

# 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



June 18, 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.

## A Harmonious Congregation (Phil. 1:1-2)

From its beginning around 51 A.D., the Philippian congregation of God's people had a close relationship with the apostle Paul. The epistle he penned reflects this relationship, but it also demonstrates the bond shared within the congregation, considering how minor the congregational problems mentioned proved to be. Indeed, even in the simplicity of the opening greeting, Paul established the relationships that bound them together in spiritual harmony.

Writing from prison in Rome, Paul opened by introducing himself and Timothy, his fellow worker, as "*bondservants of Jesus Christ.*" A gospel preacher therefore feels bound to serve – not for his own purposes and glory, but to glorify his Lord. Thus, a preacher feels obligated to preach the gospel (1 Cor. 9:16), to serve the souls of others, to save the souls of others (Mk. 10:45), and to sacrifice as necessary (Phil. 2:17). A preacher feels obligated to Jesus Christ, because he owes Him everything (Phil. 3:8). When a preacher accepts the work and life of a bond servant, what he does in that work and life should harmonize with the will of his Master, totally and completely, and this, in turn, will help him build harmony in the lives of others.

Interestingly, while people today regularly refer to one another as Christians, the apostle Paul chose to address his audience as "*all the saints in Christ Jesus who are in Philippi.*" This places emphasis on the moral compass that should distinguish God's people both spiritually and morally in seeking to be more like God in heart each and every day, for this is the ambition of holiness (1 Pet. 1:16). And yet pure holiness remains impossible apart from a relationship with Christ Jesus whose promised coming as the Messiah served to provide for our salvation from sin (Acts 2:38; 1 Cor. 6:11; Gal. 3:26-29). However, Christians still live in the world, in the midst of a foreign society often hostile to morality and to truth. Nevertheless, distinguishing themselves as separate and distinct in a world gone mad should be the goal of saints each and every day (1 Pet. 2:11-12). Seeking holiness in every aspect of life keeps God's children in harmony with God's will and with God Himself, lifting Christians up toward heavenly things while on earth in preparation for ascending to heaven in the end.

Having addressed the essential character expected of all Christians, Paul then emphasized roles in the congregation divinely designed to help Christians in their holiness, beginning with bishops. The work implied by the word "*episkopos*" involves oversight, but its application extends far beyond popular notions. God gave bishops the responsibility not only of overseeing the assembly, but of overseeing the flock (Acts 20:28). Therefore, bishops must remain ever aware of the spiritual problems and needs of the individual Christians in the congregation (1 Thess. 5:14-15). Bishops must then constantly look out for toxic relationships, dangerous precedents, and insidious error (Titus 1:9-11). Bishops must keep a keen eye on

(Continued on page 2)

"And they sent to Him their disciples with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that You are true, and teach the way of God in truth; nor do You care about anyone, for You do not regard the person of men. Tell us, therefore, what do You think? Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, or not?" ... And He said to them, "**Render therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's.**" **Matt. 22:16-17, 21**



(Continued from page 1)

any signs of impending apostasy on an individual basis to be able to come to that person's spiritual aid before they drift too far away (Gal. 6:1).

Paul's inclusion of deacons in conjunction with the bishops in this greeting shows the significance he placed upon the role, using a word signifying serving others, being active in the work, and completing orders. Deacons serve in whatever roles benefit the congregation and its work (1 Tim. 3:13), having first established the character to accept their responsibilities with grace and humility so as to ease the work of the bishops and aiding the congregation in seeking holiness (Acts 6:1-4). Thus, when deacons take their role in a congregation seriously, the work of the church can blossom as people grow from wanting to be served to learning to love serving, because they see it all around them.

The simple and oft-repeated greeting Paul includes in this epistle (as well as others) communicates far more than a general greeting. It unites the roles and responsibilities of Christians with the blessings and leadership of the Godhead in making what we do meaningful. By combining "grace" and "peace," the respective greetings of Gentiles and Jews, into one, the apostle Paul expressed the harmony possible when we leave behind human differences to accept divine distinctions (Gal. 3:28). More than that, these blessings, previously taken as physical in character, now have a spiritual quality directly related to being children of God and behaving as such (Eph. 2:8; Phil. 4:7; Rom. 8:15). Harmony in a congregation relates directly to how every member submits to the authority of the Lord, loves Jesus for the salvation made possible by His sacrifice, and commits to Christ living within (Col. 3:17; John. 15:13; 14:15; Gal. 2:20). Without what God has done through Jesus, there is no grace to save us and there is no peace for us, "[b]ut thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ" (1 Cor. 15:57).

The spiritual harmony described throughout the rest of the book of Philippians testifies to the implications of Paul's greeting. More than any other epistle, the book of

Philippians presents a congregation of Christians seeking righteousness together, overcoming problems together, reaching the lost together, and moving toward maturity together. However, these behaviors will not happen unless the preacher, the elders, the deacons, and the members share a mutual commitment to be what God expects so as to enjoy the blessings God wants to bestow. A congregation achieves spiritual harmony through spiritual people actively fulfilling spiritual responsibilities from a spiritual heart with a spiritual purpose. The apostle Paul emphasized all of these things to the Philippians throughout his epistle, but from the very opening of the book he demonstrated that none of this occurs magically. It come to life when God's people seek harmony by serving in harmony – in harmony with one another, in harmony with God's Word, and in harmony with God Himself.

Kevin Rhodes

(Christian Worker, Vol. 103, Num. 6 [June 2017], pp. 1, 7)

## Grace's One Great Demand

Grace presents us with one great demand.

I know it seems strange to see the words "demand" and "grace" in the same sentence. Usually we view grace as the means by which we gain acceptance by God without carrying out works of the law. After all, as Paul reminds us, by "*works of the law no one will be justified*" (Galatians 2:16).

Many try to earn their salvation. They search the pages of Scripture to find all the demands made upon us and try to carry those out. They view themselves as the stringent Christians, the ones who hold to the highest standards. But grace possesses a demand that might even be greater than that of any legalist.

Those who advocate works of the law mistakenly believe they can do enough good works to merit their salvation. Of course, this is delusional on the level of the man who thinks he is the Easter bunny. Exactly how many good works would pay for one hour of Jesus on the cross? Or one minute, for that matter.

But grace presents us with a high demand, too. One that has often brought about surrender.

(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

**June 18** Psalms 27-29; Romans 10-11

**June 19** Psalms 30-32; Romans 12-13

**June 20** Psalms 33-35; Romans 14-15

**June 21** Psa. 36-38; Rom. 16; 1 Cor. 1

**June 22** Psalms 39-41; 1 Cor. 2-3

**June 23** Psalms 42-44; 1 Cor. 4-5

**June 24** Psalms 45-47; 1 Cor. 6-7

**June 25** Psalms 48-50; 1 Cor. 8-9

*"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 **37 contacts** were made.

**Announcements**

- ◆ **HAPPY FATHER’S DAY** to all of our fathers.
- ◆ There will be a short **Ladies Meeting immediately after services this evening** to discuss a wedding shower for Garrett and Megan.
- ◆ **Ladies**—registration is now open for the **Texas Ladies in Christ Retreat** in October. You can register at [www.texasladiesinchrist.org/register.html](http://www.texasladiesinchrist.org/register.html)
- ◆ **Summer Youth Series at Rising Star**, Tuesday at 7:00pm.
- ◆ Johnny will be speaking at Bangs Wednesday evening.

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

- ◆ August 8—Summer Youth Series
- ◆ August 12—Back to School Family Game Night
- ◆ October 15-18—Fall Gospel Meeting w/ Dave Rogers
- ◆ November 4—Ladies’ Day w/ Lasha Dennis

**Other Opportunities to Learn and Grow**

- ◆ June 25-29—Junior Camp
- ◆ June 30-July 2—Gospel Meeting @ Meridian w/ D.J. Stucky, *“The Great High Priest”*
- ◆ July 1—Youth Day @ Meridian
- ◆ July 9-13—“Shine” camp (girls, incoming 7th-12th grade) @ Oldham Lane (Abilene).
- ◆ July 10-13—VBS @ Rising Star (through 6th grade)
- ◆ July 16-21—Senior Camp
- ◆ August 2-4—VBS @ Hamilton (All ages)
- ◆ August 4-6—Discipleship U @ Dripping Springs. *“EXILES—Holy Faith in a Hostile World.”* 6th grade and up. Registration deadline—July 28th.
- ◆ August 6-9—Gospel Meeting @ North Main (Weatherford) w/ Wade Webster
- ◆ August 18-24—Polishing the Pulpit
- ◆ September 15-17—Marriage & Family Seminar @ Granbury Street (Cleburne) w/ John & Carla Moore
- ◆ October 5-7—Texas Ladies in Christ Retreat @ Brady

*(Continued from page 2)*

What is this high demand that grace makes? The answer is very simple: *We find that grace demands too much. It demands that we swallow our pride.*

The cross offends us because it suggests that we were sinners, so deeply mired in our sin that his death alone could save us. Our sin was no misdemeanor; it was so serious it required the death penalty. It bears mute, but dramatic, testimony to the depths of our depravity. That hits us directly in our pride. That demands that we surrender unreservedly to Him, admitting not only our failure but our helplessness. Hence it is a blow to our pride.

*“For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your doing; it is a gift of God” (Ephesians 2:8).*

Stan Mitchell (forthright.net)

**Celebrate**

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

**June Birthdays:** Mike Bannister (4), Caleb Dennis (6), Loutrell Dobbins (8), Shannon Dennis (13), **Tiffany McCaghren (22), Donnie Evetts (24)**, David Greer (26), Stormy Barnum (27), Ashley Kahlich (29).

**June Anniversaries:** James & Laverne Thomas (5), Johnny & Cindy McCaghren (8), **Wayne & Mileen Kahlich (19)**, David & Lisa Greer (28).



**Records**

	June 4, 2017	June 11, 2017
Bible Class	47	40
AM Worship	57	51
PM Worship	45	41
Wednesday PM	39	38
Contribution	\$1,770	\$1,622

# Privileged To Serve

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

This Week: 6/18/17		Next Week: 6/25/17		<b>June 2017</b> <b>Make Announcements:</b> John Barnum <b>Prepare Communion:</b> James & Cindy Fuller <b>Clean Building:</b> Randy & Laura Huckaby Karen Bland  <b>July 2017</b> <b>Make Announcements:</b> James Fuller <b>Prepare Communion:</b> Johnny & Cindy McCaghren <b>Clean Building:</b> Johnny & Cindy McCaghren
<b>Sunday AM:</b>	Song Leader: Mike Bannister	Song Leader: Ken Maninger		
<b>Greeters</b>	Allen & Linda Griffith	Maninger Family		
<b>Opening Prayer</b>	James Fuller	Gene Bannister		
<b>Communion</b>	Allen Griffith*, Larry Petty Don Smith, Hank Wheeler	James Fuller*, Ryan Rudloff Joe Dennis, Caleb Dennis		
<b>Closing Prayer</b>	Gene Bannister	Tom Wilcox		
<b>Attendance Cards</b>	Aaron Smith	Ian Barnum		
<b>Sunday PM:</b>	Song Leader: Tom Wilcox	Song Leader: Ken Maninger		
<b>Opening Prayer</b>	Rafe Smith	Allen Griffith		
<b>Scripture Reading</b>	John Barnum	Randy Huckaby		
<b>Communion</b>	Allen Griffith	James Fuller		
<b>Closing Prayer</b>	Ryan Rudloff	John Barnum		
<b>Wednesday Devotionals:</b>	June 21 Tom Wilcox	June 28 Don Smith	July 5 Prayer Night	July 12 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)*

<b>Studies for the week of June 18, 2017</b>	Sunday Class ..... <b>Romans 6:16ff</b>
	Wed. Class ..... <b>TBA</b>

<u>Our Duty to God and Country – Matthew 22:15-22</u>	<u>Miscellaneous Exhortations to Timothy – 1 Timothy 4:10-16</u>
<p>Teaching in the temple, Jesus was approached by the Pharisees and Herodians.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• They came with the intention of entangling Him in His teaching (15-16).</li> <li>• They questioned Him whether one should pay taxes to Caesar (17).</li> </ul> <p>Ever the Master Teacher, Jesus easily dealt with their question.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Seeing through their hypocrisy, He called for a coin (18-19).</li> <li>• He asked whose inscription was on it – they answered, "Caesar's" (20-21).</li> <li>• Jesus replied, "Render therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's" (21). They marveled and went away (22).</li> </ul> <p><b>I. Our Duty to Country.</b></p> <p><b>A. Pay Taxes.</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. This was the point of Jesus in our text.</li> <li>2. Paul also taught us to pay taxes (Rom. 13:6-7).</li> </ol> <p><b>B. Obey Laws.</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. We are to submit to the laws of the land (Rom. 13:1-5; Titus 3:1).</li> <li>2. For the Lord's sake, that we might silence foolish men (1 Peter 2:13-16).</li> </ol> <p><b>C. Fear and Honor.</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. We are to respect and honor those in positions of authority (Rom. 13:7).                     <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. We are to fear the king (Prov. 24:21a).</li> <li>b. We are not to speak evil of our rulers (Ex. 22:28; Acts 23:5; Tit. 3:1-2; 2 Pet. 2:9-11; Jude 8-9).</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. Even as we are to honor all and love the brethren (1 Peter 2:17).</li> </ol> <p><b>D. Do Good.</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. We are to be ready for every good work (Titus 3:1).</li> <li>2. We are to have conduct that is honorable before all (1 Peter 2:11-12, 15-16).</li> </ol> <p><b>E. Pray</b> (1 Tim. 2:1-3).</p> <p><b>II. Our Duty to God.</b></p> <p><b>A. Love God with All Our Being</b> (Matt. 22:34-37).</p> <p><b>B. Obey God from the Heart</b> (1 John 5:3; John 14: 15, 21, 25).</p> <p><b>C. Make God Our Number One Priority</b> (Matt. 6:33).</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Even over our duty to country (Acts 5:27-29).</li> </ol> <p>While those in authority might not always understand their proper place, and might expect more of their citizens than what is right, may we who are disciples of Christ never fail to: "Render therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's."</p>	<p><b>I. The Christian Life Involves Hard Work</b> (10).</p> <p>A. Paul said that he both <i>labored</i> and <i>suffered</i> reproach because he trusted in the living God.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Like Paul, our faith should motivate us to "labor" for the Lord!</li> <li>2. We should also be willing to "suffer reproach" for Him, just as Paul did!</li> </ol> <p>B. Paul referred to God as the Savior of "all men".</p> <p><b>II. The Christian Life Involves Authoritative Teaching of Truth</b> (11).</p> <p>A. Paul told Timothy to "command and teach" the things which Paul had said.</p> <p>B. The preacher has no authority of <i>his own</i> to command people to do anything; however, he does have the obligation and authority to speak the word of God (2 Tim. 4:1-2).</p> <p><b>III. The Christian Life Involves Being a Good Role Model of Truth</b> (12).</p> <p>A. If Timothy set the proper example, his brethren would not despise his youth.</p> <p>B. Paul told Timothy to provide an example to the brethren in the following areas: word, conduct, love, spirit, faith, and purity.</p> <p><b>IV. The Christian Life Involves Reading, Exhortation, and Teaching</b> (13).</p> <p>A. While Timothy was waiting for Paul, Paul told him to give attention to three things: "reading", "exhortation" and "doctrine".</p> <p>B. "Reading" – his private reading or the public reading of the Scriptures.</p> <p>C. "Exhortation" – encouraging to do what is right – both public and private.</p> <p>D. "Doctrine" – teaching or instruction.</p> <p><b>V. The Christian Life Involves Fulfilling Assigned Tasks</b> (14).</p> <p>A. Paul warned Timothy <i>not to neglect the gift which was in him</i>.</p> <p>B. This gift could have been a natural talent or ability, or a supernatural gift of the Holy Spirit.</p> <p><b>VI. The Christian Life Involves Total Commitment for the Sake of Others</b> (15).</p> <p>A. Paul exhorted – "meditate on these things... give yourself entirely to them".</p> <p>B. So that his progress and growth would be evident to all people.</p> <p><b>VII. The Christian Life Involves a Right Self and Right Doctrine</b> (16).</p> <p>A. Paul exhorted Timothy to "take heed to" two very important things.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. First, he was to pay very close attention to <i>himself</i>.</li> <li>2. Second, he must pay very close attention to "the doctrine".</li> </ol> <p>B. He must "continue" doing both of these things.</p>