

# 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



February 19, 2017

## Contact Us:

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## 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

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

## Abraham: He who Staggered not in Unbelief

The pages of scripture are full of men and women whose lives teach us so much. Some, like Ahab and Jezebel, reveal powerfully sobering lessons of the reality and consequence of wickedness. But most illustrate vividly the blessing of serving God. Chief among the great examples of a holy life is Abraham – he who staggered not in unbelief.

Abraham is an example of an obedient faith. It is said of him in Genesis 15:6, "And he believed in the Lord, and He accounted it to him for righteousness." Paul referenced that passage in Romans 4:3 and James did as well in James 2:23. The point that both of those New Testament writers made is explained perfectly by James 2:24 – "You see then that a man is justified by works, and not by faith only." From the time that God called Abraham, as recorded in Genesis 12, his life is a constant reminder of the importance of being obedient to the will of God. When God called him to leave his homeland, he left. When He commanded him to circumcise the men of his household, he did it immediately. And when God asked Abraham to offer Isaac as a burnt offering, he set out to do just that. Consequently, Romans 4:20 says of him, "He did not waver at the promise of God through unbelief, but was strengthened in faith, giving glory to God." There may be times when we are unsure what the future may hold, or how we will be able to make ends meet. But Abraham's example reminds us that we must always be obedient to the will of God regardless of the circumstance.

Abraham is an example of a growing faith. One of the low points of Abraham's life is found in Genesis 12. There was a famine in the land so Abraham began traveling to Egypt. Before he arrived, he began to fear that the Egyptians would desire to have his wife, Sarah, and murder him in order to get her. So, Abraham and Sarah hatched a plan to lie to Pharaoh and tell him that she was only his sister. Indeed, they did lie to Pharaoh and God plagued Pharaoh's house because of it (Gen. 12:17). No doubt this was one of Abraham's greatest mistakes. However, many years later, in Genesis 18:19, the Lord said of Abraham, "For I have known him, in order that he may command his children and his household after him, that they keep the way of the Lord, to do righteousness and justice, that the Lord may bring to Abraham what He has spoken to him." How remarkable that God would make such a statement of a man who earlier had lied to Pharaoh out of fear. It is a powerful lesson that reminds us that Abraham's faith, like ours, was one that grew and became stronger. His example reminds us that if we "desire the pure milk of the word, that you may grow thereby" (1 Pet. 2:2) then our faith will grow in strength as well.

Abraham is an example of a rewarded faith. The Hebrews writer said of Abraham and Sarah, "These all died in faith, not having received the promises, ... But now they desire a better, that is, a heavenly country. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for He has prepared a city for them" (Heb. 11:13-16). Abraham was a faithful servant of God. In fact, James 2:23 describes him as "the friend of God." He reminds us of that fact that God rewards those who are faithful to him. Peter spoke of the day in which we received the "end of your faith" (1 Pet. 1:9). It is a reference to the fact that some day the end of all human affairs will arrive, and the faithful of God will go to be with Him in Heaven forever. What a day that will be when the fruit of faith is realized. Abraham's faithfulness reminds us daily of the multiplicity of blessings that are found in being God's faithful child.

Cody Westbrook (*Christian Worker*, Vol. 103, Num. 2 [Feb. 2017], p. 2)

"He who receives you receives Me, and he who receives Me receives Him who sent Me. He who receives a prophet in the name of a prophet shall receive a prophet's reward. And he who receives a righteous man in the name of a righteous man shall receive a righteous man's reward." **Matthew 10:40-41**



# **Barnabas: He Who Met the Need**

As far as we know, the first introduction to Barnabas is found in Acts chapter 4. In this chapter, we learn that his given name was Joses and he was a Levite from Cyprus. We also learn that he “*was also named Barnabas by the apostles (which is translated Son of Encouragement)*” (Acts 4:36). If the name was given because of Barnabas’ character, and most likely it was, then he was an encourager. Barnabas was one who met the needs of others. We mentioned, as far as we know this is the first mention of Barnabas in Scripture because Jewish legend (which often had its origin in truth) says that Barnabas was the same man as the rich young ruler which caused sorrow to the Lord upon their encounter, because he walked away sorrowfully having much goods. Be that as it may, Barnabas whose life as revealed in Scripture is certainly worthy of our attention. His was a sterling character.

Concerning Barnabas, we remember that when the brethren were fearful and questioning Saul of Tarsus and his conversion, it was Barnabas who was there to meet the need. Luke records,

*And when Saul had come to Jerusalem, he tried to join the disciples; but they were all afraid of him, and did not believe that he was a disciple. But Barnabas took him and brought him to the apostles. And he declared to them how he had seen the Lord on the road, and that He had spoken to him, and how he had preached boldly at Damascus in the name of Jesus. (Acts 9:26, 27)*

As we consider Luke’s account of their work, we note that in the beginning, Barnabas seems to be the leader. It is not until we are well into their work that we begin to see “Paul and Barnabas” instead of “Barnabas and Saul.” Only eternity will tell how much influence Barnabas had on the apostle Paul. He was there to fill the gap.

In the eighth chapter of Acts we learn of a great persecution upon the church that resulted in the brethren being scattered abroad. Verse 4 tells us “*those who were scattered went everywhere preaching the word.*” Later, Luke records these words,

*Now those who were scattered after the persecution that arose over Stephen traveled as far as Phoenicia, Cyprus, and Antioch, preaching the word to no one but the Jews only. But some of them were men from Cyprus and Cyrene, who, when they had come to An-*

*tioch, spoke to the Hellenists, preaching the Lord Jesus. And the hand of the Lord was with them, and a great number believed and turned to the Lord. (Acts 11:19-21)*

With this great number of conversions arose a need for further teaching and instruction. Continuing in this context, we learn of Barnabas’ role.

*Then news of these things came to the ears of the church in Jerusalem, and they sent out Barnabas to go as far as Antioch. When he came and had seen the grace of God, he was glad, and encouraged them all that with purpose of heart they should continue with the Lord. For he was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and of faith. And a great many people were added to the Lord. (Acts 11:22-24)*

After that Barnabas would depart to Tarsus, “*to seek Saul*” (Acts 11:25). From there he would continue with the apostle Paul in their evangelistic effort. Surely we are impressed by the fact that he had a good and honest heart which obeyed the gospel and produced much fruit.

Barnabas also had a great concern for the brethren. The very name that was given to him by the apostles in Acts 4 indicates there was a strong love for the brethren within this saint. His willingness to sell a field and give the proceeds to the apostles to meet the needs that were present indicates the brethren were foremost in his mind (Acts 4:36-37). His willingness to stand up for the apostle Paul in the beginning shows great concern for the brethren. It seems whenever we see a glimpse of Barnabas in Scripture, it is in a context where he is doing something for someone else. Though there are many other examples we could present and develop in thought, one example stands out in our mind, which we believe is worthy of our attention. In Acts 15, after the conference discussing circumcision and keeping of the law, Paul and Barnabas continued in Antioch for a space of time, teaching (Acts 15:35). It was at this time that Paul determined it would be good to go back and visit every city where they had preached the gospel and see how the brethren were doing (v. 36). Yet, of Paul and Barnabas it says a “*contention became so sharp that they parted from one another*” (v. 39). The contention was over whether or not John Mark should accompany them on this journey. Paul thought it not good because John Mark had “*departed from them in Pamphylia, and had not gone with them to the*

*(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**

**Feb. 19** Num. 31-33; 1 Cor. 15-16; 2 Cor. 1  
**Feb. 20** Numbers 34-36; 2 Cor. 2-3  
**Feb. 21** Deut. 1-3; 2 Corinthians 4-5  
**Feb. 22** Deut. 4-6; 2 Corinthians 6-7  
**Feb. 23** Deut. 7-9; 2 Corinthians 8-9  
**Feb. 24** Deut. 10-12; 2 Cor. 10-11  
**Feb. 25** Deut. 13-15; 2 Cor. 12-13  
**Feb. 26** Deut. 16-18; Galatians 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.”*



**Visitation Meeting**

- ◆ Each Sunday night immediately before the evening worship. Last week **35 contacts** were made.

**Upcoming Special Events at 4th & Stewart**

- ◆ March 26-29—Spring Gospel Meeting with Russell Bell.

**Other Opportunities to Learn and Grow**

- ◆ March 5-8—Gospel Meeting at Rising Star w/ Mike Bonner.
- ◆ March 12-15—Gospel Meeting at Lake Shore Drive (Waco) w/ Jeff Jenkins.
- ◆ March 12-19—Young Men’s Development Conference at Bryan/ College Station.
- ◆ March 26-29—75th Homecoming Lectures at Dripping Springs.
- ◆ April 2-5—Gospel Meeting at Bangs w/ Ronnie Hayes.
- ◆ April 2-5—Gospel Meeting at Hamilton w/ Denny Wilson.
- ◆ April 9-12—Gospel Meeting at 9th & Main (San Angelo) w/ Jason Rollo.
- ◆ April 9-12—Gospel Meeting at Windmill (Weatherford) w/ various speakers.
- ◆ April 30-May 3—Gospel Meeting at Gordon w/ Jessie Dickison.

*(Continued from page 2)*  
*work” (v. 38). Silas thus would travel with Paul and Barnabas would travel to Cyprus with John Mark. Just as Barnabas had once stood with Paul when he was in need and desired to number himself with the brethren, he now stood with John Mark when Paul would have no part of it. One must wonder how this must have affected John Mark and also how it may have affected Paul. It was later that the apostle would call for John Mark saying “for he is useful to me for ministry” (2 Tim. 4: 11). Without question, Barnabas was one who had great concern for the brethren.*

It seems we live in a day where most are looking out for themselves and their own desires. It is rare, sometimes even in the church of the Lord, to find men who can overcome strife or vainglory and in lowliness of mind esteem other better than themselves. However, men like Barnabas look not on their own things, but also on the things of others. We need more like Barnabas in the Lord’s church today. Let us all study our Bibles more and more as we strive to build character within our lives and may we learn the great lessons from our faithful brother Barnabas.

*Don Walker (Christian Worker, Vol. 103, Num. 2 [Feb. 2017], pp. 3-4)*

**Celebrate**

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

**February Birthdays:** Cindy McCaghren (2), Johnny McCaghren (2), Peggy Chism (3), Carol Wilcox (5), Sue McAnear (6), Lunday Maninger (8), Patti Bannister (14), Larry Petty (18), **Aaron Smith (21), Jack Turner (22)**, Jonathan Fuller (28).

**February Anniversaries:** Billy & Peggy Chism (26).

*Mistakes? Left Out? Let Johnny know...*



**Records**

	Feb. 4, 2017	Feb. 12, 2017
Bible Class	45	46
AM Worship	68	63
PM Worship	44	50
Wednesday PM	52	43
Contribution	2,017	1,966

# Privileged To Serve

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

		This Week: 2/19/17	Next Week: 2/26/17		
<b>Sunday AM:</b>		Song Leader: Mike Bannister	Song Leader: Mike Bannister	<b>February 2017</b> <b>Make Announcements:</b> James Fuller <b>Prepare Communion:</b> Allen & Linda Griffith <b>Clean Building:</b> Dennis Family  <b>March 2017</b> <b>Make Announcements:</b> Don Smith <b>Prepare Communion:</b> Randy & Laura Huckaby <b>Clean Building:</b> James & Cindy Fuller Jessica Stultz	
<b>Greeters</b>	Dennis Family	Mileen & Ashley Kahlich			
<b>Opening Prayer</b>	Ken Maninger	Allen Griffith			
<b>Communion</b>	Tom Wilcox*, Allen Bland Ryan Rudloff, Jack Turner	Joe Dennis*, Caleb Dennis Ken Maninger, Chase Churchwell			
<b>Closing Prayer</b>	John Barnum	Gene Bannister			
<b>Attendance Cards</b>	Ian Barnum	Jaceten Evetts			
<b>Sunday PM:</b>		Song Leader: Joe Dennis	Song Leader: Tom Wilcox		
<b>Opening Prayer</b>	James Fuller	Matthew Hairston			
<b>Scripture Reading</b>	Don Smith	Samuel Hairston			
<b>Communion</b>	Tom Wilcox	Joe Dennis			
<b>Closing Prayer</b>	Gene Bannister	Randy Huckaby			
<b>Wednesday Devotionals:</b>	February 22 Tom Wilcox	March 1 Prayer Night	March 8 Don Smith	March 15 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 February 19, 2017

Sunday Class ..... **Romans 4:19ff**  
 Wed. Class ..... **After Baptism, Then What?**

<p><b>Jesus' Principles of Evangelism (Part 2 of 2) – Matthew 10:11-42</b></p> <p><b>I. Be Selective.</b></p> <p>A. The Apostles Were to Focus on Those Who Were "Worthy" (11-15).                      B. This Illustrates the Need to Be Selective.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We are not to "cast your pearls before swine" (7:6).</li> <li>People judge themselves unworthy of the gospel by their lack of interest (Acts 13:42-46).</li> </ol> <p>C. The harvest is too great and the laborers too few to "cast our pearls" before those who don't appreciate it.</p> <p><b>II. Anticipate Persecution.</b></p> <p>A. The Apostles Were Told to Expect Persecution (16-25).                      B. This Illustrates the Need to Anticipate Persecution.                      C. Application Today.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Don't expect everyone to gladly receive your message of salvation.</li> <li>Rather, expect some to be offended and angry.</li> </ol> <p><b>III. Fear God, Not Man.</b></p> <p>A. The Apostles Were Told Whom to Fear (26-33).                      B. Illustrates the Need to Be More Concerned with What God Thinks.                      C. Application Today.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Christians need to have a healthy reverence for God.</li> <li>When we revere God more than we fear man, the fear of rejection will not hinder our efforts to teach others.</li> <li>With the proper fear of God, we will not rest until we are doing something in the area of evangelism, for that is His will for us!</li> </ol> <p><b>IV. Put the Lord First.</b></p> <p>A. The Apostles Were Told How the Lord Must Come First (34-39).                      B. This Illustrates the Cost of Discipleship.                      C. Service to God is hindered by allowing family and personal interests to come first.</p> <p><b>V. Supporters Share in the Reward.</b></p> <p>A. This Would Encourage Those Who Received the Apostles (40-42).                      B. This Illustrates the Principle Established by David (1 Sam. 30).                      C. Application Today.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Never underestimate the role of supporting those who go.</li> <li>If you can't go yourself, do what you can to support those who can.</li> <li>It is Christ you are serving, not just a servant of Christ!</li> </ol>	<p><b>Psalms 101 – "The Resolve of a Righteous Heart"</b></p> <p>Motivated by the desire to walk blamelessly before the Lord, David vows to remove base and vile thoughts from his mind. He refuses to have fellowship with wrongdoers and dedicates himself to walking honestly and nobly before God and man.</p> <p>Each thought is filled with the king's personal determination to be like God.</p> <p><b>I. "I Will Sing" (1-2a).</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>"I will sing of mercy and justice."</li> <li>"To You, O LORD, I will sing praises"</li> <li>God will not "come" into David's life (or into the life of his city) as the divine Lord unless the characteristics of His nature are embraced.</li> <li>Having experienced God's covenant love and righteous judgments himself, David determines that he must continue to grow in these traits and convey them to the people he leads.</li> </ol> <p><b>II. "I Will Walk with a Perfect Heart" (2b-5).</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>"I will walk within my house with a perfect heart."</li> <li>"I will set nothing wicked before my eyes."</li> <li>"A perverse heart shall depart from me."</li> <li>"Whoever secretly slanders his neighbor, him I will destroy."</li> </ol> <p><b>III. "I Will Encourage the Faithful" (6).</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>"My eyes shall be on the faithful of the land, that they may dwell with me."</li> <li>"He who walks in a perfect way, he shall serve me."</li> </ol> <p><b>IV. "I Will Remove Evil" (7-8).</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>"He who works deceit shall not dwell within my house."</li> <li>"He who tells lies shall not continue in my presence."</li> <li>He will pursue integrity negatively and positively, taking the necessary steps to purge the land of both private and public devotion to evil.</li> </ol> <p><b>V. One Holy Ambition: Godliness.</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Godliness begins with a heart of integrity.</li> <li>The pursuit of godliness is the heart of God's religion.</li> <li>The pursuit of godliness becomes the natural ambition of a servant of God.</li> <li>The pursuit of godliness is more than theory – it must be fleshed out in the family, the courtroom, and the marketplace.</li> <li>To David, the word "godliness" encapsulated all that God's servant is: his heart, his position, and his life.</li> </ol>
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