhort through our Lord Jesus Christ that they work in quietness and eat their own bread. But *as for* you, brethren, do not grow weary *in* doing good." **2 Thess. 3:10-13**



(Continued from page 1)

Gambling sets an evil example.

How many parents who truly love their children would want them to experience the negative consequences of of gambling addiction? Your influence on others either makes this world a better place, or it leads your friends and neighbors farther away from Christ.

- Romans 12:17;
- 1 Timothy 4:12; 5:14;
- 2 Peter 2:2.

Gambling is often a gateway to crime.

Gambling is the frequent companion with other vices, e.g., stealing, drugs, prostitution.

Gambling destroys families.

Gambling is the destroyer of numerous homes. It takes food, clothing, and medical care from wives and children

- 1 Timothy 5:8

Gambling destroys the soul.

Gambling is the enemy of mental peace. It brings fear and anxiety. It creates an obsession with money that consumes the gambler. The suicide rate among gamblers is very high.

Let every person who wishes to honor God and respect his neighbor avoid this noxious habit altogether.

Wayne Jackson
(christiancourier.com)

God's Twelve-Step Program by Hugh Fulford

For many years Alcoholics Anonymous has used a "Twelve-Step Program" to help its members overcome their addiction to alcohol. The program has been extremely effective. The discerning student of the Scriptures will discover that God also has a "Twelve-Step Program."

Marshall Keeble was a powerful and effective evangelist who led thousands to Christ during his sixty-five year ministry. One of his favorite sermons was titled "Five Steps To Church And Seven To Heaven." Simple math reveals that brother Keeble had discovered God's "twelve-step program." What did Keeble emphasize in this simple yet powerful sermon?

First, a word about the word "church" and what is meant by the word. According to the New Testament, the church is the body of people who have been redeemed from their sins by the blood of Christ. The Lord adds to the church those who are being saved (Acts 2:47). Thus, when brother Keeble talked about their being five steps to church he was saying that there are five steps to being saved from sin and added to the spiritual body of Christ. What are those five steps?

1. **Hear.** To be saved one must hear the gospel, the good news of Christ's death for the sins of mankind. *"So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God"* (Romans 10:17).
2. **Believe.** Having heard the gospel of Christ, one must believe it. Paul declared that the gospel is *"the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes...."* (Romans 1:16).
3. **Repent.** Jesus said, *"I tell you . . . but unless you repent you will all likewise perish"* (Luke 13:3, 5).

4. **Confess.** This is a confession of faith in Jesus Christ as the Son of God. (Romans 10:9-10).

5. **Be Baptized.** Baptism is in order to the remission of sins (Acts 2:38) and to have sins washed away (Acts 22:16). At the point of baptism one is saved and added to the church. (Acts 2:47).

Then what? The spiritual journey has not ended. In fact, it has only begun. From the watery grave of baptism, one is raised to *"walk in newness of life"* (Romans 6:3-4). The apostle Peter lays out seven wonderful Christian graces/qualities that Christians must add to their faith. These are named in II Peter 1:5-7 and consist of the following:

1. **Virtue.** Simply defined, this is moral excellence.
2. **Knowledge.** This is an understanding of God's will as revealed in His word. All Christians are to grow in such (II Peter. 3:18).
3. **Self-control.** This has to do with bridling our attitudes and actions.
4. **Perseverance.** This relates to patiently persisting in the doing of what is right. The Christian is to stay with the job of following Christ.
5. **Godliness.** Simply put, this is godlikeness—the child of God coming to look more and more like his Heavenly Father.
6. **Brotherly-kindness.** Paul wrote, *"And be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving one another, just as God in Christ also forgave you"* (Ephesians 4:32).
7. **Love.** This is the queen of all the Christian graces (I Corinthians 13:13).

(Continued on page 3)

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

Sept. 13 Joel 1-3

Sept. 14 Daniel 1-3

Sept. 15 Daniel 4-6

Sept. 16 Daniel 7-9

Sept. 17 Daniel 10-12

Sept. 18 Ezra 1-3

Sept. 19 Ezra 4-6; Psalm 137

Sept. 20 Haggai 1-2

"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)

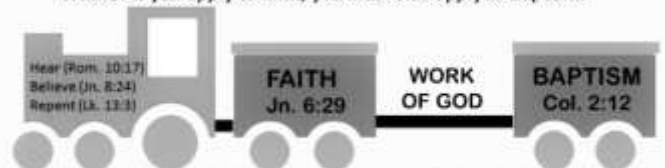


(Continued from page 2)

If one will take the five steps to church and then follow up with the practice of the seven Christian graces, Peter assures his readers (including us today) that "an entrance will be supplied to you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ" (II Peter 1:10-11).

Are you following God's "Twelve-Step Program"?

Whatever you apply to faith, you must also apply to baptism.



If you say that one cannot be saved by baptism because it is a work, then you must also say that one cannot be saved by faith because both are called works of God.



Faith and baptism CANNOT be grammatically separated because of the conjunction 'and', which shows once again that whatever you apply to baptism, you must apply to faith.

Celebrate

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

September Birthdays: Jean Hamann (3), James Fuller (6), Emily Ochoa (11), **Gene Bannister (16), Billie Ford (17), Frank Alexander (19)**, Matthew Ochoa (20), Allen Bland (23), Cindy Proud (26), Garrett Barnum (27), Matthew Howell (28), Jimmy Seale (29).

Mistakes? Left Out? Let Johnny know...



Records

	Aug. 30, 2015	Sept. 6, 2015
Bible Class	45	40
AM Worship	62	61
PM Worship	49	49
Wednesday PM	48	42
Contribution	\$1,685	\$2,547

Privileged To Serve

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

This Week: 9/13/15		Next Week: 9/20/15		September 2015 Make Announcements: John Barnum Prepare Communion: Lisa Greer Clean Building: Huckaby / Bland Hostess Committee: Laura Huckaby's group October 2015 Make Announcements: James Fuller Prepare Communion: Allen & Linda Griffith Clean Building: Fuller / Stultz / Bridges Hostess Committee: Laura Huckaby's group
Sunday AM:	Song Leader: Mike Bannister	Song Leader: Mike Bannister		
Greeters	Maninger & Churchwell Families	Fullers		
Opening Prayer	Allen Griffith	Tom Wilcox		
Communion	Tom Wilcox*, Don Smith Randy Huckaby, Gene Bannister	Allen Griffith*, Hank Wheeler Ken Maninger, Chase Churchwell		
Closing Prayer	James Fuller	Randy Huckaby		
Attendance Cards	Jaceten Evetts	Chase Churchwell		
Sunday PM:	Song Leader: James Fuller	Song Leader: Tom Wilcox		
Opening Prayer	James Thomas	James Fuller		
Scripture Reading	John Barnum	Allen Bland		
Communion	Tom Wilcox	Allen Griffith		
Closing Prayer	Hank Wheeler	Don Smith		
Wednesday Devotionals:	September 16 Joe Dennis	September 23 Allen Griffith	September 30 Singing Night	October 7 Prayer Night

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 September 13, 2015

Sunday Class Acts 13:4ff
 Wednesday Class Ezekiel 20:15ff

<p>Dealing With Grief & Loss (Pt. 2 – How to Cope; How to Comfort) Ps 147:3 He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds. How does one cope with loss and help others to cope? (2 Cor. 1:3-5)</p> <p>I. Dealing with emotional pain – How to have "good grief."</p> <p>A. Acknowledge the loss. (2 Sam. 12:18ff)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Remember: The relationship with the departed is not over – it has just changed dimensions. Don't try to forget – but remember in a realistic way! <p>B. Share your emotions! If you can feel it – you can heal it.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Try "heart speech" and keep a spiritual journal. It is okay to cry. (Jn. 11:35; Eccl. 3:4; Ps. 305b) Look to God and tell Him. (Ps. 147:3-6) Talk to friends who care and will listen. Avoid isolation – it is deadly. <i>"You alone can make it, but you cannot make it alone."</i> <p>C. Reinvest your emotions. (Isaac & Rebekah – Gen. 24:67; Death of Moses – Joshua 1:2)</p> <p>D. Escape the pain by replacing depressing thoughts with positive alternatives. (Phil. 4:6-9)</p> <p>E. Learn to pray Psalm 91 and make it personally relevant.</p> <p>II. How to console and minister to others. (Isa. 40:1)</p> <p>A. This is both a Christian duty and pleasure. (Rom. 12:15)</p> <p>B. Mistakes to avoid.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Talking too much. (Job 16:2,3) Avoid clichés: "I know how you feel." (Lam. 1:12) Don't minimize the loss. Looking for pity. Avoid due to feeling awkward. <p>C. What to make sure you do.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Be by their side and listen. (James 1:19) Be patient and bear their burdens. (1 Thess. 5:14,15; Gal. 6:2) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Remember the children. Read Bible promises and comforting scriptures. (Ps. 119:49-52;76-77; Isa. 40:1; 51:3; 57:18,19; Ps. 34:17,18) <p>Conclusion: Ps 147:3 He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds. <i>"God can heal a broken heart, but you must be willing to give Him all the pieces."</i></p>	<p>John Chapter 12 (Part 2 – vs. 20-50)</p> <p>I. JESUS IS ANOINTED IN BETHANY (1-11).</p> <p>II. JESUS IS ACCLAIMED IN JERUSALEM (12-50).</p> <p>A. Events during the Triumphal Entry (12-19).</p> <p>B. Events following the Triumphal Entry (20-50).</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Jesus and the disciples (20-26). <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>The request (20-22):</i> Philip and Andrew tell Jesus that some Greeks desire to see Him. <i>The response (23-26):</i> The Savior speaks of His impending death. Jesus and the Father (27-29). <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>The request (27-28a):</i> Jesus asks the Father, <i>"Father, glorify Your name."</i> <i>The response (28b-29):</i> The Father reassures the Son with a loud voice from heaven that is heard by the crowd that this indeed will be done. Jesus and the Passover crowd (30-50). <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>The first session (30-36).</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Jesus tells them both the world and Satan will soon be judged (30-31). He will save men by way of the cross (32-34). They need to accept Him before it is too late (35-36). <i>The second session (37-50).</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The prophecy (37-41): Jesus tells the Jewish crowd their unbelief was predicted centuries before by Isaiah (Isa. 53:1; 6:10). The praise seekers (42-43): Some Jewish leaders believe Jesus is the Messiah but will not confess Him, for they love men's praise more than God's praise. The promise (44-50): To accept Christ is to accept the Father, which leads to life everlasting.
--	--