

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



September 3, 2017

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.

Christ's Resurrection

The birth, life and death of Jesus Christ are of great importance to mankind. Yet, without His resurrection, those things would have no meaning for man's salvation. There are numerous ways that His resurrection has meaning.

His resurrection means that He is Lord both of the living and of the dead (Romans 14:8-9). His power and His Lordship is not nullified when we die. He lives in Heaven and is Lord over all who have died. This tells us that a part of us survives death and that part has a mind.

His resurrection is a pledge that we do have an inheritance in Heaven (1 Peter 1:3). He is ruling in heaven, and He will not forget those who serve and obey Him.

His resurrection is the proof that He will resurrect us (Romans 8:11). We do not have to doubt our resurrection.

His resurrection guarantees that the righteous who have died since the beginning of the world will be resurrected (1 Corinthians 15:20-22). All the righteous will come out of their graves to new lives.

His resurrection assures us that we will see all the righteous in Heaven (1 Thessalonians 4:14). All the righteous will live in Heaven with Jesus Christ.

His resurrection is the ultimate example of God's power (Ephesians 1:19-20). That power is granted to all who live for Jesus. The same power that raised Jesus from the dead will be used to raise us into new lives at baptism. It will also be used to raise us up at the Judgment.

His resurrection is the pinnacle theme of our teaching and preaching (Acts 3:15-16; 4:10). He lived for us. He died for us, and he was raised from the grave for us.

His resurrection allowed Him to give the teaching of the New Covenant to men such as Paul (Galatians 1:1). Without Jesus in Heaven sending the Holy Spirit to give the fullness of the New Covenant to mankind, we would never have salvation.

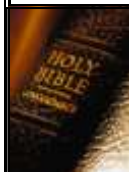
His resurrection is proof that God will judge the world in righteousness (Acts 18:31). His judgment will not be biased. His judgment will not be unjust.

His resurrection gives us the courage to suffer and to even die for Him (Philippians 3:8-10). If Jesus was willing to suffer on earth and die for us, we should be willing to suffer and to even die for Him. If we share in His suffering, we will share in His glory.

Study your Bible. Learn all you can about our wonderful Christ. Obey Him so that you may share in His resurrection. If any of this is hard to understand, ask an adult to help you.

Mark McWhorter (gospelgazette.com)

...if Christ is not risen, then our preaching is empty and your faith is also empty. ...we are found false witnesses of God...your faith is futile; you are still in your sins! ...those who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men the most pitiable. **1 Cor. 15:14-19**



Have We Lost Sight of the Primary Mission of the Church?

If someone asked you, “What is the primary mission of the church?” what would you say? Would you say it is to multiply and grow our numbers? Would you say it is to bring about moral reform in our nation? Would you say it is simply to worship God every Sunday? Do we know what the primary mission of the church is or have we completely lost sight of it?

The Primary Mission of the Church

I believe the church of Christ in the twenty-first century has the same mission it had in the first century, which is this: **to proclaim the message of reconciliation.**

God created mankind in His own image and for His own glory, but we willfully rebelled against God and brought judgment upon ourselves. We became God’s enemies. He, of course, has every right to destroy His enemies at anytime. However, His desire is not to destroy, but to bring about reconciliation between Himself and rebellious mankind (1 Timothy 2:4). This is why He gave His only begotten Son, to wash away our sin and reconcile us to Himself (Romans 5:6-11).

Becoming a Christian means being reconciled to God. **It is about being brought into relationship with the Creator of the Universe.** It is about our status being changed from God’s enemy to God’s child.

This is how the apostle Paul described his God-appointed mission in 2 Corinthians 5:18-20:

All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.

The primary mission of the church is to carry on the apostles’ **ministry of reconciliation.** We must be about the business of imploring people “on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.”

Our Primary Mission is Not Worship on Sunday

If this then is our primary mission, then our primary mission is not worship on Sundays. **We should not see worship as our primary mission, but our primary pleasure.** Because we have been reconciled to God, we have the pleasure of worshiping Him. We have been allowed into His presence to sing His praises, to come before His throne in prayer, to love Him, and to be loved by Him.

This means those who see the church’s primary mission as creating an “exciting worship experience” each week AND those who see the church’s primary mission as checking “acts of worship” off a checklist each week, have both lost sight of the real mission. Worship is important. It is one of the greatest blessings of being reconciled to God. Therefore, it ought to be a constant reminder to us how truly important our mission is.

If we have tasted and seen that the Lord is good (Psalm 34:8), if we really love Him and enjoy Him, we should want the world to know the same joy we have in Christ.

Our Primary Mission is Not Moral Reform of Our Legal System

The church needs to be preaching against immorality; not primarily to bring about reforms to our country’s legal system, but in order to convict the world of sin (see John 16:8). We must help prove to people that they – like us – need saving from a horrible fate. We do not preach against sin in order to bring about the sinner’s punishment, but to bring about his or her salvation through repentance and faith in Christ Jesus.

The church is not accomplishing its goal by simply changing laws, or by making the world believe Christians think we are less deserving of death. All of us “are

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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

Sept. 3 Isaiah 11-12; Matthew 21-22

Sept. 4 Isaiah 13-14; Matthew 23-24

Sept. 5 Isaiah 15-16; Matthew 25-26

Sept. 6 Isaiah 17-18; Matthew 27-28

Sept. 7 Isaiah 19-20; Mark 1-2

Sept. 8 Isaiah 21-22; Mark 3-4

Sept. 9 Isaiah 23-24; Mark 5-6

Sept. 10 Isaiah 25-26; Mark 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 **NA contacts** were made.

Announcements

- ◆ **First Sunday Fellowship Meal** following services this morning.
- ◆ The **ladies will have a quick meeting** immediately following services this morning.
- ◆ Wednesday evening we will be beginning a new study—Old Testament History.

Upcoming Special Events at 4th & Stewart

- ◆ October 15-18—Fall Gospel Meeting w/ Dave Rogers
- ◆ November 4—Ladies’ Day w/ Lasha Dennis

Other Opportunities to Learn and Grow

- ◆ Sept. 15-17—Marriage & Family Seminar @ Granbury Street (Cleburne) w/ John & Carla Moore
- ◆ Oct. 5-7—Texas Ladies in Christ Retreat @ Brady.
- ◆ Oct. 14-15—Lectureship @ Hamilton
- ◆ Nov. 5-8—Gospel Meeting @ Bangs w/ Foy Forehand

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deserving of death” (Romans 1:32). This is the message we must consistently preach. It is only when we are convicted of sin that we can experience godly sorrow, repent of our sins, and throw ourselves upon the mercies of God.

If we truly helped bring about repentance and reconciliation, through the preaching of the gospel, we wouldn’t have to worry so much about changing the laws of the land.

Our Primary Mission is Not to Grow Our Numbers

We all love to see our congregations grow. We love to see more people in the pews. We love to see relationships blossom and grow. It’s easy to begin thinking this is the primary mission of the church, to create large communities of loving friendships. Though this is a wonderful result of people obeying the gospel, it is not the church’s primary mission.

But because many have accepted this as our primary mission, they have set about the work of creating a myriad of church social functions and ministries to appeal to the masses. They believe if we attract enough people to the church building, by offering the right amenities, we will have accomplished our mission. But nothing could be further from the truth.

The church is not a social club. Fellowship is a wonderful blessing of sharing a common salvation, but it is not the primary mission of the church. We could attract a million people to a religious social club, but if our primary message was not, “we implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God,” then we would not be accomplishing our mission.

Conclusion

All of these things (worship, moral reform, growing congregations, and so much more) would happen if we would just focus on our primary mission. We must help the world to see what an amazing opportunity God has set before them, reconciliation with Him through Jesus Christ. But before we can help them to see how wonderful it is, perhaps we need to see it ourselves.

Wes McAdams (radicallychristian.com)

Celebrate

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

September Birthdays: Jean Hamann (3), James Fuller (6), Emile Ochoa (11), Gene Bannister (16), Matthew Ochoa (16), Allen Bland (23), Glenda Milam (24), Cindy Proud (26), Garrett Barnum (27), Matthew Howell (28).

September Anniversaries: None.

Mistakes? Left Out? Let Johnny know...



Records

	Aug. 20, 2017	Aug. 27, 2017
Bible Class	46	53
AM Worship	64	66
PM Worship	51	52
Wednesday PM	40	44
Contribution	NA	\$2,032

	This Week: 9/3/17	Next Week: 9/10/17		
Sunday AM:	Song Leader: Mike Bannister	Song Leader: Mike Bannister	August 2017 Make Announcements: Don Smith Prepare Communion: Randy & Laura Huckaby Clean Building: Dennis Family	
Greeters	John Barnum Family	Tom & Carol Wilcox		
Opening Prayer	Gene Bannister	James Fuller		
Communion	Ryan Rudloff*, Rafe Smith Larry Petty, Hank Wheeler	Allen Griffith*, Jack Turner James Thomas, Don Smith		
Closing Prayer	Don Smith	Randy Huckaby		
Attendance Cards	Aaron Smith	Ian Barnum		
Sunday PM:	Song Leader: James Fuller	Song Leader: Tom Wilcox		
Opening Prayer	Randy Huckaby	Gene Bannister		
Scripture Reading	Allen Griffith	Ken Maninger		
Communion	Ryan Rudloff	Allen Griffith		
Closing Prayer	Allen Bland	John Barnum		
Wednesday Devotionals:	September 6 Prayer Night	September 13 James Fuller	September 20 Joe Dennis	September 27 Rafe Smith

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 September 3, 2017

Sunday Class **Romans 8:1**
 Wed. Class **Old Testament History: Genesis**

The Resurrection of Jesus – Its Significance – Matthew 28:1-10

I. For the Unbeliever.

A. It Verifies the Deity of Jesus.

1. The resurrection proves that Jesus truly is the Son of God (Rom. 1:4).
2. It also demonstrates that He truly has all authority in heaven and on earth (Matt. 28:18; Acts 2:36).

B. It Verifies the Truthfulness of Jesus.

1. Jesus foretold His resurrection on three occasions (Mt. 16:21; 17:22-23; 20:17-19).
2. If Jesus told the truth concerning the resurrection, He is not a liar or a lunatic, therefore, the following teachings of Jesus are also true:
 - a. He was from the Father above, and spoke the words of the Father (Jn. 8:28-29).
 - b. No one can come to the Father but through Him (Jn. 14:6).
 - c. His blood was shed for the remission of sins (Mt. 26:28).
 - d. He came to offer abundant life (Jn. 10:10).
 - e. He went to prepare a place for us (Jn. 14:2).
 - f. He shall come again (Jn. 14:3).
 - g. There will be a resurrection of the dead and ensuing judgment (Jn. 5:28-29; Acts 17:30-31).

II. For the Believer.

A. If Jesus Has Not Been Raised.

1. Gospel preaching is empty (1 Cor. 15:14).
2. Our faith is empty (1 Cor. 15:14).
3. The apostles were false witnesses (1 Cor. 15:15; Acts 2:32; 10:39-41).
4. We are still in our sins (1 Cor. 15:17).
5. Believers have perished at death (1 Cor. 15:18).
6. Christians are to be pitied (1 Cor. 15:19).

B. If Jesus Has Been Raised.

1. It verifies our justification (Rom. 4:24-25; Mt. 26:28; Rom. 8:33-34).
2. It demonstrates the power available to the Christian (Eph. 1:18-22).
 - a. Power available at our conversion (Col. 2:11-12; 1 Pet. 3:21).
 - b. Power available to live the Christian life (Rom. 8:11-13; Phil. 2:12-13; 4:13; Eph. 3:20; 6:10).
3. It gives us hope concerning our own resurrection (1 Pet. 1:3, 21; 1 Thess. 4:13-14).
4. It demands our complete loyalty to Him (Rom. 14:9; Acts 2:32-36; Eph. 1:20-23; Rom. 14:7-8; 2 Cor. 5:14-15).

Some Duties of a Faithful Gospel Preacher – 2 Timothy 2:1-7

I. Be Strong (1).

- A. Paul again addressed Timothy as his "son".
- B. Notice Paul began with the connecting words, "You therefore..."
- C. He exhorted Timothy to "be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus".
- D. Notice where this soul strengthening grace is located – "in Christ Jesus".

II. Teach Others (2).

- A. Paul commanded Timothy to commit the things which he had heard from Paul, the Gospel, to faithful men who would be able to teach others also.
- B. These men are described in two ways:
 1. First, they must be "faithful men", which includes several things:
 2. Second, they must, "be able to teach others also".

III. Endure Hardship (3-13 [We will only address 3-7 in this lesson]).

A. Like a Soldier (3-4).

1. Paul warned/exhorted Timothy that, as a preacher and teacher of God's word, he must endure hardship, "as a good soldier of Jesus Christ".
2. Paul was not exhorting Timothy to be a soldier in the army of any particular nation – but to be a good soldier of **Jesus Christ!**
3. In v. 4, Paul continued the comparison – a soldier is not supposed to, "entangle himself with the affairs of this life".

B. Like an Athlete (5).

1. Paul said that Timothy must endure hardship like an athlete does.
2. Being an athlete requires persistent self-control and self-denial.
3. To be victorious, one must, "compete according to the rules".
4. Unless the Christian lives according to God's **rules** in His word, the Christian will not receive the crown of righteousness, or of life!

C. Like a Farmer (6-7).

1. Timothy must endure hardship like a hardworking farmer.
2. The hardworking farmer is entitled to receive a reward (i.e. to partake of the harvest of the crops).
3. Paul exhorted Timothy to "consider" what he was saying.
 - a. The **victory** of the dedicated, loyal, single-minded soldier.
 - b. The **winner's crown** of self-disciplined athletes who follows the rules.
 - c. The **abundant harvest** of the hardworking, patient, optimistic farmer.