

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 4, 2018

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.

What Kind of Church Attender are you?

And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works; Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another, and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching (Heb.10:24-25).

There are some in the church who believe it is not important to attend worship services. For them, attending church services are good if there is not anything else to do or someplace else to visit or some other activity to engage in. With some, as long as they show up occasionally or especially on Sunday morning, that is all that really counts.

Let us realize that even when we attend as we should, we must do so with the right purpose, motive, and attitude. You see, if our motive and attitude are not right, then it matters not how many worship services we may attend.

It is evident that our attitude toward God, His Word and Worship itself will determine that kind of "attender" we'll be. What kind of attender are you? Are you a...

1) Special occasion attender? Some believe that whenever there is a special occasion, a holiday, etc., that's that time to be in attendance. To them, other regular times for worship services are not important.

2) Seasonal attender? This attitude toward attendance is that it depends on the season of the year. If it is "camping season", "deer-hunting season", "baseball season", "football season", etc. then being in attendance for the services is not as important. These so-call "seasons" should never hinder us from being faithful to the Lord, including the attendance of the services.

3) Spasmodic attender? Some come for a while, then miss for a while. With them, this becomes a way of life. You can never rely or depend upon them to take an active part in the work of the church.

4) Suit your-self attender? These attend only when it "suits them" and it does not interfere with doing something else they want to do. To them, attending the services is not a spiritual priority.

5) Sunday morning only attender? These do not see the need for Sunday night or Wednesday night services; and, most of the time, Sunday morning Bible class either. They think like the old Brylcreem commercial, "a little dab will do you." They are the ones who are always asking, "How little can I do and get by with it?"

(Continued on page 2)

Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. For the husband is head of the wife, as also Christ is head of the church.... Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church.... Let each one of you in particular so love his own wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband.

Ephesians 5:22, 25, 33



(Continued from page 1)

6) Seeking-a-companion attender? These only attend services seeking someone they can date and perhaps eventually marry. So, when they visit a congregation and no one is available, then they will move on to another congregation. They are not seeking the Truth and the Lord, neither are they looking for a place where they can worship scripturally and be blessed spiritually, but they're just looking for a companion. That is their only motive for attending services.

7) Sleeping attender? These use the worship services as a time to catch up on their sleep that they didn't get the night before. They did not use that time to prepare themselves to worship God acceptably on Sunday morning. To them, worship services are not valuable and vital to their spiritual well-being.

8) Sorehead attender? These enter the church building "mad" and "upset" and are just waiting for someone to say or do something they can attack and then they are ready to give them "a piece of their mind." They don't want to participate in worship nor anything else that might help them spiritually. They are in the "kick-attitude." They feel compelled to try to stir-up trouble.

Do you see yourself among any of these groups? If so, change your attitude and action, "Repent!" Yes, it is sinful to willfully forsake the services of the church (Heb.10:24-25); and, it is sinful to not have the proper motive and attitude (John 4:24).

When our actions and attitudes toward church attendance are not right, we demonstrate a lack of love for God, for the Word of God, for the church, for ourselves and others (John 14:15; Heb.10:24-26; Col.3:1-3; Rev.22:14; 2 Peter 3:18).

Let us develop an attitude of mind as David, when he said, "I was glad when they said unto me, let us go unto the house of the Lord" (Psa.122:1).

Jerry Joseph

(Words of Willette, Willette Church of Christ Weekly Bulletin, 12/1/13)

What a Cross Gets Wrong About Christ and the Church

When does the cross become a symbol for a misunderstanding of Jesus? I think it's happening at this very moment.

The story I'm referencing has been in the news recently as a Corpus Christi, TX church is looking to build a 230' tall cross. They give their reasoning for the project on their site:

We are raising the TALLEST CROSS in the Western Hemisphere, the second tallest cross in the world to proclaim with the loudest voice possible, that Jesus died to redeem you from your sin and to give you eternal life. ...that whosoever believes in Him shall not perish but have everlasting life.

In the process, they're spending at least \$2.5 million to complete the project. They recently signed a \$189,000 contract for the foundation, marking the beginning of construction.

Aside from the obvious point that such a massive amount of money could have been given to those in need and works all around the globe, what strikes me is how backward an understanding of outreach this cross symbolizes. The old Field of Dreams church plan ("If you build it, they will come") never really worked that great, and it's especially ineffective in today's secular-humanist-dominated culture. How many non-Christians do you know who would give their lives to Jesus by seeing a giant cross next to the highway?

However, if we're not careful, we can fall into the same line of thinking. I think it's pretty safe to say that most of us aren't part of congregations that are spending two and a half million dollars on what is essentially a massive billboard, but the way we view our outreach can often fall

(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 @ 10:00am 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. 4 Leviticus 13:30—14:57

Feb. 5 Leviticus 15:1—18:18

Feb. 6 Leviticus 18:19—21:24

Feb. 7 Leviticus 22—23

Feb. 8 Leviticus 24:1—26:13

Feb. 9 Leviticus 26:14—27:34

Feb. 10 Numbers 1:1—3:32

Feb. 11 Numbers 3:33—5:22

"Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."



- ◆ Each Sunday night immediately before the evening worship. Last week **41 contacts** were made.

Announcements

- ◆ Monthly **1st Sunday Fellowship Meal** today.
- ◆ **Valentine Party** (or rescheduled New Year's Eve Party) will be next Sunday evening after evening worship service. Bring finger foods/snacks and your favorite games. Stay as late as you want (or until last person with a key leaves!).
- ◆ Due to unforeseen circumstances (a required surgery), our **Spring Gospel Meeting with Rick Brumback** has been rescheduled for **March 24-27, 2019**. We are considering other options for this spring.

Upcoming Special Events at 4th & Stewart

- ◆ March, 2018—Spring Gospel Meeting. Details TBD.

Other Opportunities to Learn and Grow

- ◆ March 1-4—"Arise!: A Southwest Spiritual Growth Workshop" @ Southwest (Austin).
- ◆ May 5-10—Focal Point @ University (San Marcos)

(Continued from page 2)

into the same trap. The giant cross is a great metaphor for the mistaken line of thinking that I've had through much of my ministry, that if we just make a good outward showing, people will come. With enough events, a well-located building, a catchy sign, good advertising, etc., then people will come. And if we try all of that and they don't come in, then people just don't love the truth anymore.

But that's not what Jesus called us to do, is it? "Go into all the world and make disciples" is pretty much the polar opposite of "Use the latest business strategies to try to lure people into your buildings." Just as I have no expectation that droves of people are going to be giving their lives to Christ based on a tall cross, I shouldn't expect the people in my community to drop everything and make their way to the building on Sunday because I came up with a cool sermon series title and posted it on Facebook. As Steve Timmis and Tim Chester point out in their book *Everyday Church*, "Our persistent 'come to us' mind-set suggests that we really believe that people who refuse to come in the front door are beyond the reach of Christ... We cannot assume people will come to us. We must go to them."

I want to make it clear that none of the things mentioned above are bad things in and of themselves. But often we make the events and the marketing and all of those things the ultimate goal, when they should ultimately be viewed as small contributions toward the real ultimate goal of making disciples of Jesus. Because of that misplaced goal, we define success by our visibility and busyness and numbers rather than hearts won for Him. Just like the cross builders truly believe they're accomplishing something great while doing very little actual investing time, love, and energy in people, so we too have to guard against aiming to be noticed rather than aiming to make a difference.

Jack Wilkie (focuspress.org)

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).**

February Anniversaries: Billy & Peggy Chism (26).

Mistakes? Left Out? Let Johnny know...



Records

	Jan. 21, 2018	Jan. 28, 2018
Bible Class	39	35
AM Worship	57	55
PM Worship	37	40
Wednesday PM	32	27
Contribution	\$1,952	\$1,765

	This Week: 2/4/18	Next Week: 2/11/18		
Sunday AM:	Song Leader: Mike Bannister	Song Leader: Mike Bannister	<p>February 2018 Make Announcements: Ken Maninger Prepare Communion: James & Cindy Fuller Clean Building: Dennis Family</p> <p>March 2018 Make Announcements: Gene Bannister Prepare Communion: Allen & Linda Griffith Clean Building: Fuller / Stultz</p>	
Greeters	Mileen & Ashley Kahlich	Randy & Laura Huckaby		
Opening Prayer	Gene Bannister	Don Smith		
Communion	Don Smith*, Hank Wheeler Ryan Rudloff, Tom Wilcox	John Barnum*, Ryan Settles Ken Maninger, Chase Churchwell		
Closing Prayer	Joe Dennis	Allen Griffith		
Attendance Cards	Ian Barnum	Jaceten Evetts		
Sunday PM:	Song Leader: James Fuller	Song Leader: Rafe Smith		
Opening Prayer	Randy Huckaby	Gene Bannister		
Scripture Reading	Allen Griffith	James Thomas		
Communion	Don Smith	John Barnum		
Closing Prayer	Ken Maninger	Tom Wilcox		
Wednesday Devotionals:	February 7 Prayer Night	February 14 Joe Dennis	February 21 Rafe Smith	February 28 Don 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 February 4, 2018

Sunday Class **Romans 9:22**
 Wed. Class **Old Testament History: Genesis 12:7**

The Christian Home (Part 1) – Husbands and Wives

The home is the foundation of all human stability and progress.
 Two of the most cherished words in the English language are **heaven** and **home**.

I. Duties of Husband.

- Head of the household** (Eph. 5:23).
- Love his wife** (Eph. 5:25; Col. 3:19).
- Render unto his wife that which is due her (and vice versa)** (1 Cor. 7:2-3).
- Provide for and support his wife (i.e. make the living)** (1 Tim. 5:8).

II. Duties of Wife.

- Be a helper of man** (Gen. 2:18).
- Be submissive to her husband** (Eph. 5:22; 1 Pet. 3:5-6).
- Bear children** (Gen. 3:20).
- Keep the home** (Titus 2:3-5).
- Notice Solomon's description in Proverbs 31:10-31 of the excellent wife.**

III. Rules of a Happier Marriage.

- Strive to live up to your marital duties (Eccl. 9:10).
- Make marriage a companionship/comradeship (Gen. 2:18).
- Show an interest in your spouse and in his/her work (Phil. 2:4).
- Be unselfish. Love "seeks not its own". (1 Cor. 13:5)
- Beware of jealousy (Prov. 6:34).
- Be tolerant (Matt. 7:3).
- Be pleasant (Prov. 16:24).
- Keep a merry heart (Prov. 15:13).
- Hear a matter completely before you answer it (Prov. 18:13).
- Speak fitting words (Prov. 25:11).
- Be slow to anger (Prov. 16:32a).
- Exercise self-control (Prov. 16:32b).
- Be forgiving (Col. 3:13).
- "Do not let the sun go down on your wrath" (Eph. 4:26).
- Practice the Golden Rule (Matt. 7:12).
- A higher level of happiness in marriage can be assured by common interests, shared friendships, harmony in recreational activities, generous use of affectionate words, agreement as to the use of money, and regular attendance at church services.

Galatians 1:11-24 – Paul's Gospel & Apostleship Divinely Derived

I. Paul's Defense of His Apostleship and the Gospel (Chapters 1-2).

B. Paul's Gospel and Apostleship Divinely Derived (1:11-24).

- Paul's Gospel** (11-12).
 - It is not of man** (11). The gospel is not compiled by any human authority, reasoning, or logic.
 - Paul's message came from God (who cannot lie or contradict Himself).
 - If these false teacher's message contradicts Paul's message, can it also be from God? No!
 - It is not from man** (12). The gospel was communicated to Paul by none other than Jesus Christ.
 - It is an announcement from God of what lies beyond human knowledge or reach.
 - How could Moses write about creation, the life of Abraham, etc.? Revelation.
- Paul's Apostleship** (1, 13-24).
 - Paul's pre-conversion activities** (13-14).
 - His cruelty toward Christians** (13): He persecuted Christians.
 - His commitment to Judaism** (14): As a very religious Jew he followed all the laws and customs.
 - Paul's post-conversion activities** (15-24).
 - His choosing by God** (15-16): He was chosen before he was born, and the Son was revealed to him.
 - His travels from Arabia to Damascus** (17).
 - Here Paul shows that he could not have learned of the gospel of Christ in any ordinary way:
 - After conversion he went away to Arabia instead of going up to Jerusalem to learn from those who were apostles before he was an apostle.
 - His travels from Damascus to Jerusalem** (18-20): Three years after his conversion, he went to Jerusalem and met with Peter and James, the Lord's brother, for 15 days.
 - His travels from Jerusalem to Syria and Cilicia** (21-24).