

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



January 19, 2020

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)
Mission Printing
Rohan Jones, Africa
World Bible School

An Open Letter to My Millennial and Gen Z Brothers and Sisters

Thank you for opening our eyes to some serious needs to change. I know that may not be what you were expecting to hear. I know your generation has taken a beating in the media (and even in church). I am more than familiar with the Millennial stereotype. But the reality is, your generation has pointed out some things that past generations really need to hear. So I begin by offering my sincere thanks.

We really are not as different as you may think. We both want to spend eternity in heaven. We both believe in God and want to follow His commands. We both believe in Jesus Christ and want to serve Him.

We both have grown up under the shadow of previous generations. In fact, I am convinced if you were to sit at our kitchen table or maybe spend some time with me on a weekend seminar or in my garden you would realize I and my generation are not the "bad guys." We really have a lot in common.

I appreciate your zeal and your desire to serve. I can remember sitting in worship assemblies week after week and thinking to myself—"Wait, shouldn't we be getting together to actually do this stuff we are talking about? Shouldn't we be serving in soup lines, clothing the poor, helping those in need, taking His Word to the lost?" Instead, for far too many decades we sat in air-conditioned buildings and we checked off a worship list and believed we were doing enough. As a result we stopped influencing our communities—and instead the communities started influencing us.

So thank you for encouraging us to get out of our buildings and doing personal evangelism work. Thank you for encouraging us to stop building these multi-million dollar buildings, but instead use some of that money to reach out into our communities. Thank you for reminding us that traditions are just that—traditions, and not doctrine. Be patient with those who are older as we learn to get out of our comfort zone.

You are a generation that questions things, and I appreciate that. I believe if you ask questions then your faith can be much stronger than just accepting what previous generations have done. But be careful not to allow your questioning spirit to drive a wedge between you and past generations. Use that same spirit to prove to others that Christianity is real. Show those who are questioning the evidence of why we believe what we believe.

I grew up constantly hearing about the "Greatest Generation" and how awesome they were—but deep down I always questioned that. I wondered why if they were the greatest generation it was on their watch that church growth

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"A good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth good things, and an evil man out of the evil treasure brings forth evil things. But I say to you that for every idle word men may speak, they will give account of it in the day of judgment. For by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned."

Matthew 12:35-37

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



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stopped and began to decline. It was on their watch that wives left the home and never came back. It was on their watch that home Bible devotionals became almost extinct. It was on their watch that love and affection were rarely shown between fathers and their children. Simply put, I grew up with this troubling belief that the “Greatest generation” was not really the greatest.

This is where you come in. It is my sincere hope and prayer that you will be. It is my dream that your generation will bring back:

- Personal evangelism
- Church growth—both spiritual and physical
- Service to the community
- Home devotionals
- Wholesome marriages that reflect Christ and the church, and more.

So I challenge you. Become the greatest generation. Not from the world’s perspective, but God’s. Understand that in order to do this you will need to continue to remain faithful to His doctrines and His Truths. You will have to accept and teach others there is such thing as absolute truth. You will have to share with the lost their sinful condition.

But I believe you can do it. I believe you can be a light to the world. I believe you can use your talents and make an incredible impact. And given our technological age, your generation may be the one that is able to effectively put God’s Word into the hands of every single soul on the planet!

Are you up to the challenge? Are you ready to be great? I stand ready to roll up my sleeves and serve with you. We are not on separate teams. We have a common goal. Let’s get busy together—for Him!

In Christ,

Brad Harrub, Ph.D. (focuspress.org)

Hymn Reflection: “How Deep the Father’s Love for Us”

Stuart Townend has written several modern worship songs including the very well-known “In Christ Alone.” However, the song “How Deep the Father’s Love for Us” holds a special place in his heart.

Townend, a who lives in Brighton, England, states himself that he is concerned about the modern movement that is always seeking an “experience” at worship. He clearly states that he believes emotion is an important part of worship, but that when that becomes our focus, we struggle. In an online interview, he stated concerning “How Deep the Father’s Love for Us,”

The danger now is that we are so focused on the experience our worship can become self-seeking and self-serving. When all of our songs are about how we feel and what we need, we’re missing the point. There is a wonderful, omnipotent God who deserves our highest praise, and how we feel about it is in many ways irrelevant! I want to encourage the expression of joy, passion and adoration, but I want those things to be the by-product of focusing on God – I don’t want them to become the subject matter. I’m trying to write songs that refer to us as little as possible, and to Him as much as possible!

Knowing that about Townend, we can begin to understand why “How Deep the Father’s Love for Us” is so special to him. You see, many people, upon hearing the song for the first time, think it is old, as it sounds more like a classic hymn than a modern praise song.

That feel was intentional from the very beginning. On his own website, Townend states that he had been considering the cross, “in particular what it cost the Father to give up his beloved Son to a torturous death on a cross.” Then he thought about his own part in that event; thus the line, “It was my sin that nailed Him there.”

But Townend had a feeling from the outset that he was going to write a hymn. He had written many more contemporary sounding songs, but he just felt like his next song needed to be a hymn. So, that’s what he wrote. He states that the melody came right away, but it took some time to tweak and

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Television

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/

Jan. 19 Luke 1—2; Psalm 19 (video)

Jan. 20 Luke 3—4; Psalm 20 (video)

Jan. 21 Luke 5—6; Psalm 21

Jan. 22 Luke 7—8; Psalm 22 (video)

Jan. 23 Luke 9—10; Psalm 23

Jan. 24 Luke 11—12; Psalm 24

Jan. 25 Luke 13—14; Ps. 25 (video)

Jan. 26 Luke 15—16; Psalm 26

“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 **55** contacts were made.
- Upcoming Special Events at 4th & Stewart**
- ◆ March 15-18—Spring Gospel Meeting w/ Richard Massey.
- Other Upcoming Opportunities to Learn and Grow**
- ◆ Jan. 25—Youth Day @ Roanoke (flyer on bulletin board)
- ◆ April 5-8—Gospel Meeting @ Hamilton w/ Kerry Clark
- ◆ June 21-25—Junior Camp
- ◆ July 12-17—Senior Camp

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rework the lyrics to fit the simple, yet beautiful, melody.

Townend admits that writing a hymn is against the grain in modern songwriting. In fact, he relates the story that, at a conference, a couple was shocked to learn that the writer of such an old-fashioned song was still alive!

Written in 1995, “How Deep the Father’s Love” is comprised of three simple verses, but they teach the basics of our faith. They discuss not only the death and resurrection of Jesus, but also the love of God and sin of man. In my opinion, the last lines of the hymn are some of the finest words ever penned, as we sing, “*But this I know with all my heart: His wounds have paid my ransom.*” Those words bring the worshiper’s mind back to the fact of his/her own sin, but also the glorious salvation brought about by Jesus Christ.

In terms of modern hymns, there may not be a song that better expresses the basics of the Christian faith, while at the same time being highly introspective. While no one can predict the future, I firmly believe “How Deep the Father’s Love for Us” will be with us for a long time to come.

Adam Faughn (faughnfamily.com)

Lyrics

How deep the Father’s love for us,
 How vast beyond all measure,
 That He should give His only Son
 To make a wretch His treasure.
 How great the pain of searing loss –
 The Father turns His face away,
 As wounds which mar the Chosen One
 Bring many sons to glory.

Behold the man upon a cross,
 My sin upon His shoulders;
 Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice
 Call out among the scoffers.
 It was my sin that held Him there
 Until it was accomplished;
 His dying breath has brought me life –
 I know that it is finished.

I will not boast in anything,
 No gifts, no power, no wisdom;
 But I will boast in Jesus Christ,
 His death and resurrection.
 Why should I gain from His reward?
 I cannot give an answer;
 But this I know with all my heart –
 His wounds have paid my ransom.

https://youtu.be/gwwS_GxMCYI

Celebrate

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

January Birthdays: Rachel Smith (15), Bruce Blassingame (16), Bennie White (16), Tom Wilcox (17), **Mattison Churchwell (25)**, Vernon Zier (28), Charles White (30).

January Anniversaries: None.

Mistakes? Left Out? Let Johnny know...



Records

	Jan. 5, 2020	Jan. 12, 2020
Bible Class	48	29
AM Worship	57	42
PM Worship	43	32
Wednesday PM	35	35
Contribution	\$2,564	\$1,662

	This Week: 1/19/20	Next Week: 1/26/20		
Sunday AM:	Song Leader: Mike Bannister	Song Leader: Mike Bannister	January 2020 Make Announcements: Ken Maninger Prepare Communion: Mike & Patti Bannister Clean Building: Mike & Patti Bannister February 2020 Make Announcements: Gene Bannister Prepare Communion: Maninger Family Clean Building: Randy & Laura Huckaby	
Greeters	James & Cindy Fuller	Dennis Family		
Opening Prayer	Ken Maninger	Tom Wilcox		
Communion	Rafe Smith*, Vernon Zier Caleb Dennis, Randy Huckaby	Don Smith*, Coyce Reed John Barnum, Joe Dennis		
Closing Prayer	James Fuller	Gene Bannister		
Attendance Cards	Ian Barnum	Aaron Smith		
Sunday PM:	Song Leader: Joe Dennis	Song Leader: Ken Maninger		
Opening Prayer	John Barnum	Ryan Rudloff		
Scripture Reading	Allen Griffith	Chase Churchwell		
Communion	Rafe Smith	Don Smith		
Closing Prayer	Tom Wilcox	Rafe Smith		
Wednesday Devotionals:	January 22 Don Smith	January 29 5 th Wednesday Video	February 5 Prayer Night	February 12 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 January 19, 2020

Sunday Class 1 Corinthians 9:3
 Wed. Class Exodus 7:14

<u>Proverbs of Contrast: The Use of the Tongue</u>	<u>The Second Coming of Jesus Christ:</u>
<p>I. The Misuse of the Tongue.</p> <p>A. <i>Lying.</i></p> <p>B. <i>Boasting.</i></p> <p>C. <i>Angry Speech.</i></p> <p>D. <i>Gossip.</i></p> <p>II. The Proper Use of the Tongue.</p> <p>A. <i>To Speak Good Words.</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> "The mouth of the righteous is a well of life" (10:11). "The tongue of the righteous is choice silver" (10:20). "A wholesome tongue is a tree of life" (15:4). "A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold In settings of silver" (25:11). <p>B. <i>Good Words Deliver Us from Problems.</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> "The mouth of the upright will deliver them" (12:6). "The righteous will come through trouble" (12:13). "A soft answer turns away wrath" (15:1). <p>C. <i>Good Words Bring Health and Happiness.</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> "The tongue of the wise promotes health" (12:18). "A good word makes it glad" (12:25). "A man has joy by the answer of his mouth, And a word spoken in due season, how good it is!" (15:23). "Ointment and perfume delight the heart, And the sweetness of a man's friend gives delight by hearty counsel" (27:9). <p>D. <i>To Spread the Truth.</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> "The lips of the righteous know what is acceptable" (10:32); "The mouth of the upright will deliver them" (12:6). "The lips of the wise disperse knowledge" (15:7). <p>III. Our Use of the Tongue Can Determine Reward/Punishment (10:13-14, 31).</p> <p>A. "A man will be satisfied with good by the fruit of his mouth, And the recompense of a man's hands will be rendered to him" (12:14).</p> <p>B. "A man shall eat well by the fruit of his mouth" (13:2).</p> <p>"But I say to you that for every idle word men may speak, they will give account of it in the day of judgment. For by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned" (Mt. 12:36-37).</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">The Lord's Return and the Christian's Behavior (1 Thess. 5:4-11)</p> <p>When Christ returns, both the <i>blessing</i> and the <i>judgment</i> of God will fall upon the earth. Christians will be <i>blessed</i> and the disobedient will suffer the <i>wrath</i> of God. How a Christian behaves while he is on earth matters greatly to God.</p> <p>I. The Christian is not to be overtaken by the Lord's return (4-5).</p> <p>A. The Christian is not in darkness; therefore, this Day should not surprise him:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The Christian is not in darkness. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> He is <u>not in the darkness of ignorance</u>. He is <u>not in the darkness of sin</u>. The Christian is a child of light; a child of God, for God is light (1 Jn. 1:5). The Christian is a child of the day. <p>B. Paul is contrasting "you" (Christians) with "others" (unbelievers).</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Paul's <i>brethren</i> were <i>not in darkness</i> as were the unbelievers of v. 3; therefore, <i>this Day</i> of the coming of Christ would not <i>overtake</i> them. This does not mean they would know the day or hour, but that they would live ever watchful and prepared. <p>II. The Christian is not to be spiritually asleep or unwatchful (6-7).</p> <p>A. Unbelievers – "others" – are unprepared and will be surprised by "the day of the Lord" (v. 2); but notice this exhortation is being given to Christians.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Some Christians have fallen asleep spiritually. <i>Let us watch</i> [be alert]. <i>Be sober</i>. <p>B. The "sleep" of v. 6 is a <i>figurative</i>, spiritual sleep, but in v. 7, Paul moved to the <i>literal</i> fact behind the figure he had just used.</p> <p>III. The Christian is to be sober and to protect himself (8-10).</p> <p>A. Paul explained how we can be self-controlled: by putting on <i>faith, love, and hope</i>, the three Christian graces (see 1:3; 1 Cor. 13:13).</p> <p>B. We should put on these three great Christian virtues to protect ourselves against the "day of the Lord", <i>for God did not appoint us to wrath</i> (9).</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> God's plan does not call for us to suffer His "wrath" (1:10; Rom. 2:5-11). God's plan does call for the disobedient to suffer wrath, but faithful Christians will <i>obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ</i>. <p>IV. The Christian is to minister by comforting and edifying others (11).</p>