

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 19, 2019

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

John Barnum

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

Worship in Spirit and in Truth

Worshipping God is a matter of great importance and great significance, as is clearly seen in God's word. Jesus taught on worship (John 4:19-26). Paul, on Mars Hill, preached on worship (Acts 17:22-31). The second recorded controversy between God and man was over worship (Gen. 4).

There needs to be more preaching and teaching on Christian worship, because you look around and it seems that many people, evidently, do not enjoy worship, because they are late in coming, they are early to leave, they seem bored, and they don't participate. Someone once said, "Too many church services start at 11:00 dull – then the clock strikes 12 noon and the church gives up her dead."

John 4:24 is the classic text on Christian worship, and an analysis of this text reveals important truths concerning scriptural worship.

Absolute of Christian Worship – Must. The word "must" is a modifier. The Bible teaches that: 1) Faith is a must (Heb. 11:6); 2) Baptism is a must (Mark 16:16) and 3) Worship is a must (John 4:24). We can no more omit the "must" in worship than we can the "must" in baptism or faith. The word "must" is the strongest word in English. "Must" is heaven's imperative – It is the Master's mandate. There is no choice in breathing if you want to live. There is no choice in worshipping – that is, if you want to live spiritually – it is a must.

The word "must" modifies three elements that constitute Christian worship. "Must" modifies the object of worship – Him. "Must" modifies the attitude of worship – spirit. "Must" modifies the standard of worship – truth. Thus, the object, the attitude, and the standard of Christian worship are vital – they are a must.

Action of Christian Worship – Worship. Webster defines "worship" as "courtesy or reverence to worth; hence honor and respect. An act of paying divine honors to deity; religious reverence or homage." The most commonly used Greek word translated "worship" is *proskuneo*, and means "to kiss the hand to (towards) one, in token of reverence ... to fall upon the knees and touch the ground with the forehead as an expression of profound reverence" (Thayer).

True worship entails participation. We must be participants – not spectators. In true worship we are not the audience – God is. Our aim, then, should be to please God. Some say, "I just don't get anything out of worship." This shows they have a false concept of worship. If you are not getting anything out of worship it is because you are not putting enough into it. Mere attendance must never be equated with worship (Matt. 15:8). Worship is drawing nigh unto God – not the church building.

(Continued on page 2)



If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth. For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ *who* is our life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory. **Colossians 3:1-4**

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

(Continued from page 1)

Aim of Christian Worship – Him. The Bible brilliantly teaches us that God is to be the sole object of our worship (Ex. 20:1-5; Matt. 4:9-10). Since God is the exclusive object of our worship, this would exclude all else as an object of worship – e.g. angels, Pope, etc. Remember, in Christian worship God is the audience.

Attitude of Christian Worship – Spirit. New Testament worship is spiritual. We are to offer up spiritual sacrifices (1 Pet. 2:5). We are to draw nigh unto God with a true heart, in full assurance of faith (Heb. 10:22). Our worship is to be rendered with grace in our heart unto the Lord (Col. 3:17; Eph. 5:19). New Testament worship must come from the heart: “...singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord” (Eph. 5:19), “singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord” (Col. 3:16), and we are to worship God “acceptably with reverence and godly fear” (Heb. 12:28). Are we worshipping in spirit when we sing: “I want to be a soul winner for Jesus” and yet, never talk to the lost about Jesus? Are we worshipping in spirit when we sing: “More about Jesus would I know” and yet, seldom study our Bible? Are we worshipping in spirit when we sing: “All to Jesus I surrender” and yet, give not as we have prospered?

Authority of Christian Worship – Truth. What is truth? – God’s word is truth (John 17:17). Compare also Colossians 3:17 and 1 Peter 4:11. God harshly condemns worship that is not according to truth (Lev. 10:1-2). God authorizes 5 items of worship: Singing (1 Cor. 14:15); Praying (Acts 2:42); Preaching (Acts 20:7); Lord’s Supper (1 Cor. 11:20-30); Giving (1 Cor. 16:1-2). All acts of worship must be carried out as God has commanded. God will not accept our worship unless it is offered on His terms.

Worship should be the highlight of each week’s activity for the Christian. Coming to worship should be a top priority in our Christian walk. Nothing must prevent us from worshipping acceptably.

Tom Moore (Christian Worker, May 2019, pp. 1, 7)

Five Actions of Worship

We gather in worship to honor God. The origin of our English word for worship is found in the acknowledgement of worth or worthiness. We find that the Biblical words translated as worship carry the literal meaning to “kiss toward” or “prostrate oneself”. Service to God requires a humble attitude (Ps. 95:6; Micah 6:8). It is never within our authority to decide what qualifies as worship. Let God’s Word lead the way and you will find acceptable actions of worship.

Prayer: When Isaiah prophesies about the New Testament church, he refers to it as a house of prayer (Isa 56:7). The Bible teaches Christians to be a prayerful people (Luke 18:1; Acts 12:5; 1 Thess. 5:17). It has been said that scripture is God’s communication to us, and prayer is our communication to God. The blessing of prayer is our means of making requests and expressing our gratitude (Phil. 4:6-9; Col. 4:2-4). We need prayer to keep our minds and hearts centered on godly things (Matt. 26:41; Eph. 3:14-21). Christians also have prayer as a way back to God, finding forgiveness and restoration (Acts 8:22; Jas. 5:16; 1 John 1:9). From the earliest days of the church, we find men and women continuing steadfastly in prayer to grow closer to God and one another (Acts 2:42).

Singing: We use songs of praise to glorify God, declaring His goodness and thanking Him for it (Ps. 100:1-5). Although we certainly enjoy the song service, it is important for us to remember our goal is not entertainment. We seek to honor God and to please Him. We cannot let others do our worship for us. Choirs and solos do not fulfill the command for us to sing. The focus should be on the meaning of the words and understanding the truth of God (1 Cor. 14:15). In the worship assembly we do not offer God an empty instrument, meaningless hum, or worthless clap – rather the fruit of our lips (Heb. 2:12; 13:15). In this way, each worshipper will vocally and verbally teach and admonish one another (Eph. 5:19; Col. 3:16). Singing from the heart can preach a powerful message, especially in times of hardship (Acts 16:25).

Lord’s Supper: Also referred to as communion, this is the primary purpose for the church assembling each Sunday (Acts 20:7). Jesus explained for His followers that the unleavened bread represents His body and the fruit of the vine represents His blood (Matt. 26:26-28). Paul repeats this instruction for the church in Corinth and explains how the Lord’s Supper is far more important than a common meal (1 Cor. 11:17-34). The communion, or literally fellowship, that Christians have

(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

video.wvbs.org/access/interactive-bible-reading-plan/

May 19 Deuteronomy 7—9

May 20 Deuteronomy 10—12

May 21 Deuteronomy 13—15

May 22 Deuteronomy 16—18

May 23 Deuteronomy 19—21

May 24 Deuteronomy 22—24

May 25 Deuteronomy 25—27

May 26 Deuteronomy 28—30

“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 **47 contacts** were made.

Announcements

- ◆ Ladies—There will be a **Ladies Meeting** immediately after services **this evening** concerning Ladies' Day.
- ◆ **Jessica Dennis' Graduation Party** is Saturday at the Dennis' home—2-5 pm (come and go).

Upcoming Special Events at 4th & Stewart

- ◆ June 1—End of School Game Night / Graduation Party
- ◆ August 6—We host Summer Youth Series
- ◆ Oct. 27-30—Fall Gospel Meeting w/ Bryan Braswell

Other Upcoming Opportunities to Learn and Grow

- ◆ May 28-31—Gospel Meeting @ Meridian w/ Ross Haffner
- ◆ June 5-9—Men's Development Conference (College Station)
- ◆ June 23-27—Junior Camp.
- ◆ July 14-19—Senior Camp.
- ◆ August 16-22—Polishing the Pulpit (Sevierville, TN)
- ◆ Oct. 4-6—Texas Ladies in Christ Retreat @ Brady

(Continued from page 2)

is not just with each other; it includes our Lord (1 Cor. 10:16-17; Matt. 26:29). Around the Lord's Table, we unite in our worship. We bring honor and respect to the sacrifice of Jesus as we remember what He suffered on our behalf (Luke 22:19-20).

Contribution: Sometimes simply called giving or the offering, this is one way we give back to God and the work of the kingdom. Christians donate money each Sunday to be used for church work (1 Cor. 16:1-2). In the first century, we can see the church's generosity used to support those facing poverty or disaster (Acts 11:27-30; Rom. 15:26; 2 Cor. 8:1-5). We also read about Paul's support from Christians in his mission work (Phil. 1:5; 4:15-18). Biblically, church money was also used to support widows (Acts 6:1-7; 1 Tim. 5:9, 16). The New Testament does not specify a required amount for us to give – only that it be as we purpose in our hearts, cheerfully, as we have prospered (1 Cor. 16:2; 2 Cor. 9:6-7).

Bible Teaching: Listening to preaching and learning from the truth of God is a key part of worship (Neh. 8:2-6; Acts 20:7). The powerful message of the Lord's death, burial, and resurrection brings glory to God (1 Cor. 1:18; 2:1-5). The gospel of God's grace calls for righteous living and good works, this is sound doctrine (2 Tim. 4:1-5; Tit. 2:11-14). Teaching and abiding in all of God's Word is essential for salvation (Acts 20:27; Rom. 1:16; 1 Tim. 4:16). We must make use of divine revelation and search the scriptures diligently (John 17:17; Acts 17:11; 2 Tim. 2:15). Great benefits come from the application of God's Word (Ps. 119:9, 11, 40, 97, 105; Rom. 10:17).

Human pride wants to label many things as acceptable worship, but we must offer to God only the worship which He has prescribed. Any alternative will draw the response, *"You shall not worship the LORD your God in that way..."* (Deut. 12:31). Don't make the mistake of bringing something profane and unauthorized before God (Lev. 10:1-2). Today, let us strive together to honor God with lawful actions of worship.

John Haffner (Christian Worker, May 2019, pp. 6-7)

Celebrate

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

May Birthdays: Ian Barnum (5), Rosa Fuller (6), David Milam (7), Barbara Bannister (10), 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 5, 2019	May 12, 2019
Bible Class	47	40
AM Worship	53	54
PM Worship	37	29
Wednesday PM	32	33
Contribution	\$1,790	\$2,207

Privileged To Serve

"...be ready to every good work," (Titus 3:1)

	This Week: 5/19/19	Next Week: 5/26/19		
Sunday AM:	Song Leader: Mike Bannister	Song Leader: Mike Bannister	May 2019 Make Announcements: Ken Maninger Prepare Communion: Johnny & Cindy McCaghren Clean Building: Johnny & Cindy McCaghren	
Greeters	Allen & Linda Griffith	Maninger Family		
Opening Prayer	Allen Griffith	John Barnum		
Communion	James Fuller*, Coyce Reed Randy Huckaby, Kevin Ross	Don Smith*,		
Closing Prayer	Rafe Smith	Allen Griffith		
Attendance Cards	Ian Barnum	Aaron Smith		
Sunday PM:	Song Leader: Ken Maninger	Song Leader: James Fuller		
Opening Prayer	Don Smith	Ryan Rudloff		
Scripture Reading	Ryan Rudloff	Chase Churchwell	June 2019 Make Announcements: John Barnum Prepare Communion: Maninger Family Clean Building: Dennis Family	
Communion	James Fuller	Don Smith		
Closing Prayer	John Barnum	Rafe Smith		
Wednesday Devotionals:	May 22 Don Smith	May 29 5 th 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 19, 2019

Sunday Class 1 Corinthians 4:6
 Wed. Class . **Servant Training: What Does the Lord Require of You?**

Fighting the Battle of Armageddon

All people are engaged in the Battle of Armageddon, even though they may never have studied the subject nor even have heard of this battle. The word "Armageddon" is only found once in the Bible (Rev. 16:16). To understand its meaning, we have to go to the Old Testament, where several scriptures identify and indicate that there was a mountain that was named Megiddo, and down in the valley of this mountain many key battles took place. The "battle of Armageddon" is a spiritual battle all must wage.

I. The Real Battle of Armageddon.

- A. How do we fight this battle of Armageddon?
- B. Paul begins by pointing out the strategy of this kind of warfare.
 1. We must first have a positive mind set on winning; we must fight with confidence, discipline, honor, and obedience!
 2. Having laid out a blueprint for obedience, honor, and service in our relationships (Eph. 6:1-9), Paul states, "Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might" (Eph. 6:10).
 - a. If we fight the battle based on our own abilities, we have already lost!
 - b. "I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing" (Jn. 15:5).
 - c. Before going into any battle, the mind must be prepared to deal with any and all situations (Eph. 6:11-17).
 3. Sin is our greatest enemy.

II. The Sword of the Spirit.

- A. As God's soldiers, the Bible is the most powerful weapon that we have.
- B. We cannot just sit back and allow Satan to put us on the defense.

III. Winning The Battle.

- A. We must have the positive attitude that we can and we will defeat it (1 Tim. 6:12).
- B. We must set our minds on God's instructions (Phil. 4:8).
- C. It is very difficult to fight a spiritual battle while one is lusting after the flesh (Rom. 7:14-25).
- D. One's faith must be rooted in God, in His Son, and in His Word (1 Cor. 9:24-27).
 "You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world" (1 Jn. 4:4).

The New Life in Christ

Seeking the Things Above (Col. 3:1-4)

3:1-4 serves as Paul's transition between the earlier section of his letter (1:12 - 2:23) and the latter portion of the body of his letter (3:5 - 4:6). After explaining why the Colossians were not to serve the philosophy and basic principles of the world in 2:20-23, he gave positive and negative reasons for what Christians should and should not do in 3:1-14.

- I. "If then you were raised with Christ" (1a).
 - A. The Christians in Colossae had died with Christ (2:20) and been raised with Him in baptism (2:12-13).
 - B. The conditional clause expressed with "if" in v. 1, as in 2:20, does not imply a doubt that the Colossians had been raised with Christ; rather, it gives the basis of Paul's challenge for them to follow through with the new life that began when they were raised with Christ in baptism.
- II. "Seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God" (1b).
 - A. As a result of having been raised with Christ, the Colossians were to turn their minds to spiritual matters.
 - B. In order to view their new relationship properly, they would have to take their eyes off the muck and mire of this life and actively pursue the new life.
- III. "Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth" (2).
- IV. "For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God" (3).
 - A. The Colossians were both dead and alive (2:13, 20).
 - B. Their lives had been and continued to be hidden with Christ in God.
- V. "When Christ who is our life" (4a).
 - A. In 3:1-4, Paul used the title *Christ* four times, instead of using a pronoun.
 - B. Another reason the Colossians' lives were hidden with Christ is that He is *our life*: the source, center, and wellspring of life (1 Jn. 5:12).
- VI. "When Christ ... appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory" (4b).
 - A. Paul told the Christians at Colossae that they would appear with Christ in glory when He appears.
 - B. This statement should have given the Colossians a calm assurance that their efforts to live the new life in Christ would be rewarded by glorification with Him.