

# 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



August 8, 2016

## Contact Us:

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Brownwood, TX 76801  
325-646-7102  
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office@4thstreetcoc.org

## Meeting Times:

### Sunday:

Bible Study .....9:45 AM  
Worship .....10:40 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

## How Skipping Church Affects Our Children

In a Q&A, Carl Trueman was asked about why churches today are losing their young people. Typical answers to this question range from things like the temptations of this world or the irrelevance of the church—your typical answers. But Trueman makes a keen and convicting connection between our parenting and apostasy.

*“The church is losing its young people because the parents never taught their children that it was important. I think that applies across the board. It applies to family worship, and it also applies to whether you are in church every Sunday and what priority you demonstrate to your children church has on a Sunday. If the sun shines out and their friends are going to the beach, do you decide to skip church and go to the beach? In which case, you send signals to your children that it is not important.”* (Carl Trueman)

Now we know that artificially taking your kids to church neither bestows salvation nor guarantees it. God is obviously not honored by external religious acts without heart worship. This type of legalism is not the subject of this discussion. This is about parenting and the weight of the responsibility behind how they prioritize their time and lifestyle choices for their families.

Parents makes choices all the time for their families. As they decide on what takes priority in family, every choice is carefully observed and taken into the heart of their children. Yes, they are watching you, and they are learning from you.

Maybe the reason why our children have no love for Christ is due to the fact that we as parents do not show any love or passion for Christ, evidenced by how we prioritize our time both on Sundays and during the week. When television, sports, school, hobbies even family itself are elevated to a place of idolatry and replace the vital Christian responsibilities, then we tell our children that Christ is secondary to all these things. We tell our children that it is not necessary to take up your cross and die to yourself daily in order to follow Christ. We tell them that you only have to live for Christ when it's convenient for you. We tell them it is okay to sacrifice time with all-satisfying Savior if something “more fun” or “more important” comes along (sarcasm indicated by quotation marks if you didn't catch that). And this sounds like a clear path to apostasy if you ask me.

Let's evaluate where our hearts are by observing are choices. Do you prioritize the local church? Do you prioritize the worship of Christ in your home and on Sundays? Do you prioritize serving Him and worshipping Him in the contexts of school and work? This doesn't mean that you can't...have any extracurricular activities. Instead, it is a sobering reminder that we shouldn't put the things of God at the bottom of the priority list, because it tells our children that Christ is at the bottom of our priority list. And the God of this universe does not belong there.

My prayer is that we all would improve in this area. But beware, maybe we don't see this because Christ isn't a priority in our lives. And if He isn't a priority in our lives, then our children will know and follow suit.

(speakingtruthwithlove.wordpress.com)

“Not with the blood of goats and calves, but with His own blood He entered the Most Holy Place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption. For if the blood of bulls and goats and the ashes of a heifer, sprinkling the unclean, sanctifies for the purifying of the flesh, how much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?” **Hebrews. 9:12-14**



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

# Is “OMG” Just an Epression?

Reese Witherspoon, The “Legally Blonde” star, recently appeared on Chelsea Handler’s Netflix talk show, “Chelsea,” where the guests talked about faith and death. I didn’t see the show, but saw a news clip.

Witherspoon discussed the role of faith as she grew up in the South, her Episcopalian roots, and her disdain for using religion to promote hate. She commented that many people “use parts of the Bible in order to express their intolerance and their hate and they manipulate it.”

Chelsea then asked, “Is there any way you feel that religion has held you back?”

Somewhat bashfully Witherspoon recalled, “When I first started, when I was really, really young, it really bothered me taking the Lord’s name in vain. Because that’s a commandment! And it really bothered me!” Then she added, “And now I’ve grown as an artist and I understand that expression is a whole different thing.”

“So, what do you understand more? Handler pressed. “That it doesn’t mean as much as it did?”

“No, it still bothers me,” Witherspoon responded with a laugh.

I’m afraid Witherspoon is like a lot of other folks, even some Christians, who do things the Bible condemns, but find a way to justify it.

Taking God’s name in vain is pervasive in our culture today. “God,” “Jesus,” and “Lord” are often used in a flip-pant, frivolous, or even facetious manner. His name has become a by-word and an exclamation of shock, surprise, or amazement. What seems to escape so many that using God’s name in an off-handed way is disrespectful and profane.

Too often we hear young Christians exclaim, “Oh my God!” OMG is frequently texted, tweeted or posted on facebook as an expression of delight, alarm, or astonishment. I wonder if they even realize they are using the name of God in an unholy manner.

God was very clear in the Old Testament concerning a misuse and abuse of His name. One of the ten commandments

in Exodus 20:7 is “*You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain, for the Lord will not hold him guiltless who takes His name in vain.*”

God’s name is holy and hallowed. “*You shall not profane My holy name, but I will be hallowed among the children of Israel. I am the Lord who sanctifies you*” (Exod. 22:32).

It is summed up with God’s command to Israel in Leviticus 11:44. “*For I am the Lord your God. You shall therefore consecrate yourselves, and you shall be holy; for I am holy.*”

However, the name of God is more than just a name. Or title. Or designation. It speaks of His divine nature. His character. His personality. His attributes. His Deity.

Profaning the “name of God” is more than using “Yahweh” in a flippant, vain, or unholy way. It is a disposition toward Deity. An unholy attitude toward the divine “God-family.”

Jesus is called “*the holy one of God*” (Luke 4:34). The expression “*name of Jesus Christ*” is referenced 75 times in the New Testament. He is to be honored, respected, and glorified. The Spirit is called “*holy*” and He can be profaned, despised and insulted (Heb. 10:29).

Jesus commanded in His mountain message, “*swear not at all*” (Matt. 5:33-37). The Bible writer James repeated this prohibition, “*My brethren, do not swear...*” (Jas. 5:12). Profane people are identified among those who are immoral, unholy and ungodly (1 Tim. 1:8-11).

When we speak of Deity in a way that is unbecoming, unholy, or inappropriate we have profaned that which is hallowed. A lack of respect that speaks of the Father, Son or Holy Spirit in crude, calloused, or light-minded manner is not in keeping with our call to holiness.

OMG is not just an enraptured expression, but is a reflection of our lack of respect for the holy name of Jehovah God. It should bother us enough to quit profaning His sacred name.

Peter reminds us of God’s desire for his people. “*But like the Holy One who called you, be holy yourselves also in all your behavior; because it is written, ‘YOU SHALL BE HOLY, FOR I AM HOLY’*” (1 Pet 1:15-16).

Ken Weliever (thepreachersword.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

**Aug. 7** Acts 19-21  
**Aug. 8** Acts 22-24  
**Aug. 9** Acts 25-26  
**Aug. 10** Acts 27-28  
**Aug. 11** Romans 1-3  
**Aug. 12** Romans 4-6  
**Aug. 13** Romans 7-9  
**Aug. 14** Romans 10-12

“*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 **37 contacts** were made.

### Announcements

- ◆ **Fellowship Meal** following services the morning.
- ◆ **Summer Youth Series here Tuesday evening!**
- ◆ We need a count of all who plan to attend the teachers workshop on Sept. 10th—please let Cindy Proud know.
- ◆ Johnny will be speaking at 9th & Main in San Angelo this Wednesday evening.

### Upcoming Special Events at 4th & Stewart

- ◆ August 9—We host area Summer Youth Series.
- ◆ October 16-19—Fall Gospel Meeting with Jacob Rutledge.
- ◆ October 29—2nd Annual Ladies Day.

### Other Opportunities to Learn and Grow

- ◆ **August 12-14**—Creation vs. Evolution Seminar @ Cleburne with Eric Lyons of Apologetics Press (flyer on board)
- ◆ August 19-25—Polishing The Pulpit—Sevierville, TN.
- ◆ Sept. 10—**Teacher's Workshop @ Cleburne** (flyer on board—**all teachers strongly encouraged to attend**)
- ◆ Sept. 16-18—5th & Grape Lectureship
- ◆ Sept. 18-22—Gospel Meeting @ San Angelo with Omari French
- ◆ Oct. 1—Ladies Day @ Dublin.
- ◆ Oct. 6-8—Texas Ladies for Christ Retreat (info on board)
- ◆ Oct. 9-12—Lubbock Lectures
- ◆ Oct. 9-12—Homecoming Lectureship @ Rising Star
- ◆ Oct. 22—Ladies Day @ San Angelo with Cathy Iverson
- ◆ Oct. 27-29—ACS Class: *"The Bible and Archaeology"* (Dewayne Bryant)—Dripping Springs, TX

### "Here I Stand"

Students are fascinated to learn that [Martin Luther] nailed 95 "theses" to the Wittenberg castle door. "Thesis" is a perfectly good word you understand, but you will want to be very careful as you pronounce the plural of that word.

Then there is the moment that Luther defended his actions in a session referred to as the Diet (another word for parliament) of Worms (a town in Germany). What, one wonders, do students imagine when they think of Luther and a diet of... larvae?

It should be said that I am troubled by a number of Luther's teachings. His motto, *sola fide* (faith alone) is unbiblical. The Scripture teaches the truth of both faith *and* works (Jas. 2:14-17; Eph. 2:8-10).

October 31, 2017 will be, please note, the five hundredth anniversary of Luther's famous challenge to the church of his day. Every time a devout believer since who has stood and said: "This is what I believe the Bible teaches," can thank Martin Luther for the courage to say it first. Our right to speak openly from the Bible derives from that day.

The Diet of Worms was a serious affair. There was a bounty on Luther's head, and he could easily have been arrested and executed that day. Under the circumstances his words were clear and courageous. "I am bound by the Scriptures I have quoted and my conscience is captive to the word of God," he declared. "Here I stand. I can do no other."

Now there is a sublime thought. What would it be like to have our consciences "bound by Scriptures?" Such ties would be strong as steel and gentle as a baby's touch. As Luther's auspicious anniversary comes over the horizon, it's worth thinking about.

Stan Mitchell (forthright.net)

## Celebrate

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

**August Birthdays:** Bodhi Schlegelmilch (7), Joe Dennis (9), Jessica Dennis (13), Don Smith (14), Brandi Kite (14), Royce Ford (16), Ryan Rudloff (20), Anita Alexander (25), Roy Dodson (29).

**August Anniversaries:** Chipper & Susan Bridges (1), Matthew & Kaci Churchwell (15), Terry & Pam Teague (16), Don & Darlene Smith (29).

Mistakes? Left Out? Let Johnny know...



## Records

	July 24, 2016	July 31, 2016
Bible Class	48	51
AM Worship	73	78
PM Worship	47	59
Wednesday PM	43	44
Contribution	\$2,033	\$1,787

# Privileged To Serve

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

This Week: 8/7/16		Next Week: 8/14/16		<b>August 2016</b> <b>Make Announcements:</b> John Barnum <b>Prepare Communion:</b> Randy & Laura Huckaby <b>Clean Building:</b> Joe Dennis Family <b>Hostess Committee:</b> Laura Huckaby's group  <b>September 2016</b> <b>Make Announcements:</b> James Fuller <b>Prepare Communion:</b> Maninger Family <b>Clean Building:</b> Fuller / Stultz <b>Hostess Committee:</b> Laura Huckaby's group
<b>Sunday AM:</b>	Song Leader: Mike Bannister	Song Leader: Mike Bannister		
<b>Greeters</b>	Gene & Mike Bannister Families	Mileen & Ashley Kahlich		
<b>Opening Prayer</b>	Gene Bannister	Don Smith		
<b>Communion</b>	Randy Huckaby*, John Barnum Joe Dennis, Caleb Dennis	Ken Maninger*, Chase Churchwell James Fuller, Larry Petty		
<b>Closing Prayer</b>	Don Smith	Allen Bland		
<b>Attendance Cards</b>	Chase Churchwell	Ian Barnum		
<b>Sunday PM:</b>	Song Leader: James Fuller	Song Leader: Tom Wilcox		
<b>Opening Prayer</b>	Ken Maninger	Randy Huckaby		
<b>Scripture Reading</b>	Tom Wilcox	Hank Wheeler		
<b>Communion</b>	Randy Huckaby	Ken Maninger		
<b>Closing Prayer</b>	James Fuller	John Barnum		
<b>Wednesday Devotionals:</b>	August 10 Joe Dennis	August 17 Don Smith	August 24 Tom Wilcox	August 31 Allen Griffith

## 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 August 7, 2016

Sunday Class ..... **Romans 1:24ff**  
 Wed. Class ..... **How can we identify the NT church today?**

<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>There Is Power In The Blood!</u></b></p> <p><b>I. There Is <u>Cleansing</u> Power In The Blood.</b></p> <p><b>A. Complete Cleansing.</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Law of Moses taught that blood was necessary for the cleansing from sin (Lev. 17:11; Exod. 12:23; Heb. 9:22).</li> <li>"What can wash away my sin? Nothing but the blood of Jesus!"</li> <li>The Hebrews found their cleansing at the mercy seat on the Day of Atonement (Lev. 16) – Christ is now our "propitiation" (Rom. 3:25).</li> </ol> <p><b>B. Certain Cleansing.</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>When sins have been washed away by the blood of the Lamb, they are gone forever (Jer. 31:34).</li> <li>So many of our brethren fail to realize that sins can be forgiven.</li> </ol> <p><b>C. Continual Cleansing.</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We experience three salvations through the blood of Christ.                     <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We are forgiven of all of our past sins at baptism.</li> <li>We are continually forgiven day to day as we walk in the light.</li> <li>We are saved on the final judgment day.</li> </ol> </li> <li>Most of us realize the first and third of these – but do not really rejoice in the second (1 John 1:7).</li> </ol> <p><b>II. There Is <u>Convicting</u> Power In The Blood.</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In our society there is an attempt to play down the seriousness of sin.</li> <li>Do not believe that God could have saved us any way He chose – He just happened to choose to do it by the death of his Son.</li> <li>The wages of sin is death (Rom. 6:23).</li> <li>In Jesus' suffering and dying – we see the high price of sin.</li> <li>The shadow of the offerings under the Old Law.</li> </ol> <p><b>III. There Is <u>Drawing</u> Power In The Blood (John 12:32).</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The blood of Jesus sets forth most vividly the love of God (John 3:16).</li> <li>It would take a great deal of love to die for another man (John 15:13).</li> <li>Is there any greater power to draw us to God than His love?</li> </ol> <p><b>Conclusion</b>                      There is power in the blood to <b>cleanse us</b> from all sin. There is no sin so great or so deep that the blood cannot remove.                      There is power in the blood to <b>convict us</b> that we are sinners in need of salvation.                      There is power in the blood to <b>draw us</b> nearer to Him.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Introduction to Wisdom Literature &amp; the Book of Psalms</u></b></p> <p><b>I. Wisdom Literature.</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A collection of sayings which tell how to live in such a way as to assure success and happiness.</li> <li>Forms of Wisdom Sayings – proverbs, numerical sayings (Prov. 6:16-19; 30:29-31), riddles (Ps. 49:5; Hab. 2:6; Prov. 1:6), fable and allegory (Jdg. 9:7-15; Prov. 5:15-23; Eccl. 12:1-6), and dialogue (Job).</li> <li>General Characteristics of Wisdom Literature.                     <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is human and universal in outlook – not national and particular.</li> <li>It is primarily practical rather than abstract or speculative.</li> <li>There is no systematic development of thought.</li> <li>It is primarily practical rather than ceremonial.</li> </ol> </li> <li>The Hebrew Bible was divided into three categories: Law (5 books), Prophets (8), and Writings (11). The writings were divided into three sub-categories: Book of truth [Poetical books], Megilloth, and Historical books.</li> <li>Main Areas of Focus in Wisdom Literature.                     <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Contrast between the just with the wicked.</li> <li>The two ways or choices: life or death.</li> <li>Practical advice.</li> <li>Fear of the Lord.</li> </ol> </li> </ol> <p><b>II. The Book of Psalms.</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Why study the Psalms?                     <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is a part of God's inspired revelation.</li> <li>It allows us to look into the hearts, lives and thoughts of spiritual people in ancient times (such as David).</li> <li>We are able to observe how spiritual people felt about – worship, sin, God, and God's Word.</li> <li>We are able to see how spiritual people dealt with struggles.</li> <li>We are challenged to become more spiritual ourselves.</li> </ol> </li> <li>Authorship and Date:                     <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>David (73), Asaph (12), Descendants of Korah (10), etc.</li> <li>Dates range from as early as 1450 B.C. to as late as 500 B.C.</li> </ol> </li> <li>Theme of Psalms – a series of devotional songs designed to instruct man concerning the two choices in life: Pleasing the Lord or pleasing self.</li> </ol>
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