

# 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



May 6, 2018

## Contact Us:

3201 4th Street  
Brownwood, TX 76801

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office@4thstreetcoc.org

## 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.

## Every Person Goes to Church Every Sunday

Church attendance can be a touchy subject. In a world that seems busier than ever, making it on Sunday mornings can be tough. But for those who make it a priority, worship isn't something to be missed. Others, however, don't seem to grasp the importance of prioritizing Sunday morning. Obviously I'm not talking about the sick, the infirm, or those who are kept away on occasion by unusual circumstances. It's those who make a habit of missing, and who do so by choice. But the fact is, on those Sundays that they missed, they didn't skip church. They just worshiped at another church.

**For some, the bed is their other church.** Saturday night ran over with movies or friends or whatever else was going on, and so Sunday morning will be spent worshipping another hour of sleep. Monday's work and school won't be preempted for sleep, so God is the one who gets placed on the back burner.

**For some, work is their other church.** There are certainly those who are caught in a work arrangement that doesn't allow them the time for gathering with their church family each Sunday, but there are also those who have the choice and decide to take the extra shift. For those folks who have a choice and neglect worshipping God, Sundays are spent worshipping a few extra bucks instead.

**For some, sports are their other church.** Whether it's the big game on TV or the youth sports a family is involved in, when sports win out over assembling with the saints, they've become a church of their own.

**For others, leisure activities are their other church.** The weather is great and it's a perfect opportunity to go fishing/camping/riding/etc. God is important most Sundays, but every now and then He just needs to take a back seat to the opportunity to go have some fun somewhere else.

The Old Testament makes it abundantly clear that God has no interest in a relationship where He isn't prioritized. Malachi 1 shows how God feels when His people are content to offer Him leftovers: *"Oh that there were one among you who would shut the doors, that you might not kindle fire on my altar in vain! I have no pleasure in you, says the Lord of hosts, and I will not accept an offering from your hand"* (v.10, ESV).

If God only gets the Sundays that aren't occupied by something "more important" or something that you'd rather be doing, you're serving Him leftovers. He loves you, and He wants a relationship with you so much that He was willing to die for you... but He's not interested in leftovers.

Which church will you be attending this Sunday?

Jack Wilkie (focuspress.org)



But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law. And those who are Christ's have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.

Galatians 5:22-25

# What is Sin?

What is sin? Sin may be doing wrong; equally, it may be not doing right. While being tempted is not sin, both doing wrong and contemplating wrong could be sinful. While this first answer might sound a bit vague, the Bible is very specific about what sin is. That detail is provided by the Bible's simple descriptions of sin.

## First, "all unrighteousness is sin" (1 John 5:17).

The statement sounds simple, and really, it actually is as simple as it sounds. That which is not righteous is necessarily unrighteous and all that is unrighteous is, therefore, sin. The word unrighteousness, the Greek *adikia* (ἀδικία), is defined by Strong as "(legal) injustice (properly the quality, by implication the act); moral wrongfulness (of character, life or act): iniquity, unjust, unrighteousness, wrong." Thayer more succinctly defined it "unrighteousness of heart and life." 1 John 5:17 reveals that doing wrong is sin.

**Second, "sin is the transgression of the law" (1 John 3:4).** This is another statement which sounds simple, and really is as simple as it sounds. This differs from the first, though, by showing that there is a standard at play. There is a Divine Authority, God, and that Divine Authority has revealed to man the Standard under which man must live and by which he will be held accountable, the Bible. Sin is going beyond the law of the Standard. Worthy of note is this point, however: Not all of the Bible serves as man's Standard today. The Bible student will remember that there have been three time periods in man's history: first, that from the Creation to the giving of the Law of Moses; second, that from Sinai until the Law of Christ was put into effect (Jos. 8:31; cf Acts 13:38,39); and, third, the current one under the Law of Christ (Gal. 6:2). Man is only amenable to the Law of Christ; however, the Old Testament retains great value (Rom. 15:4; cf 3:1,2) – albeit without authority over Christians (Col. 2:14). 1 John 3:17 reveals that violating God's law is sin.

**Third, to know to do good, but not to do it is sin (Jas. 4:17).** This also is as simple as it sounds. Doing

wrong is wrong, and doing that which is forbidden is wrong; James added another important element: Not doing right is also wrong. Man has not only received "Thou shalt not's" but also "Thou shalt's"; to not do the "Thou shalt's" is equally sinful as committing the "Thou shalt not's"! The sinful world has "clearly seen" "the invisible things of [God] from creation," but does not know Him, has not glorified Him, and has not been thankful [none of which are violations of "Thou shalt not's"]; rather, their lack of positive obedience has manifested itself in their disobedience – but even at the outset, they are "without excuse" (Rom. 1:20-23). Matthew 25:41-46 well establishes the great necessity of doing good by imposing the penalty of eternal punishment for doing it not. James 4:17 reveals that not doing right is sin.

**Fourth, "whatsoever is not of faith is sin" (Rom. 14:23).** In a context on conscience and scruples, there are instructions on how to handle the subject of eating meat which has been offered to idols [ultimately, in a companion passage, Paul concluded such eating was fine, since the idols were nothing and the false gods were nothing (1 Cor. 8:4)]. Two things are especially important for the one considering eating of such: first, one must try not to "put a stumbling block or an occasion to fall in his brother's way" (Rom. 14:13) – that is, not be the reason that the brother would sin or be weakened (Rom. 14:21); second, one must make sure that he has not violated his own faith (Rom. 14:22) – that is, if the one thinks there may be something wrong with eating such and would be violating his own conscience by doing such, he needed to avoid it (Rom. 14:23). When one is not sure whether a certain course is safe or not, he should avoid it altogether if for no other reason than conscience-sake! Romans 14:23 reveals that violating one's conscience is sin.

Sin is doing wrong; sin is violating God's law; sin is not doing right; and sin is violating one's own conscience. May these simple principles always be in the minds of the righteous.

*Daniel F. Cates* (Christian Worker, May 2018, pp. 1, 7)

### 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

**May 6** 2 Chronicles 5—8

**May 7** 2 Chronicles 9—12

**May 8** 2 Chronicles 13—16

**May 9** 2 Chronicles 17—20

**May 10** 2 Chronicles 21—24

**May 11** 2 Chronicles 25—28

**May 12** 2 Chronicles 29—32 (video)

**May 13** 2 Chronicles 33—36

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

(2 Timothy 2:15)



**Visitation Meeting**

- ◆ Each Sunday night immediately before the evening worship. Last week **30 contacts** were made.

**Announcements**

- ◆ **First Sunday Fellowship Meal** following this morning's worship.
- ◆ We sent a special contribution of \$1,160 to **Cherokee Home for Children** for Cherokee Day, in addition to our regular monthly contribution. \$1,000 from the general fund and \$160 from individual contributions.
- ◆ We will be having a **Graduation Celebration** for our high school graduating seniors (Mattison Churchwell, Shannon Dennis, Lunday Maninger, and Canyon Edwards) next Sunday evening, following services. Please plan to attend and bring each a card with your best wishes.
- ◆ Johnny and Cindy will be out of town most of the week, including Wednesday evening, attending Focal Point at San Marcos. Available via cell-phone.

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

- ◆ May 13—Graduation Celebration.
- ◆ August 14—Host Summer Youth Series.
- ◆ October 14-17—Fall Gospel Meeting with Jacob Rutledge.

**Other Upcoming Opportunities to Learn and Grow**

- ◆ May 5-10—Focal Point @ University (San Marcos).
- ◆ May 12—Ladies' Day @ Dublin, "Generations Joined in Jesus"
- ◆ May 19-20—Lovely Lectures.
- ◆ May 23-28—Young Men's Development Conference @ College Station (BSC Church of Christ)
- ◆ June 17-21—Lakes Shore Drive Junior Camp (Grades 2-7)
- ◆ June 24-28—Junior Camp
- ◆ July 15-20—Senior Camp
- ◆ Aug. 3-5—Discipleship University (Dripping Springs)

## He Can't Deliver

What did Satan promise Eve?

He promised her that if she ate the fruit she would become like a goddess. "God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened and you will be like God, knowing good and evil" (Genesis 3:5). Talk about promising a woman the moon and the stars!

But what did he actually give her? Genesis notes that when they ate the fruit they "knew that they were naked" (Genesis 3:7). Well, they had information for sure, but short of the knowledge God possesses.

You see, Satan promises us the sun and the moon and the stars, but he does not deliver. While sin does provide pleasures, it is nothing as magnificent as that which it promises. It's a little like junk food. We smell it cooking and think we're going to get some magnificent cuisine. Sin, like junk food, is easily accessible, leaves you craving more, never truly fills you up, and, note this, making it a habit will kill you.

I think of the adverts that show compelling and cool people drinking alcohol. They're having so much fun together! They're so sophisticated! Tomorrow they will be so hung over!

Or the dramas on television depicting adultery. They're so in love! They've found such solace in each other! Tomorrow their families will be broken, children disorientated and frightened. There's what we see in the here and now, the allure of sin, and what takes place down the road and around the corner, the heartbreak and, it still stings.

Moses chose to serve God rather than enjoy the pleasures of sin "for a time" (Hebrews 11:25). Sin's promises are saccharine sweet, insubstantial as Jell-O, and just as hollow. Instead, find genuine fulfillment in the Lord.

Stan Mitchell (forthright.net)

## Celebrate

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

**May Birthdays:** Aliyah Rayon (3), Ian Barnum (5), **Rosa Fuller (6), Barbara Bannister (10)**, Pam Teague (14), Billy Chism (15), Caitlin Settles (15), Gracen Hardy (30).

**May Anniversaries:** Joe & Lasha Dennis (6), Ryan & Tammy Rudloff (7).

Mistakes? Left Out? Let Johnny know...



## Records

	Apr. 22, 2018	Apr. 29, 2018
Bible Class	50	50
AM Worship	67	61
PM Worship	48	57
Wednesday PM	43	45
Contribution	\$2,451	\$2,130



	This Week: 5/5/18	Next Week: 5/12/18		
<b>Sunday AM:</b>	Song Leader: Mike Bannister	Song Leader: Mike Bannister	<p><b>May 2018</b>  <b>Make Announcements:</b>                      James Fuller  <b>Prepare Communion:</b>                      James &amp; Cindy Fuller  <b>Clean Building:</b>                      Mike &amp; Patti Bannister</p> <p><b>June 2018</b>  <b>Make Announcements:</b>                      Don Smith  <b>Prepare Communion:</b>                      Allen &amp; Linda Griffith  <b>Clean Building:</b>                      Randy &amp; Laura Huckaby</p>	
<b>Greeters</b>	Tom & Carol Wilcox	Allen & Linda Griffith		
<b>Opening Prayer</b>	Tom Wilcox	Gene Bannister		
<b>Communion</b>	Don Smith*, Larry Petty James Thomas, Jack Turner	John Barnum*, Hank Wheeler Rafe Smith, Ryan Rudloff		
<b>Closing Prayer</b>	Randy Huckaby	Allen Griffith		
<b>Attendance Cards</b>	Jaceten Evetts	Aaron Smith		
<b>Sunday PM:</b>	Song Leader: Joe Dennis	Song Leader: Tom Wilcox		
<b>Opening Prayer</b>	Gene Bannister	Randy Huckaby		
<b>Scripture Reading</b>	Allen Griffith	James Fuller		
<b>Communion</b>	Don Smith	John Barnum		
<b>Closing Prayer</b>	Ryan Rudloff	Ken Maninger		
<b>Wednesday Devotionals:</b>	May 9 Joe Dennis	May 16 Rafe Smith	May 23 Don Smith	May 30 5 <sup>th</sup> Wednesday Video

## 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 May 6, 2018

Sunday Class ..... **Romans 11:26**  
 Wed. Class ..... **TBA**

#### Responding to Our Culture: Not as a Zealot

Text: Romans 6-15 – 7:6

Fire comes to mind as we enter into a discussion of zeal or being a zealot. Fire can be a useful tool or an utter terror.

#### I. The Message.

A. Most people do not mind being described as a person with zeal (a normal enthusiasm for an object or a cause) – however, most would not want to be called a zealot (one whose zeal is abnormal or to the extreme).

- Zeal is necessary (Jn. 2:13-17; Gal. 4:18) – however, a fanatical zealot attitude is detrimental to our goal of evangelizing the world.
- Zealousness is detrimental when it is zealousness for the wrong thing (Rom. 10:1-3; Gal. 1:14; Rom. 6:15-7:6).
- Zealousness is detrimental when it is for the right thing, but by the wrong method.

2. Zealousness is like fire as a useful tool – zealotry is like fire as an utter terror.

#### B. Elements of zeal as a useful tool.

- Fire is useful when it is controlled (Jas. 3:5-6, 13-14).
- Fire is useful when it is concentrated.

#### C. Emphasis of zeal as a useful tool.

- Our zeal can be focus in the wrong place and not address the real, underlying issue: the heart.
- Our country can pass laws to regulate behavior, but without a change of heart, such is doomed to failure.

#### D. Effect of zeal as a useful tool.

- When men's hearts are changed, their attitudes and behaviors will be changed.
- Men will then "walk in the newness of life" (Rom. 6:4).

#### II. The Application.

##### A. Let us peruse our perception.

- There is a difference in how we see ourselves and how others see us.
- A thermostat for zeal can be found in 2 Timothy 2:24-26.

##### B. Let us be zealous and not zealots.

- When dealing with others, always "aim for the heart" in humility and love.

#### Walking By the Spirit (2) – Galatians 5:22-26

III. The Christian Walk (Chapters 5-6).

##### C. Walking by the Spirit (5:16-26).

##### 3. "The Fruit of the Spirit" (22-23).

- But serves as an adversative and contrasts what has come before with what comes after.
  - Paul shifted from warning of "works of the flesh" (19-21) to promote the fruit of the spirit – instead of vices, he began to discuss virtues.
  - A tree bears fruit according to its kind.
- Love.
- Joy – a noun expressing the idea of gladness, delight, or happiness.
- Peace.
- Longsuffering.
- Kindness – can also be "uprightness", "goodness", and/or "generosity".
- Goodness.
- Faithfulness.
- Gentleness – other translations include "humility" and "meekness".
- Self-control.
- Against such there is no law – referring to the entire list of virtues.

##### 4. The Spirit's Victory over the Flesh (24-25).

- And those who are Christ's have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires – this is not accomplished through human power.
- "Flesh" here basically means the nature of man in his fallen state.
- When Paul spoke of "the flesh", he was referring to the entire list of "the works of the flesh" enumerated in 5:19-21.
- The Christians in Galatia had died to sin when they were united with Christ by putting Him on in baptism - therefore, Paul instructed them, *If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.*

##### 5. Paul's Admonition to the Brethren (26).

- Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.
- "Let us not become conceited" = "Let us quit being conceited".
- "Provoking" literally means "call out to someone to come forward" – suggests "combat or rivalry".