

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



September 29, 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)
Mission Printing
Rohan Jones, Africa
The Truth in Love
World Bible School

Doing Right in God's Eyes

The darkest days in the history of Israel were the days of the Judges. The period of Judges lasted for 450 years, and the people persisted in sin throughout those four and a half centuries (Acts 13:19-21). The Book of Judges has a cycle within it that is repeated continuously: Israel sinned; they were oppressed by their enemies; they cried out to God for deliverance; and then God sent a deliverer (judge) to the rescue. The key theme in the Book of Judges is, "*In those days there was no king in Israel, but every man did that which was right in his own eyes*" (Judg. 17:6; 21:25). No wonder the time was so dark for the people of God; there was no leadership, and every-one did what he or she thought was right.

There are many today who want to live by this philosophy, but this is a deadly motto to adopt. When people are left to themselves and reject the counsel of God, things often get worse, not better. Man is not wise enough to direct his own steps (Jer. 10:23). There is a way that seems right, but that way leads to destruction (Prov. 14:12; 16:25). Even trying to build a home without the Lord's help is an exercise in futility (Psa. 127:1). Never mind what is right in the eyes of man, but instead, we should be concerned with what is right in the Lord's eyes.

God has communicated to humanity what is right in His eyes. He does this through His Word (Psa. 119:33-34). We need our eyes opened so we can see things the way God wants (Psa. 119:18). Human understanding is often faulty, but if we trust in the Lord, He will direct our paths (Prov. 3:5-6). The world thinks that doing what is right means that we approve of every behavior and praise sin, but God says we must call evil exactly what it is and never cast approval on it (Isa. 5:20; Rom. 1:32). Some think it does not matter how we worship God as long as we are sincere, but God is looking for those who worship in spirit and according to the truth (John 4:23-24; 17:17). Many teach that truth cannot be known for sure, but Jesus assured us that we can not only know the truth, but that the truth will liberate us (John 8:32).

The days of the judges were dark. They were filled with murder, immorality and wickedness. The sad thing about the days of the judges was not simply that it was a sinful time, but that it was an extremely sinful time for God's people. Whenever we use the world's bifocals and do what is right in our own eyes, we can expect darkness, destruction and despair. Yet, when we do what is right in the eyes of God, we will have victory, triumph and His approval. Moses told Israel, "*And you shall do what is right and good in the sight of the Lord, that it may go well with you*" (Deut. 6:18).

Brian R. Kenyon (Gospel Gazette Online, Oct. 2019, p. 6)

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



And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord...because He counted me faithful, putting *me* into the ministry, although I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and an insolent man; but I obtained mercy because I did *it* ignorantly in unbelief. ... However, for this reason I obtained mercy, that in me first Jesus Christ might show all longsuffering, as a pattern to those who are going to believe on Him for everlasting life. **1 Tim. 1:12-16**

Drawing Closer in Fellowship

The apostle John, in his treatise concerning godly fellowship, clearly identified the intended consequence of penning what he penned in the Book of 1 John, "...that ye also may have fellowship with us" (1:3). He noted that not everyone who affirms that he or she is in fellowship with God speaks the truth (1:6). In his efforts to promote godly fellowship, he affirmed that such fellowship is attained and maintained conditionally (1:7) and that specific spiritual blessings will be received and enjoyed while in godly fellowship (1:7). I trust that these declarations motivate every child of God to exercise fellowship with other children of God and to also make noteworthy efforts to maintain this fellowship through the trials of the Christian life.

The biblical fellowship entertained in these remarks is both a doctrinal matter and a practical matter. Yes, the Bible teaches us concerning godly fellowship (1 John 1:3-7; Eph. 5:11), thus influencing children of God to ponder what we can do from day to day to practically enhance this fellowship in our daily lives, whether such is applied to those in our congregation or to other faithful children of God more distant. Accordingly, we ask, "What may we do to draw closer in fellowship with others in the body of Christ?" The brief answer that follows is not exhaustive but does include some practical suggestions that may assist any congregation as we seek to maintain the strength of godly fellowship. In answering this inquiry, I suggest that we may:

1. Maintain doctrinal integrity in biblical matters within all the area congregations. The requirement of this election is biblical (1 Tim. 1:3). When doctrinal integrity is maintained among fellow Christians, each child of God possesses an identical spiritual foundation from whence to launch his spiritual ship of state. Unity of fellowship is thus preserved.
2. Work side-by-side with other children of God in spiritual activities. That we are to be active in the Lord's vineyard is biblically supported (Tit. 2:14). When we work on joint biblically approved projects together in an intimate setting, we naturally draw closer to one another and our fellowship is both exercised and strengthened.

3. Forgive others and oneself as the Word of God so directs. Surely, we understand that people of God must exercise forgiveness according to divine terms (Matt. 18:21-35; Luke 17:3-4). Timely forgiveness of another prevents such a matter from promoting division among brethren and avoids unnecessary hurt being inflicted on another, hurt which will damage relationships in the context of fellowship.
4. Create opportunities for fellow Christians to enjoy meaningful experiences together. Such experiences may involve a measure of creative thinking, but the effort will be worth it as the results are measured. Simply put, the more that fellow Christians spend quality time together, the more likely they will bond more strongly together as the family of God. Families do things together in a quality manner for quality results.
5. Build and improve Christian relationships with as many faithful children of God as possible. We should never be satisfied with failed relationships. Rather, may we invest a measure of diligence in any relationship with another child of God that has been damaged or is failing so that the relationship has the best opportunity of being maintained in a quality manner. Quality efforts in this arena often make it possible to withstand forces that otherwise may not be withstood, thereby avoiding a fracturing of the congregation of the people of God.
6. Remove sin from the camp of spiritual Israel (1 Cor. 5), thereby protecting the purity of the body of Christ. Though a delicate matter, faithful Christians can do this in accord with Scripture, in a timely manner and with divinely approved intent. When sin is allowed to go unchallenged in the camp of Israel and is allowed to be as yeast in the unleavened lump of Israel, the fellowship of God will be turned into a fellowship of evil (Eph. 5:11). Unapproved things will occur in the camp of Israel when we allow sin to go unchecked in the context of fellowship.

"What will you decide to do in the near future so that the fellowship of God's people is strengthened?"

Ronald D. Reeves (Gospel Gazette Online, Oct. 2019, p. 4)

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/

Sept. 29 Psalms 102—103

Sept. 30 Psalms 104—105

Oct. 1 Psalms 106—107

Oct. 2 Psalms 108—109

Oct. 3 Psalms 110—111

Oct. 4 Psalms 112—113

Oct. 5 Psalms 114—117

Oct. 6 Psalms 118—119:24

"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

- ◆ Last week **50 contacts** were made.

Announcements

- ◆ **Gospel Meeting** this week at Bangs w/ B. J. Clarke. In addition to the regular gospel meeting times, Brother Clarke will be teaching a **special seminar Monday & Tuesday mornings, 9:30-Noon**, as well as their usual **Wednesday morning class** at 10:00. Lunch provided each day.
- ◆ Several of our ladies will be attending the **TLC (Texas Ladies in Christ) Retreat** this week at Brady.

Upcoming Special Events at 4th & Stewart

- ◆ Oct. 19—Ladies Day w/ Denise Surlis. *“Hope: The Anchor of the Soul”*
- ◆ Oct. 27-30—Fall Gospel Meeting w/ Bryan Braswell. *“Evangelism in Word and Deed”*

Other Upcoming Opportunities to Learn and Grow

- ◆ Sept. 29-Oct. 2—Gospel Meeting @ Bangs w/ B. J. Clarke. *“Back to the Bible; Prepared for the Future”*
- ◆ Oct. 3-5—Texas Ladies in Christ Retreat @ Brady.
- ◆ Oct. 6-9—Gospel Meeting @ Marlin w/ Cody Westbrook.
- ◆ Oct. 12-13—Lectureship @ Hico. *“My Favorite Sermon”*
- ◆ Oct. 13-16—Annual Lubbock Lectureship. *“Man Is Justified by Faith”*
- ◆ Oct. 18-20—ReCharge Youth Conference @ Camp Bandina. *“My Lord and my God”*
- ◆ Oct. 19-20—Back to the Bible Lectures @ Hamilton. *“Doctrines/Attitudes Troubling the Church”*
- ◆ Nov. 10-13—Annual Schertz Lectures. *“Studies in Genesis”*

BANGS CHURCH OF CHRIST

September 29—October 2, 2019

Join us as we get *“Back to the Bible”* and *“Prepared for the Future.”*



Speaker: B.J. Clarke
Director of the Memphis
School of Preaching

- Sun. 9:45 a.m. “Back to the Bible”
- Sun. 10:45 a.m. “Back to the Basics of What Life Is All About”
- Sun. 6:30 p.m. “Back to the Cross of Christ”
- Mon. 7 p.m. “Back to the Church You Read About in the Bible”
- Tues. 7 p.m. “Back to the Way that Is Right and Cannot Be Wrong”
- Wed. 7 p.m. “Prepared for the Future”

BANGS CHURCH OF CHRIST
306 5th Street
Bangs, TX

Celebrate

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

October Birthdays: Lisa Greer (5), Matthew Churchwell (7), Jo Maninger (12), Hank Wheeler (13), Tina Barnum (14).

October Anniversaries: Rafe & Becky Smith (16), Mike & Patti Bannister (27).

Mistakes? Left Out? Let Johnny know...



Records

	Sept. 15, 2019	Sept. 22, 2019
Bible Class	47	40
AM Worship	54	48
PM Worship	40	34
Wednesday PM	34	41
Contribution	\$1,917	\$1,738

	This Week: 9/29/19	Next Week: 10/6/19			
Sunday AM:	Song Leader: Mike Bannister	Song Leader: Mike Bannister	<p>September 2019 Make Announcements: Ken Maninger Prepare Communion: John Barnum Family Clean Building: John Barnum Family</p> <p>October 2019 Make Announcements: John Barnum Prepare Communion: Johnny & Cindy McCaghren Clean Building: Johnny & Cindy McCaghren</p>		
Greeters	Maninger Family	James & Cindy Fuller			
Opening Prayer	Rafe Smith	Allen Griffith			
Communion	Joe Dennis*, Caleb Dennis Coyce Reed, Don Smith	James Fuller*, Randy Huckaby Ryan Rudloff, Chase Churchwell			
Closing Prayer	Tom Wilcox	Don Smith			
Attendance Cards	Ian Barnum	Aaron Smith			
Sunday PM:	Song Leader: Ken Maninger	Song Leader: Joe Dennis			
Opening Prayer	Chase Churchwell	Kevin Ross			
Scripture Reading	Allen Griffith	Vernon Zier			
Communion	Joe Dennis	James Fuller			
Closing Prayer	James Fuller	John Barnum			
Wednesday Devotionals:	October 2 Prayer Night	October 9 Joe Dennis	October 16 Rafe Smith	October 23 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 September 29, 2019

Sunday Class 1 Corinthians 7:3
 Wed. Class Servant Training: Lord's Supper

The Showcase of Grace Can Grace Make That Much Difference?	Philemon: Thanksgiving and Prayer (4-7)
<p>Paul said, "...although I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and an insolent man...I obtained mercy...and the grace of our Lord was exceedingly abundant... [T]hat in me first Jesus Christ might show all longsuffering..." (1 Tim. 1:13-16).</p> <p>Rahab.</p> <p>A. <u>Rahab was a very worldly person.</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Rahab's vocation tells us she was not a very nice person.</u> <u>Rahab's identification tells us she was not a very nice person.</u> <u>Rahab's description tells us she was not a very nice person.</u> <p>B. <u>Rahab became a wonderful person.</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Step #1: <u>Rahab protected the spies of Israel</u> (Josh. 2:2-7). Step #2: <u>Rahab accepted the God of Israel</u> (Josh. 2:8-13). Step #3: <u>Rahab was protected by the army of Israel</u> (Josh. 6:1-25a). Step #4: <u>Rahab was accepted by the people of Israel</u> (Josh. 6:25b). <p>II. Samson.</p> <p>A. <u>Samson lived as an extremely self-serving jerk.</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Samson was an angry person</u> (Judg. 14). <u>Samson was an avenging person</u> (Judg. 15). <u>Samson was an adulterous person</u> (Judg. 16). <p>B. <u>Samson died as an extremely self-giving person</u> (Judg. 16:28-30).</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Samson prayed and was submissive to God</u> (v. 28). <u>Samson prayed and was aware of God</u> (vv. 28-29). <u>Samson prayed and was dependent on God</u> (v. 30). <p>III. Mary Magdalene.</p> <p>A. <u>Mary was, at one time, possessed of demons.</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Mary was controlled.</u> <u>Mary was consumed.</u> <u>Mary was corrupted.</u> <p>B. <u>Mary became one of the best of all disciples.</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Mary was <u>one of the last to leave Jesus' side when He died.</u> Mary was <u>one of the first and one of the last to be with the body of Jesus when it was buried.</u> Mary was <u>one of the very first people to see Jesus after His resurrection.</u> <p>IV. Peter.</p> <p>A. <u>Peter repeatedly disappointed Jesus.</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Peter was impulsive.</u> <u>Peter was abrasive.</u> <u>Peter was defensive.</u> <p>B. <u>Peter became someone that pointed people to Jesus.</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Peter pointed people to Jesus in his preaching.</u> <u>Peter pointed people to Jesus in the letter we call 1 Peter.</u> <u>Peter pointed people to Jesus in the letter we call 2 Peter.</u> <p>There are two more. "By the grace of God I am what I am" (1 Cor. 15:10).</p>	<p>Paul typically began his letters with a statement of thanksgiving and prayer. More than a mere ritual, within the thanksgiving and prayer he introduces the central themes which he will develop more fully in the body of the letter.</p> <p>I. The Text.</p> <p>A. <u>I thank my God</u> (see Rom. 1:8; 1 Cor. 1:4; Phil. 1:3).</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Making mention of you ... in my prayers.</u> Paul maintained a strong connection to the Christians he knew and the churches he had planted. <u>Always.</u> <p>B. <u>Hearing of your love and faith.</u></p> <p>C. Paul referred again to the love and faith that Philemon had toward the Lord Jesus and toward all the saints.</p> <p>D. Paul's prayer continued <u>that the sharing of your faith may become effective by the acknowledgment of every good thing which is in you in Christ Jesus.</u></p> <p>E. <u>For we have great joy and consolation in your love.</u></p> <p>F. Paul spoke of <u>the hearts of the saints.</u></p> <p>G. <u>By you, brother</u> completes the introduction of this letter.</p> <p>II. Application.</p> <p>A. <u>Sharing your faith</u> (v. 6).</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The Christian faith was never intended to be a private matter. The troubling issue that faced Philemon was not his to deal with alone. <p>B. <u>Difficult people/situations</u> (v. 6).</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Everyone has to deal with difficult people/situations; there is no escaping them. A church without difficult people/situations might seem inviting; however, difficult people/situations help us grow. The letter to Philemon brings to mind how frequently churches face interpersonal conflicts. <p>C. <u>Balance</u> (v. 7).</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> In the letter to Philemon, Paul had a difficult message to deliver. Before he got to the issue at hand, he made a few statements to affirm what Philemon was already doing right. Only after commending what Philemon was already doing was Paul ready to address what Philemon still needed to do.