



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.

6 Popular False Beliefs About Christianity

One of the most popular names that we think of regarding Protestantism and Christianity in the 16th century is Martin Luther. One thing for which Luther was known is the concept of *adiaphora*, from the Greek meaning "things indifferent." It is the concept that there are things in the Bible and in Christianity that do not matter. Is this an accurate concept? Are there things in the Bible that don't matter? Is anything really *adiaphora*?

Sure, some things are, like the eating of meats that Paul discussed in 1 Corinthians 8. But that doesn't mean everything is. However, the denominational world seems to think that very little truly matters. Here are six popular statements made in support of this claim:

1. "It doesn't matter if I'm baptized; as long as I confess my faith in Christ I'll be saved."

There are very few things that God leaves up to us, and our salvation is definitely not one of them. Christ regulated our salvation when He said in Mark 16:16, "*He who believes and is baptized will be saved*" Peter did the same thing in 1 Peter 3:21 when he said, "*Baptism, which corresponds to this, now saves you*" Our salvation is regulated. Baptism is regulated. It is not left up to us to decide how we are saved as God has regulated that no man is saved apart from Christ, or apart from belief, repentance, confession, and baptism.

2. "It doesn't matter how I worship; as long as I'm worshipping, God will accept that."

In Hebrews 9:1, the writer says, "*Now even the first covenant had regulations for worship*" This means that the second covenant, the covenant under which we live, also has regulations for worship. All too often we want to say that worship is left up to us, and we can worship in any way that we please. God, however, regulates our worship. We are to meet together regularly (1 Corinthians 14:23-25), on the first day of the week (1 Corinthians 16:1-3) to partake of the Lord's Supper (1 Corinthians 11:24), to sing with our hearts being the instrument (Ephesians 5:19), to give (1 Corinthians 16:2), to teach (Acts 20:7), and to pray (Acts 2:42). Christ said that when we come together, we are to worship in "*Spirit and truth*" (John 4:23-24). We are not left to worship any way we want because it is regulated by God.

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Then Jesus came with them to a place called Gethsemane, and said to the disciples, "**Sit here while I go and pray over there.**" And He took with Him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and He began to be sorrowful and deeply distressed. Then He said to them, "**My soul is exceedingly sorrowful, even to death. Stay here and watch with Me.**"
Matthew 26:36-38

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3. “It doesn’t matter how I live; as long as the Bible does not specifically forbid my actions, I will be acceptable in the eyes of God.”

One of the most prevalent mindsets in regard to the topic of indifference is, “As long as the Bible doesn’t condemn it, I am free to participate in it.” In regard to this point, here are three questions to consider. First, was Noah permitted to use any kind of wood because they were not specifically forbidden? No one would say that he could use any wood he chose, because he was commanded to use gopher wood. Was a priest allowed to come from a tribe other than Levi? Hebrews 7:11-16 says that a priest was not allowed to come from the tribe of Judah because Moses had said nothing about priests coming from that tribe. Were Nadab and Abihu allowed to bring any kind of fire before the Lord? They were killed because they brought unauthorized fire before the Lord (Leviticus 10:1-3). In all these cases, God did not have to forbid everything that was wrong. All He had to do was state what was right. It is the same way with us today; when God commands something, everything else is forbidden.

4. “It doesn’t matter what I believe; as long as I’m a good person, God will not send me to hell.”

Another idea that is prevalent in our society is that if I live a good life, then God would not send me to Hell. However, in Ephesians 2:8-9, Paul says, “*For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.*” First, we are not saved by works or anything that we can do, but by faith. How good a life we live does not earn us our salvation, and that’s a theme that is found throughout Scripture. Secondly, Jesus said in John 14:6, “*I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.*” We can live as good a life as possible but that will never get us to Heaven. The only way for man to be saved is through Jesus Christ and obedience to His will.

5. “It doesn’t matter if I go to church; as long as I’m a Christian, I will be saved.”

An interesting aspect of this statement is that if we are saved, then we are Christians and a part of the church. So why do we not attend the worship service? In Acts 2:47, Luke tells us that God “*added to their number (the church) day by day those that were being saved (Christians).*” There is no such thing as a Christian that is not part of the church. In Hebrews 10:24-25 the Bible says, “*And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.*” The Hebrew writer tells us to meet together because it helps stir up love, good works, and encouragement. This is not just for others, but we too gain those benefits when we come together with our brethren.

6. “It doesn’t matter if I’m active in my local church; as long as I’m attending service, I’m alright with God.”

There is an important question to consider in regard to this statement. In the previous statement, Hebrews 10:24-25 was mentioned, “*And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.*”

How can we be encouraged, loved, and have good works stirred up within us if we do not talk and interact with our brethren? The Bible speaks often of prayer, love, encouragement, stirring up good works, and growing in Christ through association with fellow Christians. How can we obtain these things from people with whom we do not interact? The answer to that question is this: we can’t! We cannot be who we are supposed to be as Christians, or reap the full benefits of being a Christian, if we are not interacting with Christians.

So, back to our initial question, is *adiaphora* real? Well,
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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

July 23 Psalms 128-129; 2 Tim. 1-2

July 24 Psalms 130-131; 2 Tim. 3-4

July 25 Psalms 132-133; Titus 1-2

July 26 Ps. 134-135; Titus 3; Philemon

July 27 Psalms 136-137; Hebrews 1-2

July 28 Psalms 138-139; Hebrews 3-4

July 29 Psalms 140-141; Hebrews 5-6

July 30 Psalms 142-143; Hebrews 7-8

“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 **38 contacts** were made.

Announcements

- ◆ Seven of our members spent the past couple of days attending the **Central Texas Bible Teacher’s Workshop** in Austin.
- ◆ The **Wedding Shower for Garrett & Megan** will be a **brunch at 11:00am, this coming Saturday** (the 29th), at the Bang’s church building. Selections are at Pampered Chef, Bed Bath & Beyond, Wal-Mart and Target. It is a “display shower,” so do not wrap your gift (ribbons and bows are fine, but leave it where they can see what it is—indicate who it is from). **If you are making food, but will not be able to attend the shower, please let Linda Griffith know.**
- ◆ A **sign-up sheet is on the back table for the things needed when we host the SYS**, August 8th. Please look it over and indicate what you can bring.
- ◆ **SYS at Hico Tuesday evening.**

Upcoming Special Events at 4th & Stewart

- ◆ August 8—We host 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

- ◆ 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. See bulletin board for registration information.

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there are things that do not matter, like talking sports to our friend or the place and time we worship. However, those things are still regulated. Our salvation is regulated, worship is regulated, our lives are regulated, and church is regulated. So if God regulates everything in some form, how can there be room for *adiaphora*?

It is important that we guard against viewing things that God has regulated as though they are not regulated. Additionally, we must never allow ourselves to be indifferent toward our worship of and service for the Lord. This kind of indifference will keep us from pleasing God (Revelation 3:15-16). Indifference, in regard to the things of God, is one of the great issues that the church faces today.

Spencer Shaw (focuspress.org)

Celebrate

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

July Birthdays: Laura Huckaby (6), Jason Warman (6), Chase Churchwell (11), Cindy Fuller (12), **Tre’ Rayon (24), John Barnum (26), Jack Hill (26).**

July Anniversaries: Allen & Karen Bland (27).

Mistakes? Left Out? Let Johnny know...



Records

	July 9, 2017	July 16, 2017
Bible Class	45	44
AM Worship	62	67
PM Worship	38	38
Wednesday PM	51	39
Contribution	\$1,991	\$2,013

This Week: 7/23/17		Next Week: 7/30/17		July 2017 Make Announcements: James Fuller Prepare Communion: Johnny & Cindy McCaghren Clean Building: Johnny & Cindy McCaghren August 2017 Make Announcements: Don Smith Prepare Communion: Randy & Laura Huckaby Clean Building: Dennis Family
Sunday AM:	Song Leader: Mike Bannister	Song Leader: Mike Bannister		
Greeters	Tom Wilcox, Hank Wheeler	Allen & Linda Griffith		
Opening Prayer	Allen Griffith		James Fuller	
Communion	Tom Wilcox*, Allen Bland Larry Petty, Randy Huckaby	Don Smith*, Ryan Rudloff Rafe Smith, Hank Wheeler		
Closing Prayer	Gene Bannister		John Barnum	
Attendance Cards	Aaron Smith		Ian Barnum	
Sunday PM:	Song Leader: Ken Maninger		Song Leader: Joe Dennis	
Opening Prayer	James Fuller		Ken Maninger	
Scripture Reading	John Barnum		Allen Griffith	
Communion	Tom Wilcox		Don Smith	
Closing Prayer	James Thomas		Tom Wilcox	
Wednesday Devotionals:	July 26 Tom Wilcox	August 2 Prayer Night	August 9 Don Smith	August 16 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 July 23, 2017

Sunday Class **Romans 7:8ff**
 Wed. Class **Christian Morals**

The Garden of Gethsemane – Matthew 26:36-46

- I. **The Garden Was a Place of Suffering.**
 - A. **Where Jesus Suffered Great Distress.**
 1. He went to pray, accompanied only by Peter, James, and John (36-37).
 2. Before He began praying, He was "deeply distressed" (37), "troubled and deeply distressed" (Mark 14:33), "And being in agony, He prayed more earnestly. Then His sweat became like great drops of blood falling down to the ground" (Luke 22:44).
 3. He knew that His hour had come (John 12:27).
 - B. **Where Jesus Bore Intense Sorrow.**
 1. "My soul is exceedingly sorrowful, even to death." (38).
 2. The writer of Hebrews refers to His "vehement cries and tears" (Heb. 5:7).
 3. His grief and sorrow was partly due to the fact that He was taking upon Himself our own griefs and sorrows (Isa. 53:4-5).
 - C. **Where Jesus Faced Solemn Loneliness.**
 1. He wanted His closest disciples to watch with Him (36-37).
 2. Yet after each episode of praying, He found them sleeping (40-41, 43, 45).
 - II. **The Garden Was a Place of Strength.**
 - A. **When Jesus Uttered Agonizing Prayer.**
 1. The agony in His prayer is:
 - a. Seen by His posture: "He...fell on His face" (39).
 - b. Heard in His words: "if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me" (39, 42, 44).
 2. It was "godly fear" Jesus expressed (Heb. 5:7).
 - B. **When Jesus Extended Entire Resignation – "Not as I will, but as You will" (39), "if this cup cannot pass away from Me..., Your will be done" (42).**
 - C. **When Jesus Enjoyed Special Comfort – "Then an angel appeared to Him from heaven, strengthening Him" (Lk. 22:43).**
 - D. **When Jesus Demonstrated Renewed Resolve.**
 1. Strengthened, Jesus was ready to face the hour at hand (45).
 2. He was ready to meet His betrayer and those with him (46-47).
- So "The Garden of Gethsemane" was a place of both suffering and strength.
- Jesus entered the garden suffering.
 - He left the garden strengthened in His resolve.
- Notice what turned the place of suffering into a place of strength...**prayer!**

Final Demands to Faithful Timothy – 1 Timothy 6:11-21

- I. **Flee evil, pursue good, and fight the good fight of faith (11-16).**
 - A. Paul addressed Timothy as, "O man of God".
 - B. "Flee these things" – the things discussed in the previous verses.
 - C. But don't just avoid evil – "pursue" those things which God defines as good – "righteousness," "godliness," "faith," "love," "patience," "gentleness".
 - D. In v. 12, Paul commanded Timothy to "fight the good fight of faith".
 - E. Paul also exhorted Timothy to "lay hold on eternal life".
 - F. Paul mentioned that Timothy had been "called" to this eternal life.
 - G. He had "confessed the good confession in the presence of many witnesses".
 - H. In 13-16, Paul gave Timothy an urgent exhortation – in the sight of God, "who gives life to all things", and Jesus Christ, "who witnessed the good confession before Pontius Pilate".
 1. He exhorted Timothy to "keep this commandment" – flee evil, pursue good – "without spot, blameless".
 2. He was to do that, "until our Lord Jesus Christ's appearing".
 - a. The final coming of our Lord Jesus Christ will be, "in His own time".
 - b. The power and authority of God – "the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings, and Lord of lords, who alone has immortality, dwelling in unapproachable light, whom no man has seen or can see".
 - c. "Honor and everlasting power" are due to Him (cf. Rom. 11:33-36).
- II. **Instructions Concerning the Rich (17-19).**
 - A. Not to be "haughty".
 - B. Not to "trust in uncertain riches".
 - C. Instead, trust in "the living God, who gives us richly all things to enjoy".
 - D. "Do good", be, "rich in good works, ready to give, willing to share".
 - E. Result – they will be "storing up for themselves a good foundation for the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life".
- III. **Paul's Final Charge (20-21).**
 - A. Paul charged Timothy to "guard what was committed to [his] trust".
 - B. "Avoid the profane and vain babblings and contradictions of what is falsely called knowledge".
 - C. Some, "professed it" (false knowledge) "have strayed concerning the faith".
 - D. Paul concludes by wishing God's grace to Timothy.