

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 20, 2018

Contact Us:

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325-646-7102

www.4thstreetcoc.org
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Meeting Times:

Sunday:

Bible Study9:45 AM
Worship10:40 AM
Care, Inc. Service 2:30 PM
Worship 6:00 PM

Wednesday:

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

The Blessing and Challenge of Graduation

"Choose this day whom you will serve" (Joshua 24:15).

High school graduation is a rite of passage unlike any other. You move from being treated like a child (legally) to being counted an adult, both in society and in any academic setting you might enter. Colleges aren't even allowed to discuss your grades with your parents apart from your consent. Childhood is over. Adulthood beckons. How should you respond to the blessing and challenge?

1. Own Your Faith.

If you come from a Christian home, you have benefited tremendously from a host of supportive circumstances (household rules, numerous protections, church life). Testing awaits as you enter the world. It won't be enough to ride the coat tails of your parents' faith. If you're not sure about Christianity, now is the time to settle the matter (Ecclesiastes 12:1). Christianity is a faith unlike any other because it's based on historical events that were verifiable to thousands of people in Christ's day (1 Corinthians 15:3-6, 12-14) — some of whom died for what they would have known to be false, had it been false. If you have doubts, ask away. The existence of God, the reliability of the Bible, the resurrection of Jesus, Jesus being the only way to God, the one true blood bought church — there is a wealth of material which addresses these and other questions.

But do you *want* to base your life on Jesus Christ? You'll soon encounter new opportunities to misuse God's good gifts in ways that seem alluring — that seem to offer immediate pleasure. Will you believe the lie that God is a cosmic killjoy, out to rob you from experiencing the good things of life (Genesis 3:6)? Or will you trust that the One who made you knows best, that his rules are an expression of his love, and that his ways lead to your greatest happiness (Psalm 16:11)?

2. Own Your Relationships.

The Christian faith is lived out in community. So you'll need to find a good congregation of the Lord's church and become an active part of it. Somewhere you can worship, learn, grow, and serve. Somewhere you can form friendships and where you can be a friend. Check out potential congregations thoroughly (ask for your parent's help). Unfortunately, just because it says "Church of Christ" on the outside does not guarantee that is what you will find inside. Make church attendance a priority early. It's a harder habit to form later.

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Let us know if you want to study
the Bible to know more about
Christ and His Church.



"And do not be afraid of their threats, nor be troubled." But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear; having a good conscience, that when they defame you as evildoers, those who revile your good conduct in Christ may be ashamed. **1 Pet. 3:14b-16**

I Shall Not Be Moved

I shall not be moved. From what will we not be moved?

We will not be moved from faith in God, His Son and the Holy Spirit. Just as a child, we hold dear the same knowledge that the world was planned by God, made for Him and created by Him. Telling a child about God making the world and declaring each day’s creation as “*Good*” is a time of joy and amazement. Explaining the true account of how the world began and who God is to an adult who was deprived of this information as a child actually is as exciting to the teacher as it is to the student hearing the truth for the first time. Colossians 1:16 reads, “*For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him.*”

We will not be moved from the knowledge that Jesus is the Christ, the One who, with the Father, created all things. The proof of His Deity is revealed to us by the words of God Himself who claimed such with audible words. “*And suddenly a voice came from heaven, saying, ‘This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased’*” (Matthew 3:17).

We know Jesus is the Son because He fits every prediction uttered by prophets for hundreds of years. The miracles He performed demonstrated perfect teamwork with God. The song, “I Believe in the One They Call Jesus,” sounds forth our Christian confidence. He walked on the water, stilled storms, healed the sick, gave hearing to the deaf, gave speech to the mute and put back on severed ears. Demons obeyed His command to come out, and He restored sanity to others.

We will not be moved from the knowledge that Jesus willingly took our sins on the cross and paid our debt! How can we ever thank Him enough? To be relieved of the guilt of our sins is so priceless that we should happily live a lifetime of gratitude and service

to our Lord. “Amazing grace, how sweet the sound,” one hymn resounds. Jesus ransomed the saved from their sins (Mark 10:44).

Joy and peace come from knowing that God will remember our sins **no more** after we meet Jesus’ blood in baptism. “Oh, what a Savior” we declare in song, but our behavior should demonstrate our gratitude. Jesus called upon mankind to become like children who want to come to Him.

Christians will not be moved from the hope given by the promises in the Bible. Our home in Heaven was planned by Him, made for Him and His family, and is being created by Him. “*I go to prepare a place for you*” (John 14:2). He promised that Heaven has no death or decay, no pain, no tears, no darkness and no sin. These promises are for everyone who seeks Him, and that is what makes this life worth living. Heaven is a wonderful place, full of God’s glory and grace.

As a member of His family we will not be moved from the principles of Christian living given in the Bible. “*But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control*” (Galatians 5:22-23). “*And now abide faith, hope, love, these three; but the greatest of these is love*” (1 Corinthians 13:13).

Go to a public place and notice children who are in a loving relationship with all sorts of people—giving no thought to wrinkled or smooth skin, young and old, red, yellow, black or white, men and women, educated and uneducated, wealthy or not, model thin or not, dressed in latest style or not, but clinging to the One who cares for them. **Jesus is our caretaker and we, as family, will not move from His care.** The apostle Peter wrote, “*casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you*” (1 Peter 5:7).

Let each child of God resolve, “*I shall not be moved*” (Psalm 16:8; 62:6). Is that your resolve now?

Maxie Fortner (Gospel Gazette Online, May 2018, p. 6)

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 20 Nehemiah 11—13

May 21 Esther 1—4

May 22 Esther 5—10

May 23 Job 1:1—5:16 (videos)

May 24 Job 5:17—8:22

May 25 Job 9:1—12:12

May 26 Job 12:13—16:10

May 27 Job 16:11—20:11

“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 **38 contacts** were made.

Announcements

- ◆ **Lunday Maninger** and **Mattison Churchwell** will be graduating from Brownwood High School Friday evening, 7:00pm, at the Brownwood Coliseum.
- ◆ The **Dennis Family** will be hosting an **Open House** Saturday afternoon, 2:00-5:00pm, at their home, in honor of Shannon's graduation.
- ◆ **Brandi Kite** needs someone to take care of her puppy while she is away for a few weeks.
- ◆ There is a new *The Spiritual Sword* available on the back table, "Hardeman's Tabernacle Sermons."

Upcoming Special Events at 4th & Stewart

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

Other Upcoming Opportunities to Learn and Grow

- ◆ 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)

(Continued from page 1)

At college, the easiest friendships aren't always the best. To become wise, you need to walk (or do life) with the wise (Proverbs 13:20). Look for others who share your commitment to the things of God and faithfully invest in them. Relational evangelism is worth pursuing, especially at college, but make sure you also nurture friendships that strengthen your faith (Proverbs 27:17). We're commanded to be salt and light (Matthew 5:13-16) — which presupposes we are salt and light. To make a difference in the world we must be different than the world. Holiness in lifestyle, combined with a gracious demeanor, provide a winsome alternative to the wasteland of hedonism and materialism that are rampant on college campuses and youth culture in general.

3. Own Your Decisions.

Assessing situations, weighing alternatives, and thinking critically are like using muscles. Flabbiness comes from disuse; strength comes through practice. The next few years are full of choices — which college (or trade) to pursue, what to study, how to pay for it, and more. It might be nice if God spoke with an audible voice at each crossroads, but that is not the case. We should pray (James 1:5). We should seek counsel from trustworthy people who know us (Proverbs 15:22). We should consider where we've been successful and what activities we enjoy, as these point to where, over time, we might be most useful in this world for the good of others and the glory of God.

Panicked that you'll miss God's will? God wants us to follow him more than we do. His moral will is revealed in the Bible. His sovereign will is revealed as we live it. So make the best decisions you can based on sound judgment, accept the consequences, learn from any missteps, and trust God to shower you with mercy and goodness (Psalm 23:6). With God no path is without difficulty and no path is without blessing.

Congratulations on your graduation. Godspeed in the days ahead. Grace be with you to the end.

Borrowed and adapted

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

	May 6, 2018	May 13, 2018
Bible Class	41	49
AM Worship	53	65
PM Worship	32	50
Wednesday PM	41	51
Contribution	\$2,052	\$2,063

	This Week: 5/20/18	Next Week: 5/27/18		
Sunday AM:	Song Leader: Mike Bannister	Song Leader: Mike Bannister	<p>May 2018 Make Announcements: James Fuller Prepare Communion: James & Cindy Fuller Clean Building: Mike & Patti Bannister</p> <p>June 2018 Make Announcements: Don Smith Prepare Communion: Allen & Linda Griffith Clean Building: Randy & Laura Huckaby</p>	
Greeters	Maninger Family	Hank Wheeler & Jessica Stultz		
Opening Prayer	Ken Maninger	Gene Bannister		
Communion	Randy Huckaby*, Ryan Settles James Thomas, Tom Wilcox	Joe Dennis*, Caleb Dennis Coyce Reed, James Fuller		
Closing Prayer	James Fuller	Tom Wilcox		
Attendance Cards	Ian Barnum	Jaceten Evetts		
Sunday PM:	Song Leader: Joe Dennis	Song Leader: Ken Maninger		
Opening Prayer	Gene Bannister	Ryan Rudloff		
Scripture Reading	John Barnum	John Barnum		
Communion	Randy Huckaby	Joe Dennis		
Closing Prayer	Allen Griffith	Don Smith		
Wednesday Devotionals:	May 23 Don Smith	May 30 5 th Wednesday Video	June 6 Prayer Night	June 13 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 May 20, 2018

Sunday Class **Romans 12:2**
 Wed. Class **Old Testament History: Genesis 24:60**

The Hope That is in Us – 1 Peter 3:15

But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear.

I. The Text.

- The verse appears in a context dealing with suffering as a Christian.
- In the midst of these statements regarding potential suffering, Peter exhorts his readers to "sanctify" (set apart) "the Lord God in your hearts".
- Peter likewise exhorts his readers to "always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you".

II. What is Involved in Being Ready?

- It is said of Ezra that he, "...had prepared his heart to seek the law of the lord, and to do it, and to teach statutes and ordinances in Israel" (Ezra 7:10).
- In order to be ready we must study – we must know what we believe and why we believe it.
- To be prepared to give a defense of these and other matters pertaining to our ultimate hope of glory, we must "give diligence to present [ourselves] approved to God" (2 Tim. 2:15) – this involves regularly reading and studying the Scriptures.

III. Some Reasons for Our Hope.

- First, God has spoken (Heb. 1 :1-2), and because He cannot lie (Heb. 6:18) we have His word as a sure basis for our hope.
- Second, the blood of Christ makes it possible for us to have hope.
- Third, we have hope because of the glorious resurrection of Christ.
- Fourth, we have a tremendous hope because God has sealed us as his children with the Holy Spirit.
- Fifth, because of our own steadfastness we can be people of hope.

IV. Attitude with Which We Must Make the Defense.

- Peter says we are to give our defense "with meekness and fear".
- Christians should respond with care.

Let us know what we believe and why we believe it.

Let us always be ready to give a defense of what we believe and for the hope that we have in Christ.

Let us give this defense with meekness and fear, yet with boldness and assurance.

Concluding Remarks – Galatians 6:11-18

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

E. Concluding Remarks (6:11-18).

- "My Letter is Important!"** (11).
 - As Paul draws the letter to a close, he called special attention to what he was writing – not to the content, but to the document itself.
 - Paul drew attention to the fact that he was writing in "large letters" with his "own hand".
 - Even though Paul used scribes, he would write the concluding remarks in his own script.
 - It was important that the apostle's correspondence could be identified as having genuinely come from him.
- "Neither Circumcision nor Uncircumcision is Anything!"** (12-16).
 - Before finishing his letter, Paul returns his attention to the threat of the Judaizers: "As many as desire to make a good showing in the flesh, these would compel you to be circumcised".
 - Paul showed the futility of such a position when he stated that "not even those who are circumcised keep the law" (13).
 - The Judaizers were insisting on circumcision not to obey the Law fully – but "that they may boast in your flesh".
 - In contrast to the Judaizers, Paul asserted, "But God forbid that I should boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ" (14).
 - Paul concluded his discussion, "For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision avails anything, but a new creation" (15).
 - "And as many as walk according to this rule, peace and mercy be upon them, and upon the Israel of God" (16).
- "I Am an Apostle and Servant of Christ!"** (6:17).
 - "From now on let no one trouble me".
 - "For I bear in my body the marks of the Lord Jesus".
- "The Lord's Grace Be with You, Brethren!"** (6:18).
 - Paul concluded his letter by writing, "Brethren, the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. Amen".
 - These words call us back again to Paul's initial greeting to these brethren in 1:3.