

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



January 10, 2016

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.

The Christian's Daily Walk

Daily Prayer: "Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God" (Phil. 4:6). "Pray without ceasing" (1 Thess. 5:17).

Daily Bible Study: "You search the Scriptures, for in them you think you have eternal life; and these are they which testify of Me" (John 5:39). "Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth" (2 Tim. 2:15).

Daily Evangelism: "And daily in the temple, and in every house, they did not cease teaching and preaching Jesus as the Christ" (Acts 5:42). "Now Saul was consenting to his death. At that time a great persecution arose against the church which was at Jerusalem; and they were all scattered throughout the regions of Judea and Samaria, except the apostles. And devout men carried Stephen to his burial, and made great lamentation over him. As for Saul, he made havoc of the church, entering every house, and dragging off men and women, committing them to prison. Therefore those who were scattered went everywhere preaching the word" (Acts 8:1-4).

Daily Exhortation: "But exhort one another daily, while it is called 'Today,' lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin" (Heb. 3:13). "Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who are spiritual restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness, considering yourself lest you also be tempted. Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ. For if anyone thinks himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceives himself. But let each one examine his own work, and then he will have rejoicing in himself alone, and not in another. For each one shall bear his own load. Let him who is taught the word share in all good things with him who teaches" (Gal. 6:1-6).

Daily Ministration: "Now in those days, when the number of the disciples was multiplying, there arose a complaint against the Hebrews by the Hellenists, because their widows were neglected in the daily distribution. Then the twelve summoned the multitude of the disciples and said, 'It is not desirable that we should leave the word of God and serve tables. Therefore, brethren, seek out from among you seven men of good reputation, full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business; but we will give ourselves continually to prayer and to the ministry of the word.' And the saying pleased the whole multitude. And they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and the Holy Spirit, and Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas, a proselyte from Antioch, whom they set before the apostles; and when they had prayed, they laid hands on them. Then the word of God spread, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests were obedient to the faith" (Acts 6:1-7). "Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all, especially to those who are of the household of faith" (Gal. 6:10).

Daily Cross Bearing: "Then He said to them all, 'If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me'" (Luke 9:23). "He who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me. And he who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me" (Matt. 10:37).

Daily Results: "Praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved" (Acts 2:47). "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age" (Matt. 19-20).

"Only let your conduct be worthy of the gospel of Christ...that you stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel, and not in any way terrified by your adversaries, For to you it has been granted on behalf of Christ, not only to believe in Him, but also to suffer for His sake, having the same conflict which you saw in me and now hear is in me." **Philippians 1:27-30**



Worship in the Age of Show Business

The New York Times recently wrote an article about the current revolution among denominations as the spirituality around the world begins to disappear. Congregations of all “religions” are beginning to cater to their audience in many unorthodox and unbiblical methods. The New York Times wrote, “A national decline in church attendance, the struggling economy, and the challenges of marketing to millennials have all led to the need for new approaches.” Warren Bird, the director of research for the Leadership Network, a firm that tracks church trends, said, “Some of the things we always assumed would connect with the community aren’t connecting with everyone in the community in the way they used to.” Many believe it’s due to this drop in attendance and lack of “community connection” that has forced churches to adopt new-age approaches to their worship. Congregations are beginning to meet in coffee shops, yoga studios, and art galleries to entice people to attend. Jumbotrons, laser shows, and smoke machines are being used to add effect and emotion; while people are being “bought” with raffles, lotteries, and even alcohol. Worldly devices are being added to new Walt Disney style worship services. It’s devastating to read these articles and even worse to personally see congregations begin to take their focus off the Word of God and start putting it on the cravings of man. We must stand for the truth of the Word, and not allow the world to dictate our worship.

In the beginning, God created the entire world and everything in it “good” (Gen. 1:31). However, even at a state of perfection, humanity was not happy with all they had and soon following creation sin made its entrance into the world. It was because of this sin in the world, that all the “good” created by God began to change (Gen. 3). As time progressed, humanity gave into wickedness and God sought to start over (Gen. 6:5-8). Noah, having found grace before the Lord, was told to build an ark. Again a clean slate, a state of “goodness,” and a chance to go back to a state similar to that in the garden, but how long would it last? Would humanity be content with near perfection, or would it search, as always, to fulfill its greedy desires? Unfortunately, the latter would be the case and selfishness would continue to be a theme throughout the history of the Bible. The prophet Jeremiah begged the Israelites to change, “*Stand in the ways and see, ask for the old paths,*

where the good way is...” (Jer. 6:16), but they refused to listen. Have we already forgotten Nadab and Abihu, and the consequences when they added to worship what they thought was necessary? The problem is, people have forgotten what worship is all about. Worship isn’t about us and how we feel, it’s about God and how He desires for us to follow His commands. These “churches” today, around the world, that play to the preferences of the people lose sight of what worship is all about; God and God alone.

When you visit here at the 4th & Stewart church of Christ, you won’t see flashing lights, smoke machines, entertainment stages, or musical instruments. The reason? Because we refuse to use them and refuse to entertain the world. God does not want our worship in this manner and definitely doesn’t ordain it. The first thing you will notice when you worship with a faithful congregation of the Lord’s church is that we have no band. We do not have guitars, pianos, or drums, because God told us how He desires we worship Him. Ephesians 5:19 says, “*speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord.*” What you will see here at 4th & Stewart are faithful and loving Christians. You will see people put their focus on the Lord and leave the world outside instead of inviting it in.

Perhaps the question you must answer is this: When it comes to your worship, who is the audience? You or God? It had better be God. Dan Chambers, in his book *Showtime*, which inspired this article, quoted, “As the congregation becomes an audience, the worship service is presented as entertainment...the congregational worship seems more and more like a Hollywood production...” Our worship should not be about how we feel. If the services are not “entertaining” enough, perhaps that is less of a commentary on the services, and more of a commentary on your heart. Therefore, do not seek to change the way you worship from how God desires it done...seek to change yourself, and focus on the truth of God’s Word, obeying His every command, even if you don’t like it.

Adapted from an article by **David Olmos** (Ardmore, OK), via [The Biblical Messenger](#), Vol. 33, Num. 50 (Dec. 30, 2015).

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

Jan. 10 **Matthew 28**

Jan. 11 **Mark 1-3**

Jan. 12 **Mark 4-6**

Jan. 13 **Mark 7-9**

Jan. 14 **Mark 10-12**

Jan. 15 **Mark 13-15**

Jan. 16 **Mark 16**

Jan. 17 **Luke 1-3**

“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)



“I Just Don’t Enjoy Worship”

Have you ever uttered or even had the thought, “I just don’t enjoy worship”? Have you ever heard anyone say, “I just don’t enjoy worship”? Have you ever known someone who by their actions (perhaps their frequent absence from worship) was saying, “I just don’t enjoy worship”? If you answered “yes” to any of these questions, may I ask you a few more?

Do you not enjoy praising God and our Savior Jesus Christ through singing? How does your heart respond to songs like, “I love you, Lord,” or “He could have called ten thousand angels,” or “Count your many blessings, see what God hath done”? Does your heart find joy in praising the wonder and majesty of God?

Do you not enjoy approaching the throne of the Almighty God through prayer? How does your heart respond when your mind contemplates the incredible privilege to express thoughts like, “My Father in heaven,” or “thank You for all You have given to us,” or “please bless our homes,” or “please forgive us of our sins and have mercy on us”? Does your heart rejoice that your Father hears, listens, cares and answers?

Do you not enjoy honoring the gracious providence of God through giving? How does your heart respond when the basket is being passed and you reflect on God’s continued and limitless blessings that He constantly gives in good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over? Does your heart give cheerfully to the God who has and is giving all to and for you?

Do you not enjoy communing with Jesus and remembering His suffering and death through the Lord’s Supper? How does your heart respond when, in remembrance of Him, you meditate on His body enduring such violent cruelty and His blood flowing profusely in His vicarious sacrifice on the cross? Does your heart feel humbled and yet joyful and thankful for His love?

Do you not enjoy studying God’s Word and hearing the power unto salvation proclaimed through preaching? How does your heart respond when the sword of the Spirit is being examined and explained in order to set hearts and lives on the narrow path that leads to everlasting life? Does your heart find joy in hearing a message from God?

Worship, when your heart is truly and fully engaged, will bring joy to you and, even better, to God!

David Sproule, via The Crosbyton Church of Christ Weekly Bulletin

Celebrate

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

January Birthdays: Tom Wilcox (17), Anita Boyd (19), Jaceton Evetts (20), Mattison Churchwell (25), Karen Bland (29), Judie Turner (29).

January Anniversaries: None.

Mistakes? Left Out? Let Johnny know...



Records

	Dec. 27, 2015	Jan. 3, 2016
Bible Class	40	38
AM Worship	58	53
PM Worship	NA	38
Wednesday PM	40	53
Contribution	\$1,250	\$1,936

Privileged To Serve

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

Next Week: 1/10/16		Next Week: 1/17/16		January 2016 Make Announcements: Ken Maninger Prepare Communion: McCaghrens Clean Building: McCaghren / Bridges Hostess Committee: Cindy McCaghren's group	
Sunday AM:	Song Leader: Mike Bannister	Song Leader: Mike Bannister			
Greeters	Allen & Linda Griffith	Maninger Family			
Opening Prayer	Don Smith	Gene Bannister			
Communion	Ken Maninger*, Chase Churchwell Ryan Rudloff, Allen Bland	Tom Wilcox*, Don Smith Joe Dennis, Caleb Dennis			
Closing Prayer	Allen Griffith	Randy Huckaby			
Attendance Cards	Chase Churchwell	Jaceten Evetts			
Sunday PM:	Song Leader: James Fuller	Song Leader: Joe Dennis		February 2016 Make Announcements: Gene Bannister Prepare Communion: Mike & Patti Bannister Clean Building: Dennis / Guthrie Hostess Committee: Cindy McCaghren's group	
Opening Prayer	John Barnum	James Thomas			
Scripture Reading	Hank Wheeler	John Barnum			
Communion	Ken Maninger	Tom Wilcox			
Closing Prayer	Tom Wilcox	Ken Maninger			
Wednesday Devotionals:	January 13 Allen Griffith	January 20 Tom Wilcox	January 27 Don Smith		February 3 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 January 10, 2016

Sunday Class Acts 19:1ff: Third Evangelistic Journey
 Wednesday Class Ezekiel 38-39: Gog and Magog

<p>The "Walk" Required to Receive the Prize (Phil. 1:27; 3:20; 4:13) The goal of every Christian should be to so live as to receive "the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus" (Phil. 3:14).</p> <p>I. What Is the Meaning of "Walk"? A. "Signifying the whole round of the activities of the individual life" (Vine). B. Only let your conduct be worthy of the gospel of Christ (1:27).</p> <p>II. What Is the "Walk" Required? A. That you stand fast in one spirit (1:27). B. With one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel (1:27). C. And not in any way terrified by your adversaries (1:28). D. For to you it has been granted on behalf of Christ, not only to believe in Him, but also to suffer for His sake (1:29). E. Walk in newness of life (Rom. 6:4). F. Walk properly [honestly – KJV; becomingly – ASV] (Rom. 13:13). G. Walk in the light (Jn. 1:7-9).</p> <p>III. Our Manner Of Life Is In Heaven (3:20,21). A. In 3:17-19 Paul warns against the "enemies of the cross of Christ." B. 3:20-21 has been outlined as follows: 1. The Sure Return – "our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ" (3:20). 2. The Splendid Redemption – He will "transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body" (3:21). 3. The Sufficient Resource – "according to the working by which He is able even to subdue all things to Himself" (3:21).</p> <p>IV. True Contentment Is In Christ (4:10-13). A. Autarkes – content – "sufficient in oneself, self-sufficient, adequate, needing no assistance" (Vine). B. "I have learned...to be content" (11). 1. One must put his trust in Him who changes not (Heb. 13:8). 2. One must learn to value the things that are unseen and eternal above the things that are seen and temporal (2 Cor. 4:18). 3. One must learn that life does not consist in abundance of the temporal things we possess.</p> <p>The Christian knows that his citizenship is in heaven which never changes. This motivates us to walk daily according to God's will – to experience the joy of such a walk – and to look upward to that heavenly home.</p>	<p>John 19:31-42 – Events Following the Crucifixion</p> <p>I. The piercing of Jesus' body (31-37). A. The request by the Jews (31): They ask Pilate to remove the victims from the cross before the Sabbath. 1. It was the Roman custom to leave the body on the cross until beasts and birds of prey – or putrefaction – removed them. 2. Jewish law, however, forbid that a body should hang overnight. 3. The Jews asked Pilate that their legs might be broken – to cause quicker death. B. The response by the soldiers (32-37). 1. In regard to the robbers (32): They are not dead, so the soldiers break their legs. 2. In regard to the Redeemer (33-37). a. The spear (33-34): Finding Jesus to be dead already, the soldiers pierce His side. 1) Immediately blood and water came out. 2) The water and blood bear witness that Jesus was flesh – God and flesh. b. The spectator (35): John the apostle apparently witnesses all this. c. The Scriptures (36-37): Two Old Testament prophecies are fulfilled at this time. 1) Not one of His bones shall be broken (Ex. 12:46; Ps. 34:20). a) Jesus was viewed as the Passover Lamb. b) This is the culmination of John's argument that Jesus is the Lamb of God. 2) They shall look on Him whom they pierced (Zech. 12:10). a) The Passover Lamb has been slain and those who pierced Him (the Jews) have rejected Him. b) Rejecting the Passover Lamb = death.</p> <p>II. The preparing of Jesus' body (38-40). A. Who the preparers are (38-39a): Joseph of Arimathea asks for and receives the body of Jesus; Nicodemus helps prepare the body. B. What the preparers do (39b-40): They anoint his body with myrrh and aloes and wrap it in a long linen cloth.</p> <p>III. The placing of Jesus' body (41-42): Jesus' body is now laid in a new garden tomb where no one has ever been laid before.</p>
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