



Contact Us:

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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:

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

The Unity Christ Demands #5

What Now? Go Back!

All men living today have been born into a world of deep religious division and confusion. It is a part of our society and culture. How can we avoid it? What should we do? The answer is to go back to the Bible. Go back before the Gospel was perverted. Go back before the truth was distorted. Go back before the doctrine of God was corrupted. Go back before the departure from The faith. Go back before unity was destroyed.

Go back. We must go back all the way to the early years of the church when it began in the first century. Following the pattern of that church, and only that church, will bring about the unity the Lord requires. This concept is denounced and disparaged today by men who have a vested interest in keeping things as they are. In other words, they will lose their power and control if people go back to the Bible and imitate the pattern of the first century church. They desire to create and maintain their own church, the way they want it. So, they tell us it's impossible to imitate the church of the first century because we're so dumb we would not know which parts to imitate —of course, we would need them to tell us! That's what they want.

People everywhere must do today what people of the first century did in order to become Christians and worship God acceptably.

They **Heard** the word of God —the Gospel of salvation. Jesus said, *"No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day. It is written in the prophets, and they shall be all taught of God. Every man therefore that hath heard, and hath learned of the Father, cometh unto me"* (John 6:44-45). Paul wrote, *"...Whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach, except they be sent? As it is written, how beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things! But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Esaias saith, Lord, who hath believed our report? So then **faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God"** (Rom. 10:13-17).*

When they heard the Gospel, they **Believed** it and what it taught about Jesus the Christ. *"And Crispus, the chief ruler of the synagogue, believed on the Lord with all his house; and many of the Corinthians hearing believed, and were baptized"* (Acts 18:8). *"But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him"* (Heb. 11:6). Jesus said, *"...That ye shall die in your sins: for if ye believe not that I am he, ye shall die in your sins"* (John 8:24). *"He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned"* (Mark 16:16).

Their belief (faith) moved them to **Repent** of their sins. Jesus said, *"I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish"* (Luke 13:3,5). On the day the first Gospel sermon was preached, many ask what they needed to do. *"Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost"* (Acts 2:38). Another audience was told the same the thing. **"Repent ye**

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

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therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord” (Acts 3:19). On Mars’ Hill Paul preached that God “...commandeth all men every where to **repent**” (Acts 17:30).

Having repented, they **Confessed** faith in Jesus as the only begotten Son of God. Jesus said, “Whosoever therefore shall **confess** me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven. But whosoever shall deny me before men, him will I also deny before my Father which is in heaven” (Matt. 10:32-33). The man from Ethiopia made that good confession in order to be baptized. These are his words: “**I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God**” (Acts 8:37). Paul wrote, “...if thou shalt **confess** with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth **confession** is made unto salvation” (Rom. 10:9-10).

After believing, repenting and confessing, they were **Baptized** in water for the forgiveness of their sins. Jesus made Faith and Baptism essential for salvation in Mark 16:16. “He that believeth and is **baptized** shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.” Therefore, the apostles commanded the same on the day of Pentecost. “Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be **baptized** every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins...” (Acts 2:38). Saul of Tarsus was told: “And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be **baptized**, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord” (Acts 22:16). The same thing was taught and preached in every place. In water baptism there’s something we know, i.e., “...that our old man [the way we’ve been living in sin] is crucified with him, that [in order that] the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin” (Rom. 6:6). That takes place in water baptism. A few verses later we read, “But God be thanked, that **ye were** the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart **that form of doctrine** which was delivered you. **Being then** made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness” (Rom. 6:17-18). The form of doctrine they had obeyed was water baptism (vs.3-6). Freedom from sin, forgiveness of sin does not come “when” we Believe, nor “when” we Repent, nor “when”

we Confess. Romans 6:3-6, 17-18 says it comes WHEN we are baptized in water. No wonder Peter was inspired to write, “...baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ” (1 Pet. 3:21).

You won’t hear these scriptures preached and expounded upon in denominational churches. They go to great lengths to circumvent them. What’s even worse than that is you won’t even hear it in a lot of “churches” today that have the name “church of Christ” on their sign! Shame on them and their preachers and their elders who won’t preach the “whole counsel of God.” Shame on their members too who sit back and never demand the words of heaven be declared. They’ve been lulled to sleep and content themselves with thinking they’ve been to church, they’ve done their duty, that’s all they need to do. They may have a zeal of God, but it’s not according to knowledge (cf. Rom. 10:2).

Obedience to the Gospel made people of the first century children of God (Gal. 3:26-27; 1 Cor. 12:13; Acts 2:41, 47). Men and women today are made children of God by doing the same thing.

We must do today what was done in the first century to **Worship** God faithfully. The New Testament reveals five acts of worship. These acts are included in worship on the Lord’s day, every first day of the week (Acts 2:41).

1. **Singing** (Eph. 5:19; Col. 3:16). Singing is congregational and a cappella, i.e., without the accompaniment of mechanical instruments of music. There are no choirs, solos or “special singers” in New Testament worship. No individuals are singled out and their voices magnified to “improve the singing.” Such theatrics turns the focus away from worshiping God in order to worship ourselves. With them, since we like it, the idea is that God likes it too.
2. **Preaching/Teaching** (Acts 20:7). A message from God’s Word is delivered. Nothing but the pure and unadulterated Word of God is proclaimed. The whole counsel of God is preached without fear or favor of any man (Acts 20:26-27).
3. **Giving** (1 Cor. 16:2; 2 Cor. 9:6-7). A free-will offer-

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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/

March 1	2 Cor. 1—3; Psalm 61
March 2	2 Cor. 4—6; Psalm 62
March 3	2 Cor. 7—9; Psalm 63 (video)
March 4	2 Cor. 10—13; Psalm 64
March 5	Gal. 1—3; Psalm 65 (video)
March 6	Gal. 4—6; Psalm 66
March 7	Eph. 1—2; Psalm 67
March 8	Eph. 3—4; Psalm 68 (video)

“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 **38** contacts were made.

Announcements

- ◆ **First Sunday Fellowship Meal** today.
- ◆ **Time Change next Sunday.** Spring forward!
- ◆ **Our Gospel Meeting is only two weeks away!** Flyers are available on the podiums by each door.
- ◆ The **baby shower for Calvin Settles** planned for next Sunday afternoon will likely be postponed to a later time. Stay tuned! Asking for diapers and wipes.

Upcoming Special Events at 4th & Stewart

- ◆ March 15-18—Spring Gospel Meeting w/ Richard Massey: *“The Kingdom of Christ”*
- ◆ October 11-14—Fall Gospel Meeting w/ Denny Wilson

Other Upcoming Opportunities to Learn and Grow

- ◆ March 21-22—*“The Gospel Is For All”* series w/ Kevin Rhodes at 5th & Grape (Abilene)
- ◆ March 23-26—Seminar @ Colleyville w/ John Haffner, *“Journey Through the Bible: How it all fits together”*
- ◆ March 29-April 1—Gospel Meeting @ Lake Shore Drive (Waco) w/ Jeff Jenkins, *“Glorify Him!”*
- ◆ April 5-8—Gospel Meeting @ Hamilton w/ Kerry Clark
- ◆ April 18—Ladies Day @ Colleyville w/ Kathy Pollard & Jennifer Webster, *“Broken but Mended”*
- ◆ April 25—Ladies Day @ Comanche w/ Evelyn Bonner
- ◆ June 21-25—Junior Camp
- ◆ July 12-17—Senior Camp

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ing is collected from each member on the Lord’s day. You will not find sales, fund raisers or charging admission as a part of New Testament giving.

4. **Lord’s Supper** (Acts 20:7; cf. 1 Cor. 11:23-29; Matt. 26:26-29). Each member partakes of unleavened bread and fruit of the vine every first day of the week to remember Christ’s suffering and death on the cross.
5. **Praying** (Acts 12:5; cf. Acts 2:42). Members reverently pray unto God the Father in the name of Jesus Christ the Son.

Jesus said true worship is *“in spirit”* (from the heart, sincere) and *“in truth”* (according to and directed by God’s Word) (John 4:24). Does this characterize your worship? Let’s return to the Lord’s authorized acts of worship.

We must do today what they did in the first century to live a daily Christian life. That requires living faithful unto the Lord every single day. *“...Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life”* (Rev. 2:10). *“...He that endureth to the end shall be saved”* (Matt. 10:22). *“...Be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord”* (1 Cor. 15:58).

Our day by day Christian living must be governed by the authority of the Lord (Col. 3:17). All that we do must be in accordance with the authority of the Scriptures. If we cannot point to a passage which authorizes our words or actions, then we must not do it. Unauthorized acts causes division.

Conclusion

Only one way exists to have the unity God desires we have — put away our own will and submit ourselves to God’s will. We must submit to and embrace wholeheartedly the doctrine of the Lord — the New Testament. It is God’s standard for unity. *“There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; One Lord, one faith, one baptism, One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all”* (Eph. 4:4-6).

Let us endeavor (make haste, give diligence, labor) *“...to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace”* (Eph. 4:3). Not by compromise with error, but by following heaven’s way of righteousness — God’s plan for unity, the Holy Bible. Are you interested and willing to do exactly what people did in the first century to become Christians and live a Christian life? Love the truth!

Garland M. Robinson (Seek The Old Paths, Jan. 2020)

Celebrate

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

March Birthdays: Kevin Ross (1), Ken Maninger (4), Wayne Kahlich (9), Ann Walker (10), Susan Ford (17), Allen Griffith (20), Mileen Kahlich (21), Jessica Stultz (28), Dru Wilson (29).

March Anniversaries: James & Cindy Fuller (2), Randy & Laura Huckaby (23), Tom & Carol Wilcox (23).

Mistakes? Left Out? Let Johnny know...



Records

	Feb. 16, 2020	Feb. 23, 2020
Bible Class	50	43
AM Worship	52	50
PM Worship	42	43
Wednesday PM	36	33
Contribution	\$1,754	\$2,053

Privileged To Serve

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

	This Week: 3/1/20	Next Week: 3/8/20		
Sunday AM:	Song Leader: Mike Bannister	Song Leader: Mike Bannister	March 2020 Make Announcements: John Barnum Prepare Communion: Barnum Family Clean Building: Barnum Family April 2020 Make Announcements: James Fuller Prepare Communion: Johnny & Cindy McCaghren Clean Building: Johnny & Cindy McCaghren	
Greeters	Allen & Linda Griffith	Maninger Family		
Opening Prayer	Ken Maninger	Gene Bannister		
Communion	Joe Dennis*, Caleb Dennis James Fuller, Ryan Rudloff	Allen Griffith*, Chase Churchwell Coyce Reed, Vernon Zier		
Closing Prayer	Kevin Ross	John Barnum		
Attendance Cards	Ian Barnum	Aaron Smith		
Sunday PM:	Song Leader: Tom Wilcox	Song Leader: James Fuller		
Opening Prayer	Don Smith	Kevin Ross		
Scripture Reading	Chase Churchwell	Tom Wilcox		
Communion	Joe Dennis	Allen Griffith		
Closing Prayer	Allen Griffith	Ken Maninger		
Wednesday Devotionals:	March 4 Prayer Night	March 11 Joe Dennis	March 18 Rafe Smith	March 25 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 March 1, 2020

Sunday Class *1 Corinthians 10:1*
 Wed. Class *Exodus 12:6*

<p style="text-align: center;">Why Did My Savior Come to Earth? "I Did Not Come to Destroy But to Fulfill"</p> <p><i>"Do not think that I came to destroy the Law or the Prophets. I did not come to destroy but to fulfill" (Mt. 5:17).</i></p> <p>I. Consider the position of the Jewish people who first heard Jesus' words.</p> <p>A. They thought Jesus was about to snatch away their spiritual security blanket.</p> <p>B. Throughout their memory, the Law of Moses had governed their lives.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> It was a constant in their lives. It was their anchor. <p>C. Imagine their discomfort when Jesus comes saying, "You have heard ... but I say" (5:22, 27, 33, 38, 43, etc.).</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Most of us do not like for anybody to tamper with our comfort zone. In their view, Jesus' teaching was so radical that it had the potential to completely destroy their comfort level. <p>II. "You search the Scriptures, for in them you think you have eternal life; and these are they which testify of Me" (Jn. 5:39).</p> <p>A. Colossians 2:14 – Jesus "wiped out the handwriting of requirements that was against us, which was contrary to us. And He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross."</p> <p>B. Luke 24:44 – Jesus said, "These are the words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things must be fulfilled which were written in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms concerning Me."</p> <p>C. What does that word "fulfilled" mean and how does it apply to our discussion?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> There are two ways to bring something to its end: destroy it, or allow it to fulfill its purpose. The Law's purpose is fulfilled in Christ (Rom. 10:4 "Christ is the end of the law..."). <ol style="list-style-type: none"> "Christ, our Passover" (1 Cor. 5:7). The high priest and the sacrifice. "Lord even of the Sabbath" (Mt. 12:8). <p>III. Application: I have the opportunity to find my fulfillment in Him.</p> <p>A. "You are complete [same Greek word as "fulfilled"] in Him" (Col. 2:8-9).</p> <p>B. "All things must be fulfilled ... concerning Me" (Lk. 24:44).</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Christ's Second Coming (2 Thess. 2:1-12)</p> <p>I. Christ's Second Coming Has Not Yet Occurred (2:1-2).</p> <p>A. Regarding the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, Paul was concerned that the Christians at Thessalonica <i>not to be soon shaken or troubled</i> because of some unfounded, false teaching on the subject.</p> <p>B. From what source or sources was this agitation coming? <i>Either by spirit or by word or by letter, as if from us.</i></p> <p>C. What false doctrine was in question? <i>The day of Christ [the Lord] had come.</i></p> <p>II. Events to Precede His Coming (2:3-12).</p> <p>A. Certain things must happen before His coming – <i>let no one deceive you.</i></p> <p>B. <i>That Day will not come unless the falling away [apostasy] comes first.</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> This "falling away" will feature the "revealing" of the man of sin; the son of perdition. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> He opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God/that is worshiped. He sits as God in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God. Paul said the Thessalonians should remember that when I was still with you I told you these things (5) – they knew what is restraining him. <p>C. <i>The mystery of lawlessness (7) – influences in the world of Paul's day that were not apparent, and yet, like yeast, were already active.</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> These evil influences were working in Paul's day, and <i>He who now restrains will [continue to] do so.</i> The current restraint of the manifestation of "the man of sin" was to continue until He [the one blocking his revealing] is taken out of the way. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> After he is revealed, <i>the Lord will consume him with the breath of His mouth and destroy him with the brightness of His coming.</i> <p>D. <i>The lawless one, just like the Lord, will have a coming.</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The coming of this lawless one will be according to the working of Satan. His activities will display all power, signs, and lying wonders. He will come with all unrighteous deception. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> What class of people will follow him? <i>Those who perish.</i> The reason that these people are headed toward destruction? <i>They did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved.</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> For this reason God will send them strong delusion, that they should believe the lie. That they all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness [wickedness].
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