

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 26, 2019

Contact Us:

3201 4th Street
Brownwood, TX 76801

325-646-7102

www.4thstreetcoc.org
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

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

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

The Great Invitation

"Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden..." (Matt. 11:28a). This is without doubt the greatest invitation that has ever been given! Of course, the One Who gave this invitation really desired and desires that everyone will accept it. "For God so loved the world..." (John 3:16). Most everyone would like to enjoy what this invitation brings—rest, forgiveness, joy, peace, love and among other wonderful blessings, an eternal home in Heaven when life as we know it is over. While it is true that we can never earn this invitation (it is freely given), each one must accept the invitation on God's terms. Sadly, not everyone has the spiritual ambition to accept our Lord's invitation. What is involved in accepting this Great Invitation?

Firstly, there must be an **awareness**. In order to accept Christ's invitation, one must be aware of his or her condition. If one is not aware that he "labors" and is "heavy laden" without acceptance of this invitation, then why would anyone "come"? On another occasion, Jesus put it this way, "...if any man thirst..." (John 7:37b). If one does not know he is thirsty, why would he seek water? Sadly, many folks are walking around "spiritually dehydrated" and never even know it! On still another occasion, Jesus said, "Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst..." (Matt. 5:6a). Until we are aware that without Christ our spiritual bellies are "growling," we can never accept the Great Invitation!

Secondly, there must be an **apprehension**. Simply stated, one must feel concerned and uneasy about his or her spiritual hunger and thirst! Sadly, some seemingly know they are lacking but are not really concerned about the remedy. Think for a minute physically. If a person is hungry, usually everything gets put on hold and life's activities somewhat cease until he or she is fed. Even when a loved one dies, we usually have a dinner and partake of necessary food. Yet, far too often, spiritual hunger takes a "backseat" to life's activities. We frequently allow the smallest interruption to keep us from our spiritual food. However, the blessing ("being filled") goes to the one who is not satisfied about being hungry and thirsty (Matt. 5:6). The blessing ("rest") goes to the one who is not content with "laboring" alone and being "heavy laden" (Matt. 11:28). It is the one who is completely dissatisfied with spiritual dehydration that is filled with "living water" (John 4:10; 7:37). We will never be filled with heaven's "bread and water" (John 6:35; 7:37) until we are no longer happy to empty!

Lastly, there must be an **action**. In the Great Invitation, the action was clear, "come" (Matt. 11:28). In John 7:37, the action was clear "come and drink." This is a personal choice on the part of each individual. This is one of the most difficult parts of sharing the message of Jesus that we often face. We desire for a certain person to obey and find this awesome storehouse of spiritual food and water, and yet, individually he or she has little or no desire. Christianity is a per-

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Who among all these does not know that *the hand of the Lord* has done this, in whose hand is the life of every living thing, and the breath of all mankind? **Job 12:9-10**

In Your hand is power and might; *in Your hand* it is to make great and to give strength to all.

1 Chron. 29:12

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sonal choice! Sadly, some make the choice not to accept Christ's invitation. While Christians plead and encourage, there is a choice each accountable person must make! We will never experience the bounty of the Lord until we make that personal choice to do so.

As John closed the Book of Revelation, some of the last words were a plea to accept Christ's invitation, "And the Spirit and the bride say, come. And let him that heareth say, come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely" (Rev. 22:17). Dear Reader, our plea and our prayer is that you will accept this invitation. Otherwise, you will miss out on the greatest feast ever. Please accept it!

Rodney Nulph (Gospel Gazette Online, May 2019, p. 2)

Are You a Faithful Christian Example?

One's example is powerful! We learn, listen and live by example. People copy what they see others doing. Notice two illustrations. In the 1934 film, *It Happened One Night*, Clark Gable removed his shirt and he wasn't wearing an undershirt! Every man wore an undershirt! It is said that the sale of undershirts in the United States dropped by 75% as a result. People copy.

The makers of the 1982 film *E.T.* approached the confectionary maker Mars about having M&Ms used in the film. Mars, for some reason, said "No." So, the film makers went to Hershey's. The result was that E.T. ate Hershey's Reece's Pieces, which were relatively unknown at the time, but sales went through the roof. People copy.

Notice Great Bible examples: Abraham had great faith (Rom. 4:20), Joseph was great in forgiving (Gen. 50:20), Moses was a great leader (Exod. 14), David was great at courage (1 Sam. 17) and Jesus is our perfect example (2 Cor. 5:21). Notice seven Habits of highly effective Christians (1 Tim. 4:12-16).

1. **Model Christian Morality** (v. 12). Our words, conduct, love, spirit, faith and purity must be demonstrated in our thoughts, words and deeds. The greatest message we will ever preach is the one we preach with our lives (1 Cor. 4:16; 11:1; Phil. 3:17; 4:9).
2. **Biblical Foundation** (v. 13). "Devote yourself" (verb) is *proseko*; it is present active indicative, which means to be continually devoted to the Word.
3. **Using God-given Ability** (v. 14). Timothy had received miraculous powers by the "laying on of hands." The miraculous age ceased at the end of the first century (1 Cor. 13:8-12). Thus, it is by application we learn to use our God-given abilities. The Parable of the Talents (Matt. 25) stresses using what God gives us and not squandering it. What God has given, let us use to His glory (1 Cor. 10:31)!
4. **Purpose Driven Life** (v. 15a). We must be entirely committed to holy living. Our purpose will determine our direction and outcome. Paul was clear about his purpose by saying, "For to me to live is Christ and to die is gain" (Phil. 1:21; Gal. 2:20).
5. **Let your Light Shine** (v. 15b). Christianity is not a passive mistake but a committed determination. Christians must stand strong, shine brightly and live faithfully. Our lives must be sterling examples of holiness for others to see and copy (1 Pet. 1:13-16).
6. **Dedicated Perseverance** (v. 16a). We must exercise endurance by examining the two great areas of life: self and Scripture. Thus, we will be powerful examples as we are seen to endure (Heb. 10:32-37)!
7. **Clear Goal** (v. 16b). Salvation is our greatest need! As we examine ourselves, endure and think eternally, our focus will be right.

Thomas Jefferson, in writing to John Adams once said, "As Christians, we must realize the world is judging Christianity by us!" (Editorial note: To my knowledge, Jefferson and Adams were not New Testament Christians, but his point is valid. J. M^c.)

Mark N. Posey (Gospel Gazette Online, May, p. 11)

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 26 Deuteronomy 28—30

May 27 Deuteronomy 31—34

May 28 Joshua 1—3

May 29 Joshua 4—6

May 30 Joshua 7—9

May 31 Joshua 10—12

June 1 Joshua 13—15

June 2 Joshua 16—18

"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 **40 contacts** were made.

Announcements

- ◆ **End of School Game Night / Graduation Party**, Saturday evening @ 6:00 in the fellowship hall. Bring finger foods, your favorite game, and encouragements for Jessica.
- ◆ **Gospel Meeting** this Tuesday—Friday @ **Meridian** with **Ross Haffner**. “*The Glory of God.*”

Upcoming Special Events at 4th & Stewart

- ◆ August 6—We host Summer Youth Series
- ◆ **Oct. 19—Ladies Day w/ Denise Surles, “Hope—The Anchor of the Soul”**
- ◆ Oct. 27-30—Fall Gospel Meeting w/ Bryan Braswell

Other Upcoming Opportunities to Learn and Grow

- ◆ 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


Please join us for a series of lessons on

THE GLORY OF GOD

Hosted by the Meridian church of Christ

MAY 28-31

7:00 PM



Guest speaker Ross Haffner

- TUESDAY: PERFECT IDENTITY
- WEDNESDAY: PERFECT JUDGMENT
- THURSDAY: PERFECT DISTINCTION
- FRIDAY: PERFECT FORGIVENESS

PLEASE JOIN US!

Meridian church of Christ
1036 Bosque St.
Meridian, TX 76665
For more information call: 254-652-4772

Celebrate

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

June Birthdays: Gracen Hardy (5/30), Mike Bannister (4), Caleb Dennis (6), Loutrell Dobbins (8), Shannon Dennis (13), John Ross (15), Donna Sublett (19), David Greer (26), Ashley Kahlich (29).

June Anniversaries: Johnny & Cindy McCaghren (8), Wayne & Mileen Kahlich (19), David & Lisa Greer (28).

Mistakes? Left Out? Let Johnny know...



Records

	May 12, 2019	May 19, 2019
Bible Class	40	37
AM Worship	54	44
PM Worship	29	33
Wednesday PM	33	38
Contribution	\$2,207	\$1,734

Privileged To Serve

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

	This Week: 5/26/19	Next Week: 6/2/19			
Sunday AM:	Song Leader: Mike Bannister	Song Leader: Mike Bannister	<p>May 2019 Make Announcements: Ken Maninger Prepare Communion: Johnny & Cindy McCaghren Clean Building: Johnny & Cindy McCaghren</p> <p>June 2019 Make Announcements: John Barnum Prepare Communion: Maninger Family Clean Building: Dennis Family</p>		
Greeters	Maninger Family	James & Cindy Fuller			
Opening Prayer	John Barnum	Randy Huckaby			
Communion	Don Smith*, Hank Wheeler Joe Dennis, Caleb Dennis	Allen Griffith*, Kevin Ross Vernon Zier, Coyce Reed			
Closing Prayer	Allen Griffith	James Fuller			
Attendance Cards	Ian Barnum	Aaron Smith			
Sunday PM:	Song Leader: James Fuller	Song Leader: Joe Dennis			
Opening Prayer	Ryan Rudloff	Ken Maninger			
Scripture Reading	Chase Churchwell	John Barnum			
Communion	Don Smith	Allen Griffith			
Closing Prayer	Rafe Smith	Don Smith			
Wednesday Devotionals:	May 29 5 th Wednesday Video	June 5 Prayer Night	June 12 Joe Dennis	June 19 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 May 26, 2019

Sunday Class 1 Corinthians 4:8
 Wed. Class Servant Training: Overcoming Stage Fright

Is It True That God Has The World in His Hands?

Almost everyone has heard the song, "He's Got The Whole World In His Hands".

- I. **The Message Is Timeless.**
 - A. Was not this the message of Jesus in Matthew 10:29-31?
 - B. No death, no change in health, or anything else can escape His attention.
 - C. The "hand" of God is anthropomorphic, a human characteristic attributed to Deity; a symbol of strength, power, might, and determination.
- II. **If it is true that God has the whole world in His hands, THEN:**
 - A. **The World Belongs To God.**
 1. "The earth is the LORD's, and all its fullness, the world and those who dwell therein" (Ps. 24:1).
 2. The earth is His, it is not ours!
 - B. **The World Is Subject To God.**
 1. He is the God of all; He is the Lord of all.
 2. "He removes kings and raises up kings" (Dan. 2:21).
 3. "These will make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb will overcome them, for He is Lord of lords and King of kings" (Rev. 17:14).
 4. "God has made this Jesus ... both Lord and Christ" (Acts 2:36).
 - C. **The World Is Ordered By God.**
 1. We see a wonderful example of such in the life of Joseph.
 2. "And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose" (Rom. 8:28).
 3. Paul "reported all that God had done with them" (Acts 14:27).
 - D. **The World Is Controlled By God.**
 1. Is this not the reason that we pray to God?
 2. "Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us" (Eph. 3:20).
 3. God is in complete control.
 - E. **The World Is Saved By God.**
 1. The conversion of the world will not be the work of our hands.
 2. The hand of God guides us, empowers us, and leads us into fields of opportunity.
 3. May we never minimize the Word of God nor look to some other source for our Power!

The New Life in Christ

Putting to Death Our immoral Past (Col. 3:5-7)

- I. **"Therefore put to death your members which are on the earth" (5a).** Paul was challenging Christians to live in the present by dying to the past; if the members of the body are dead to evil purposes, the result should be a new use and purpose for them.
- II. **"Fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire" (5b).**
 - A. By putting off these vices and putting on Christian virtues (12-14), the Colossians would develop the characteristics of the new life.
 - B. Paul first mentioned *fornication* [sexual immorality].
 1. Fornication includes every kind of unlawful sexual practice.
 2. Instead of teaching that sexual desires would no longer exist in Christians, Paul taught that these desires are to be controlled.
 - C. Sexual perversion can be included in the next two words, *uncleanness* and *passion*.
 1. "Uncleanness" [impurity] refers to something that is not clean in the sense that it is filthy and dirty, as is the refuse of the body or the contents of a grave (Mt. 23:27).
 2. "Passion" encompasses uncontrolled desires that enslave a person.
 - D. *Evil desire* – to "set one's heart" on something evil.
- III. **"And covetousness, which is idolatry" (5c).**
 - A. Covetousness refers to desiring more than one needs or is due.
 - B. Any inordinate longing to possess, own, use, or experience something makes that thing an idol.
- IV. **"Because of these things the wrath of God" (6a).**
 - A. The wrath of God is a major theme throughout the books of the OT.
 - B. The fury of God's wrath as expressed toward Israel is a warning and an assurance to those in the Christian Age that God will punish those who do not obey Him (Heb. 10:28-29).
- V. **[The wrath of God] "is coming upon the sons of disobedience" (6b).** Paul expressed the certainty of God's wrath.
- VI. **"In which you yourselves once walked when you lived in them" (7).** In the past the Colossians had followed worldly practices, but now they were to have nothing to do with such behaviors.