

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



October 25, 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.

Pharisee and tax collector

Luke introduced the parable of the Pharisee and tax collector in Luke chapter 18 by writing, "And he also told this parable to some people who trusted in themselves that they were righteous and viewed others with contempt" (Luke 18:9 NASB).

Luke told us the Pharisee's prayer was not being prayed to God. He was simply showing God how good he thought he was. He said, "God, I thank you that I am not like other people..." then he began to regale the Lord with how he was different. He said he fasted twice a week. Only one fast was required of the Jews on the Day of Atonement, but the Pharisees fasted twice each week on market day. They would put some kind of make-up on their faces to make themselves look pale and they would wear wrinkled, torn clothes to show how pious they were.

Then, the Pharisee said he paid tithes "of all that I get." A.T. Robertson wrote, "He gave a tithe of his income, not of his property." He did not give God anything: he paid. The tithe to the Pharisee was another means of waving his righteousness under the noses of other people.

This Pharisee reminds me of the "prosperity preachers" who wave their wealth under the noses of other people to show that God is on their side. The inference is, if God is on their side by making them prosperous, then God is on the side of everyone who is prosperous. If this is true, then Jesus and Moses would never qualify as being on God's side because both were poor.

The Pharisee's prayer to himself was a blatant example of self-righteousness, just as Luke said. It was the tax collector who exhibited the proper attitude of someone in prayer to God.

"But, the tax collector, standing some distance away, was even unwilling to lift up his eyes to heaven, but was beating his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me, the sinner!'" (Luke 18:13).

Some translations of the Bible have this verse as, "God, be merciful unto me, a sinner," but that is not what the New Testament original language said. "The sinner" is most accurate.

It may sound like we are discussing minor points here, but it is not minor. People often think that they are just one sinner among millions of sinners. Their case, therefore, is not very special. The thing that is so interesting about the tax collector is that he took responsibility for his sins, while the Pharisee would not even admit he had sinned.

The problem is that we need to do that or we may never be forgiven. King David wrote, "For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. Against you, you only I have sinned and done evil in your sight, so that you are justified when you speak and blameless when you judge" (Psalms 51:3-4).

This is the proper attitude in prayer, not like the Pharisee who tried to justify himself, but like the tax collector who admitted he was the sinner and needed help.

John Henson (forthright.net)

"Love suffers long and is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up; does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil; does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth;..."
1 Cor. 13:4-6



Four Steps to Passing Your Faith on to Your Children

As the people of Israel prepared to finish their wandering and enter the land of Canaan, Moses gathered them to give the Law again and give promises and warnings for what would happen based on their decision to obey or disobey the Law. He starts in Deuteronomy 6:1-3 by telling them that He is giving them the Law not just so that they would keep it, but also that their sons and grandsons would keep it, for that's what would determine if they would prosper in the land.

The fact is, we aren't charged with keeping the Law of Moses, so that direct application may not fit us. But, the chapter outlines God's plan for establishing multigenerational faithfulness. That faithfulness that is passed from father to son to grandson and so on should be the goal of every single Christian family. As the Israelites were to lay the foundation for their generations to serve God in the land, so Christian families should take steps to help their great-great-grandchildren, who they'll never meet in this life, to have a heritage of people who love God. So how do we do it?

First, you have to **love God**. You can't give your children something you don't have. Unless you love God with all your being (6:5), you can't show your children how to do that either. That's the parent's job, though – to pass on the love of God by putting His words on their hearts and talking about them day in and day out, everywhere you go (6:6-9). The Bible has to be a key part of your life, and once it is you can help it be a key part of your children's lives.

How do we put that love into practice? You must **reflect** on what God has done for you. Why do we love Jesus? Because He first loved us (1 John 4:19). In Deuteronomy 6:10-13, Moses warns the people that when they move into the land and become prosperous and secure, they will become prone to forget God but they must fight against that by remembering what He did to bring them out of slavery in Egypt and into the Promised Land (6:10-12). As a very prosperous, safe people, sometimes we forget

that we rely on God for every breath we take. Daily reflection on His blessings is key.

Then, you must **prioritize**. Deuteronomy 6:13-15 calls back to the Ten Commandments, telling the people that they must put God above all else and remove the other gods of the land from His presence should they wish to stay in that land. We can't love God in the way Deuteronomy 6:5 describes if we don't root out every god that takes His place. Offering Him our leftover time and attention here and there isn't enough. He must be first in our lives.

Fourth, you must **practice** your devotion to Him. In 6:17-25, Moses told them they were to obey God and carry out His testimonies and statutes. Once they did so, their children would ask them why they do what they do, which would give them the chance to explain God's love and care for them. Families who don't put God first and don't strive to follow Him in the home will never have those opportunities to explain to their children why God matters. In Focus Press's survey of those who have left the church, only 13% said they rarely or never attended Bible class. Most were there, but it still wasn't enough. The most telling stat was that 74% said that the Bible was only open one to two times per week or less in their homes. All the church attendance in the world matters little if Christianity isn't practiced at home.

Deuteronomy 6 is a powerful chapter. It shows us the importance of passing on God's Word, but it also shows us how. We have to commit to loving God in our own lives, and once we do that we can reflect on His love for us, prioritize Him in our lives, and practice His commands in our homes. Commit to the kind of multigenerational vision Moses wanted the people in Israel to have. It's time we put these principles into practice and start reversing the stats of youth leaving the church, one home at a time, then one generation at a time.

Jack Wilkie (focuspressblog.com)

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

Oct. 25 Luke 10-11; John 10:22-42

Oct. 26 Luke 12-13

Oct. 27 Luke 14-15

Oct. 28 Luke 16:1—17:10

Oct. 29 John 11

Oct. 30 Luke 17:11—18:14

Oct. 31 Matthew 19; Mark 10

Nov. 1 Matthew 20-21

*"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)*



It was really exciting to hear the sounds of so many children this past Wednesday evening. We had fifty-five souls in attendance (the largest on a Wednesday in some time—excluding Gospel Meetings, etc.) Of the fifty-five present, seventeen were teens and younger. Those seventeen represented nine different families. Praise the Lord!

There is always a concern as the members of a congregation grow older, who is going to replace them? Does the congregation have a future, or will it have to close its doors in few years as the older generation goes home to their reward? If this past Wednesday was an indication, the future of 4th & Stewart looks bright!

But...with these young ones comes a grave responsibility to “bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord” (Eph. 6:4). Moses instructed the Children of Israel, “And these words which I command you today shall be in your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up” (Deut. 6:6-7). Jesus warned, “But whoever causes one of these little ones to who believe in Me so sin, it would be better for him if a millstone were hung around his neck, and he were drowned in the depth of the sea” (Matt. 18:6).

The Lord has blessed us with these precious souls. Now let’s make sure we do right by them.

Johnny

Celebrate

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

October Birthdays: Lisa Greer (5), Matthew Churchwell (7), Sarah Evetts (12), Jo Maninger (12), Hank Wheeler (13), Tina Barnum (14), Cassie Freeman (23).

October Anniversaries: Stormy & Juanita Barnum (25), Mike & Patti Bannister (27).

Mistakes? Left Out? Let Johnny know...



Records

	Oct. 11, 2015	Oct. 18, 2015
Bible Class	59	48
AM Worship	72	63
PM Worship	57	51
Wednesday PM	55	55
Contribution	\$1,899	\$1,959

Privileged To Serve

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

	Next Week: 10/25/15	Next Week: 11/1/15	October 2015	
Sunday AM:	Song Leader: Mike Bannister	Song Leader: Mike Bannister	Make Announcements: James Fuller	
Greeters	Allen & Linda Griffith	Maninger / Churchwell Families	Prepare Communion: Allen & Linda Griffith	
Opening Prayer	Gene Bannister	John Barnum	Clean Building: Fuller / Stultz / Bridges	
Communion	James Thomas*, Hank Wheeler Tom Wilcox, John Barnum	Randy Huckaby*, Don Smith Joe Dennis, Caleb Dennis	Hostess Committee: Laura Huckaby's group	
Closing Prayer	Don Smith	James Fuller	November 2015	
Attendance Cards	Caleb Dennis	Chase Churchwell	Make Announcements: Don Smith	
Sunday PM:	Song Leader: Tom Wilcox	Song Leader: Ken Maninger	Prepare Communion: John Barnum Family	
Opening Prayer	James Fuller	Allen Bland	Clean Building: M. & P. Bannister / L. Greer	
Scripture Reading	Joe Dennis	Tom Wilcox	Hostess Committee: Laura Huckaby's group	
Communion	James Thomas	Randy Huckaby		
Closing Prayer	Ken Maninger	Gene Bannister		
Wednesday Devotionals:	October 28 Rohan Jones	November 4 Prayer Night	November 11 Don Smith	November 18 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 October 25, 2015	Sunday Class Acts 14:23ff
	Wednesday Class Rohan Jones
<p>What Love Refuses To Do – 1 Corinthians 13:4-6</p> <p>I. A heart of kindness. A. Love "suffers long and is kind; love does not envy" (13:4). B. "If I love you – I will be kind to you – even if you hurt me or disappoint me." 1. God is long in coming to anger (Rom. 2:4; 1 Pet. 3:20; 2 Pet. 3:9). 2. Jesus is long in coming to anger (1 Tim. 1:16; 2 Pet. 3:15). 3. With love – we will be long in coming to anger (1 Thess. 5:14). 4. With love – our hearts will beat with kindness (Eph. 4:32; 2 Pet. 1:5-7).</p> <p>II. A heart of humility. A. Love "does not parade itself, is not puffed up" (13:4). B. "If I love you – I will humbly think about you – and not egotistically force you to think about me." 1. God hates arrogance. He is humble and serving (Pr. 8:13; 6:16-17; 16:5). 2. Jesus is humble and serving (Mt. 11:28-30; 12:18-21). 3. With love – we will be humble and serving (Gal. 5:13; 1 Pet. 5:5-6).</p> <p>III. A heart of sacrifice. A. Love "does not behave rudely, does not seek its own" (13:5). B. "If I love you – I will sacrificially care more about your feelings than my own." 1. God is sacrificial (Jn. 3:16; Rom. 5:9; 1 Jn. 4:9-10). 2. Jesus is sacrificial (2 Cor. 8:9). 3. With love – we will be sacrificial (Rom. 14:13-15).</p> <p>IV. A heart of forgiveness. A. Love "is not provoked, thinks no evil" (13:5). B. "If I love you – I will forgive you of your mistakes – and I will never bring them up again." 1. God is willing to forgive and forget (Mt. 6:14; 1 Jn. 1:9). 2. Jesus is willing to forgive and forget (Lk. 23:34). 3. With love – we will be willing to forgive and forget (Mt. 18:14-15; Lk. 17:3-4; Col. 3:13).</p> <p>V. A heart of integrity. A. Love "does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth" (13:6). B. "If I love you – I will always tell you the truth." 1. God is honest (Heb. 6:18; Titus 1:2). His word is truth (Jn. 17:17). 2. Jesus is so honest he could describe himself as <i>the truth</i> (Jn. 14:6). 3. With love – we will be known as people of honesty who: a. Tell the truth (Eph. 4:25; Col. 3:9). b. Practice the truth (1 Jn. 1:6). c. Put away all forms of hypocrisy (1 Pet. 2:1).</p>	<p>John 15:13-27</p> <p>I. FRUIT BEARING (1-8).</p> <p>II. LOVING (9-17). A. The Priority (9-12). B. The Proof (13-15). 1. <u>What Jesus will do for His apostles (13):</u> He will lay down His life. a. For his friends – lit. <i>in behalf of his friends, or in their place.</i> b. Jesus gave His life also for His enemies (Rom. 5:8,9) 2. <u>What Jesus now does for His apostles (14-15):</u> He calls them friends – not servants. a. Friends – philoi – brethren. b. If you do whatever I command you. c. A servant does not know what his master is doing.</p> <p>C. The Promises (16-17). 1. <u>The apostles will bear permanent fruit (16a).</u> a. Bear fruit – the apostolic ministry – the leaving of the New Testament and the establishment of the church. 2. <u>The apostles' prayers will be answered (16b-17).</u></p> <p>III. SUFFERING (18-25). A. The Facts (18-24). 1. <u>The apostles will be hated because Christ was hated (18-19).</u> 2. <u>No servant is greater than his master (20-21).</u> a. As the world treated Jesus, so it will treat the apostles – and so it will treat the word of the apostles, the New Testament. b. For My name's sake – it was because of this name that the saints were persecuted most following the establishment of the church. 3. <u>The reason for this hatred is Jesus' fearless preaching against sin (22-24).</u> a. They would have no sin – the sin of rejecting Jesus. B. The Foretelling (25): All this is predicted in Psalms 35:19 & 69:4.</p> <p>IV. WITNESSING (26-27): Jesus speaks of a twofold witness. A. The Holy Spirit Will Soon Witness to the Apostles Concerning the Savior (26). B. The Apostles Should Then Witness to the World Concerning the Savior (27).</p>