

# 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



November 28, 2021

## 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 ..... N/A  
Bible Study..... 7:00 PM

## Elders:

Gene Bannister..... Mike Bannister

Billy Chism... Johnny McCaghren

## Deacons:

John Barnum..... Don Smith

## 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

## ***"I Can't Come to Church Because of Covid"***

Covid has touched nearly every family I know, including my own. It would be foolish to say that it is harmless. It has claimed nearly 5 million lives as of today. So, I have heard from many good, thoughtful people, this statement: "I can't come to church because of Covid." Please accept that with deep, genuine love, there are a few questions that need to be asked alongside of this.

**Are we being consistent?** Are we still going to the grocery store, the restaurants, the beauty shop, the office, the classroom, the gym, and the doctor? Chances are at least as great that we will contract Covid in one of those places as at church. People are not more clean or careful in those places.

**Are we properly prioritizing?** Perhaps we see the stores, the job, the school, and the medical as essential and necessary. Jesus puts our spiritual health and that of His body above all else (Matt. 6:33; 16:26). How could we conclude that any of these others are more important than His kingdom?

**Are we considering others?** Perhaps we console ourselves by saying that we're getting what we need by watching Facebook, Vimeo, YouTube, or wherever services are live-streamed. But, worship and Bible class is not simply about our being fed. We must consider one another to stimulate unto love and good deeds (Heb. 10:24). That is said in connection with assembling together (Heb. 10:25), and how is this done by one who stays away from the assembly?

**Are we weakening our spiritual strength?** Is it getting easier to stay away or opt to just catch it on the phone, computer, or TV when we don't feel like coming? Are we losing our desire to be with God's people? Isolation has many effects, some more subtle than others.

**Are we assessing our fears?** Those who are waiting for Covid to go away will be waiting years or longer. This is a virus. Scientists doubt that it can be eradicated. It spreads too quickly. Perhaps it will be like Polio or smallpox, but how long will that be? Will we stay home for years? Meanwhile, where will be, spiritually, years from now if we have disconnected from our spiritual family?

**After 18 months, perhaps it is time to do some serious reevaluate?** Instead of only allowing news outlets to be our guide, we need to balance that with careful study of God's Word. Instead of considering just this life on earth, we should balance that by considering this life is for preparing for eternity. We need to be back together—all of us, now more than ever.

(Note: I am well aware that there are those who are immunocompromised and cannot attend. This is not in any way meant to discourage or dishearten those in this condition. God knows and understands.)

Neal Pollard (Christian Worker, Nov. 2021)



And Jesus said, "For judgment I have come into this world, that those who do not see may see, and that those who see may be made blind." Then some of the Pharisees who were with Him heard these words, and said to Him, "Are we blind also?" Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would have no sin; but now you say, 'We see.' Therefore your sin remains." **John 9:39-41**

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

# He Came Down from the Mountain, But Not the Cross

If the Sermon on the Mount were all that Matthew recorded, that small piece of inspired literature would declare the very majesty of the One Who spoke those words. The sermon now complete, our Lord leaves the mountain to enter His market place. The very first words we encounter as we enter the eighth chapter of Matthew capture our attention: *“And when he was come down from the mountain”* (8:1). Strictly speaking those half dozen English words describe His descent from an earthly mountain to the plains below. But suppose Jesus had stayed in the mountain? What if He had built some monastery and lived out His life on isolation? Had He done so, the miracles in this chapter, yea the whole of Matthew, would have never been recorded, and the teachings and instructions delivered on the mount would have been nothing more than the wisdom of just another Rabbi speaking to His band of devoted zealots who, at the end of their lifelong journey, would have summed up the experience in the words of the two men traveling to Emmaus: *“But we hoped that it was he who should redeem Israel”* (Luke 24:21). Thank God that Jesus did come down from that mountain! Consider the following.

## He Came Down From The Mountain Of Happiness To Bear Our Sorrows

Each of the three miracles of healing in this portion of our study is vitally connected with that beautiful chapter of the Suffering Servant in Isaiah 53. Matthew told us these things were done *“that it might be fulfilled which was spoken through Isaiah the prophet, saying: Himself took our infirmities, and bare our diseases”* (8:17). The Old Testament passage is Isaiah 53:4-6: *“Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows; yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted.”* “Griefs” and “sorrows” – pay attention to those two words, keeping in mind the context of Isaiah’s prophecy. The sorrow to which Isaiah refers was deeper and more profound than the emotional ache in the hearts of men that might arise from time to time. The Suffering Servant did not come to open a grief-counseling center or to wipe the tears of those whose lives had been disrupted by physical disease and multiple maladies, and then go about business as usual.

Our Lord was fully aware that back of all the disease and suffering is the problem of sin. The true sorrow of the world can be traced to sin, whether a person’s own individual sin or the sin of humanity. Sin was introduced into the world by Adam (Rom. 5:12-21), and it spread into every corner of this globe and to every successive generation by individual choice. Jesus’

power to heal the leper by the touch of His hand, or to heal the centurion’s servant from a distance by His spoken word, finds its significance in His overall mission to *“seek and to save that which is lost”* (Luke 19:10). Was this not the point in the case of the man sick of the palsy where Jesus asked His critics: *“Which is easier, to say, Thy sins are forgiven thee; or to say, Arise and walk?”* (Luke 5:23). When it is said that Jesus bore *“our griefs, and carried our sorrows”* (Isa. 53:4) it is heaven’s way of telling us of the great mission of our King to address the root cause of those sorrows. He did this by being *“wounded for our transgressions”* and *“bruised for our iniquities”* (Isa. 53:5). Can you imagine a king who would be willing to pay the penalty for the crimes of the citizens of his kingdom? Pick your dictator or despot, and the story is the same. It is most often the case that the innocent suffer for the crimes of the king. But our King came down from the mount of happiness to bear our sorrows.

## He Came Down From The Mountain Of Honor To Become A Servant

Prior to His descent to this world of woe, our Lord enjoyed honor and majesty alongside the Father. He basked in heavenly sunshine, and was worshiped by the angels (Heb. 1:6). He enjoyed the *“power, and riches, and wisdom, and might, and honor, and glory, and blessing”* (Rev. 5:12) deserving of the Godhead. Existing in the *“form of God,”* He *“counted not the being on an equality with God a thing to be grasped”* (Phil. 2:6). Words cannot be found that can adequately describe the majesty of our Lord prior to that moment when He took upon Himself *“the form of a servant, [and] being made in the likeness of men; and being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, becoming obedient even unto death, yea, the death of the cross”* (Phil. 2:7-8). His descent from that ‘mountain of honor’ was for no other purpose than to be a Servant of God and humanity, and to give His life a ransom for all. *“For the Son of man also came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many”* (Mark 10:45). On one occasion He washed the feet of the disciples thereby teaching them the importance of being a servant (John 13:1-15). He was obedient to the Father in every respect, remaining faithful even unto death.

In the 33 years that our Lord sojourned upon this earth, He never once demonstrated a single shred of selfish desire; never seeking to “be served” but seeking rather “to serve.” He never had to turn His back on material things because He never sought them in the first place. On one occasion his disciples encouraged Him to eat, but He said unto them, *“I have meat to eat that ye know not. My meat is to do the will of him that sent*

*(Continued on page 3)*

### 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/](http://video.wvbs.org/access/interactive-bible-reading-plan/)

**Nov. 28 Ezekiel 25-27; Ps. 148 (video)**

**Nov. 29 Ezekiel 28-30; Psalm 149**

**Nov. 30 Ezekiel 31-33; Psalm 150**

**Dec. 1 Ezekiel 34-36; Proverbs 1**

**Dec. 2 Ezekiel 37-39; Proverbs 2**

**Dec. 3 Ezekiel 40-42; Proverbs 3**

**Dec. 4 Ezekiel 43-45; Proverbs 4**

**Dec. 5 Ezekiel 46-48; Proverbs 5**

*“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)*



**Upcoming Events at 4th & Stewart**

- ◆ March 13-16—**Spring Gospel Meeting** w/ Jon McCormack.

**Upcoming Area Events**

- ◆ Feb. 24-27—**Arise** (and evangelize) @ Southwest in Austin.
- ◆ Mar. 3-6—**PTP Spark** @ Round Rock. Info on bulletin board. If you would like to go, it is recommended that you sign up soon.

*(Continued from page 2)*

me, and to accomplish his work” (John 4:32-34). He then warned all of us, “Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon the earth, where moth and rust doth consume, and where thieves break through and steal: but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth consume, and where thieves do not break through and steal” (Matt. 6:19-20). He not only preached that message, but lived that message to its fullest extent. Our Lord never owned any property, never built a house, never lay by in store, never had a passbook savings account, never organized a “garage sale,” and never placed an ounce of importance on what one might possess in this life. When His life was finished and His course completed, the only thing He could

call His own was stripped from His sinless body and gambled away at the foot of the cross by the Roman soldiers while their Master and Creator hung on the cross close by. Having no place to lay His head (Luke 9:58), He found His rest in the homes of those who were gracious enough to provide His daily sustenance, and grant Him a place of repose when the day was done. All this, because He was willing to come down from the mountain of honor to become a Servant!

**He Came Down From The Mountain of Heaven To Be Our Savior**

Prior to His incarnation, Jesus shared in the glories of heaven with the Father. He basked in the glory and essence of deity (2 Cor. 8:9). In the beginning He filled the universe with the stars and planets (John 1:1-3) with the simple sound of His voice. He sustained (and still sustains) all things by the word of His power (Heb. 1:3). Yet He was willing to give all that up so that He could set before mankind the feast of abundant life. The New Testament rings with the message of salvation: “Faithful is the saying, and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners” (1 Tim. 1:15a). “And she shall bring forth a son; and thou shalt call his name Jesus; for it is he that shall save his people from their sins” (Matt. 1:21). W.N. Clarke wrote almost a century ago, “The glory of Christianity is salvation.” The great challenge to the church in this century is getting men to realize their need for a Savior. Too many have lost the awareness of this need; too few are inclined to perceive of Him as Savior. One reason for this is the diminished concept of sin in the modern world. Jack Cottrell wrote,

Of course he recognizes that the world is filled with evils, failures, social ills, and conflicts of all kinds; but he just does not want to think of them as sin. This is because sin connotes a wrongdoing for which one is responsible before God, and modern man does not want to see himself in this light. He will take his evil and his failures to sociologists and psychologists, but not to God (Cottrell, 268).

When our “problems” are discussed in social circles they may be described as “disgraceful,” “corrupt,” “prejudicial,” “harmful,” or even “evil,” but never “sinful.” It is obvious that without a sense of sin there can be no real sense of God as our Savior.

**Conclusion**

Yes, Jesus came down from the mountain of happiness to bear our sorrows. He came down from the mountain of honor to be a Servant. He came down from the mountain of heaven to be our Savior. When the mob cried for the blood of Jesus, they were granted their wicked desires. And while Jesus hung on the cross they taunted the Son of God and challenged Him to “come down from the cross” (Matt. 27:40). He could have; but He refused to do so. Thank God that while Jesus was willing to come down from the mountain, He refused to come down from the cross.

*Tom Wacaster* (Christian Worker, Nov. 2021)

**Celebrate**

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

**Records**

	Nov. 14, 2021	Nov. 21, 2021
Bible Class	35	32
AM Worship	52 + [10]	34 + [10]
PM Worship	33 + [7]	27 + [7]
Wednesday PM	25 + [8]	29 + [10]
Contribution	\$2,210	\$1,393



	This Week: 11/28/21	Next Week: 12/5/21			
<b>Sunday AM:</b>	Song Leader: Mike Bannister	Song Leader: Mike Bannister	<p><b>November 2021</b>  <b>Make Announcements:</b>                      Ken Maninger  <b>Prepare Communion:</b>                      Barnum  <b>Clean Building:</b>                      Reed</p> <p><b>December 2021</b>  <b>Make Announcements:</b>                      Dex Dennard  <b>Prepare Communion:</b>                      Fuller  <b>Clean Building:</b>                      McCaghren</p>		
<b>Greeters</b>	_____	_____			
<b>Opening Prayer</b>	James Fuller	Ken Maninger			
<b>Communion</b>	Tom Wilcox, Dex Dennard Ryan Settles, Coyce Reed	Don Smith, Chase Churchwell, Kyle Duaine, Daniel Edwards			
<b>Closing Prayer</b>	John Barnum	Randy Huckaby			
<b>Attendance Cards</b>	_____	_____			
<b>Sunday PM:</b>	Song Leader: Ken Maninger	Song Leader: Tom Wilcox			
<b>Opening Prayer</b>	Randy Huckaby	John Barnum			
<b>Scripture Reading</b>	_____	_____			
<b>Communion</b>	Tom Wilcox	Don Smith			
<b>Closing Prayer</b>	Chase Churchwell	Mike Bannister			
<b>Wednesday Devotionals:</b>	December 1 Prayer Night	December 8 John Barnum	December 15 Dex Dennard	December 22 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 November 28, 2021

Sunday Class ..... 2 Corinthians 1:18  
 Wed. Class ..... How to Read the Book: Sentences

<p><b>"I Was Blind But Now I See!" (John 9)</b></p> <p>I. <b>A Blind Man (9:1-38).</b> "Now as Jesus passed by, He saw a man who was blind from birth" (1).</p> <p>A. <b>A Puzzle to Be Solved (2-4).</b> "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" (2).</p> <p>B. <b>A Person to Be Healed (5-7, 14).</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>"As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world" (5).</li> <li>"He spat on the ground and made clay with the saliva; and He anointed the eyes of the blind man with the clay" (6).</li> </ol> <p>C. <b>A Problem to Be Resolved (8-14).</b> "Some said, 'This is he.' Others said, 'He is like him.'" (9a).</p> <p>D. <b>A Predicament to Be Discounted (15-17, 22).</b> "This Man is not from God, because He does not keep the Sabbath" (16a).</p> <p>E. <b>A Pitfall to Be Avoided (18-23).</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>"Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" (19).</li> <li>"We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but by what means he now sees we do not know, or who opened his eyes we do not know" (20-21).</li> </ol> <p>F. <b>A Pest to Be Crushed (24-34).</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>"Give God the glory! We know that this Man is a sinner" (24b).</li> <li>"You are His disciple, but we are Moses' disciples. We know that God spoke to Moses; as for this fellow, we do not know where He is from" (28-29).</li> <li>"You were completely born in sins, and are you teaching us?" (34a).</li> <li>Then "they cast him out" (34b).</li> </ol> <p>G. <b>A Person to Be Saved (35-38).</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>"Do you believe in the Son of Man? ... You have both seen Him and it is He who is talking with you" (35, 37).</li> <li>"Lord, I believe!" And he worshiped Him (38).</li> </ol> <p>II. <b>The Blind Men (9:39-41).</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>"For judgment I have come into this world, that those who do not see may see, and that those who see may be made blind" (39).</li> <li>"Are we blind also?" (40).</li> <li>"If you were blind, you would have no sin; but now you say, 'We see.' Therefore your sin remains" (41).</li> </ol>	<p><b>The Good Samaritan (Lk. 10:25-37) &amp; Jesus, Mary, and Martha (Lk. 10:38-42)</b></p> <p>I. <b>Jesus and a Lawyer: the Parable of the Good Samaritan (Lk. 10:25-37).</b></p> <p>A. "And behold, a certain lawyer stood up and tested Him, saying, 'Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?' (25).</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>"[Jesus] said to him, 'What is written in the law? What is your reading of it?'" (26).</li> <li>"He answered and said, 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind,' and 'your neighbor as yourself'" (27).</li> <li>"[Jesus] said to him, 'You have answered rightly; do this and you will live'" (28).</li> <li>"But he ... said ... 'And who is my neighbor?'" (29).</li> </ol> <p>B. "Then Jesus answered and said" (30a).</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>"A certain man went down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among thieves, who stripped him of his clothing, wounded him, and departed, leaving him half dead" (30).</li> <li>"A certain priest came ... when he saw him, he passed by on the other side" (31).</li> <li>"A Levite ... came and looked, and passed by on the other side" (32).</li> <li>"A certain Samaritan ... came ... and when he saw him, he had compassion" (33-35).</li> </ol> <p>C. "So which of these three do you think was neighbor to him who fell among the thieves?" (36).</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>"He said, 'He who showed mercy on him'" (37a).</li> <li>"Then Jesus said to him, 'Go and do likewise'" (37b).</li> </ol> <p>II. <b>Jesus, Mary, and Martha (Lk. 10:38-42).</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>"A certain woman named Martha welcomed Him into her house" (38b).</li> <li>"She had a sister called Mary, who also sat at Jesus' feet and heard His word" (39).</li> <li>"Lord, do You not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Therefore tell her to help me" (40b).</li> <li>"Martha, Martha, you are worried and troubled about many things. But one thing is needed..." (41-42a).</li> <li>"Mary has chosen that good part, which will not be taken away from her" (42b).</li> </ol>
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