

**New Caney  
Church of Christ**

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**Assembly Times**

*Sundays*  
Bible Class 9:30 a.m.  
Worship 10:30 a.m.  
*Wednesdays*  
Bible Classes 7:00 p.m.

***Retaining The Standard  
Of Sound Doctrine***

Evangelist: Charles Willis  
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**Know Your Bible: Answers**

1. Delilah (Judges 16)
2. Absalom (2 Samuel 15)
3. Hoshea (2 Kings 15:30)
4. Simri (1 Kings 16:8-10)

**This Week's Assignments & Events**

**Sunday Worship**

Greeter: Gary Tuttle  
Announcements: Arturo Orozco  
Encouragement Talk: John Franks  
Opening Prayer: Robert McCorkle  
Scripture Reading: Joel Jordan  
Philippians 2:19-24  
Song Leader: Harper Flores  
Table Talk: Todd McAdams  
Contribution: Josh Emerson  
Helper: Corwin Richardson  
Fruit of Vine: Tyler Blazek  
Helper: Lester Mabry  
Helper: Justin Thomas  
Closing Prayer: Scott McDearman

**Sunday Afternoons**

Apr 2 3-5PM Song Leader Training (sign up for a spot)  
Apr 9 Nothing  
Apr 16 4PM Devotionals (Men, Women, Youth)  
Apr 23 5PM Member Preaches

**Wednesday Evening**

Song Leader: Corwin Richardson  
Speaker: Arturo Orozco



# Standing Firm

“Take up the full armor of God, that you may be able to resist in the evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm”  
Ephesians 6:13

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## Woe to...us?

The conscientious Christian must admit that most people are consumed with entertainment. Work is nothing more than the means of financing our choice of entertainment. Obligations are completed as quickly as possible in order that we might relax and be entertained. Nothing is really wrong with entertainment unless we allow it to consume our thinking and behavior.

God spoke of the danger of entertainment through the prophet Isaiah in chapter 5:11-12 saying *“Woe to those who rise up early in the morning that they may pursue strong drink who stay up late in the evening that wine may inflame them! And their banquets are accompanied by lyre and harp, by tambourine and flute, and by wine; But they do not pay attention to the deeds of the Lord, nor do they consider the work of His hands.”* Clearly some forms of entertainment are sinful, but many view all entertainment as an escape. The entertainment causes us to not pay attention to the deeds of the Lord nor consider the works of His hands. When this is our attitude God pronounces a woe upon us!

Contained in this passage is strong language about the dangers of drink as well as God’s attitude. Drink “inflaming” a person must be a reference to getting drunk and losing control. But the concepts of neglect and allowing ourselves to be “consumed” by entertainment cannot be ignored.

As Americans we are busy people. Sadly, some allow things to prevent them from doing God’s will or from even considering what God wants them to do. Perhaps we would do better to leave off some of our entertainment in order to be busy working for God. Turn the T.V. off. Remove yourself from social media. Stop entertainment subscriptions that are distracting. Remove the children from one activity. We have more free time than perhaps any other culture before us. We truly have the time to work for God. The question is: do we make the time, or choose to be entertained?

by Charles Willis

# I Do

by Lawrence Kelley

Author and business leader Fred Smith writes: One of my treasured memories comes from a doughnut shop in Grand Saline, Texas. There was a young farm couple sitting at the table next to mine. He was wearing overalls and she a gingham dress. After finishing their doughnuts, he got up to pay the bill, and I noticed she didn't get up to follow him.

But then he came back and stood in front of her. She put her arms around his neck, and he lifted her up, revealing that she was wearing a full-body brace. He lifted her out of her chair and backed out the front door to the pickup truck, with her hanging from his neck.

As he gently put her into the truck, everyone in the shop watched. No one said anything until a waitress remarked, almost reverently, "He took his vows seriously." (Leadership, XVI:1:38).

Every year about 2.3 million couples promise to remain husband and wife "for better or worse, for richer or poorer, in sickness and in health, to love, honor, cherish, comfort, and be faithful as long as we both shall live." Or something along those lines.

But unhappily, morality has suffered a terrible blow in this country. Nowhere is this more evident than in the marriage vows that are broken every day. Every divorce declares that a husband or wife -- or both -- has sinned against the other. And now they are headed for the divorce court. What are some possible sins involved?

Lying: -- Every divorce declares that someone has lied. "As long as we both shall live" has turned into "until things get tougher than I thought they would get." Or "until I find someone who suits me better." Or...

Adultery: -- In accord with the express will of God, most couples promise to remain faithful to each other. But rampant sexual immorality has invaded the marriage bed.

Abuse: -- Verbal or Physical. What happened to the vows to cherish, honor, comfort, and protect? Why has the beloved now become the feared?

Husbands and wives need integrity and honor. Without these qualities we'll likely not take our "vows seriously."

# Know Your Bible

## Traitors

1. What Philistine woman tricked Samson into revealing the secret of his strength?
2. What son of David led a revolt against his father?
3. When Pekah reigned in Israel, who murdered him and took over the throne?
4. Who murdered King Elah of Israel and then later, after a 7-day siege committed suicide?

Answers On Back

## Sunday Sermon

Point your phone camera at the square below, then click on the link to hear the sermon. Recordings will change mid-week.



# Hope

by Randy Harshbarger

Christians need to be hesitant about expressing confidence in the hope that they are going to heaven.

"Are you going to heaven?" "I hope so!" That brief conversation among Christians is common. But, what do the conversants mean by their statements? Do they mean they are not really sure about going to heaven? Do they mean that maybe, after all, somehow, they might be saved? Do they really have the hope the Bible speaks of? Hope is defined thusly: "Favorable and confident expectation relative to the future and the unseen." How and why can we have that kind of hope?

*"Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the commandment of God our Savior, and the Lord Jesus Christ, which is our hope" (1 Tim. 1:1 KJV).* Paul's affirmation about our hope begins to explain and amplify why we can have the confident expectation of being with God in heaven when this life is over. Christ is the reason for our hope. Our hope is rooted in a historical context. Jesus Christ, the Word, existed eternally. In the fullness of time the Word left heaven and tabernacled among men. Why did He do this? He came to *"seek and save the lost"* (Lk. 19:10). He is the source of our hope. We are not talking about a mere man stripped of His divine qualities or characteristics. Christ *"the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God"* (1 Tim. 1:17). Our hope hinges, not upon the psychological, subjective feelings of fickle man; rather, our hope is rooted in the certainty of objective facts about Jesus Christ. Truly, *"Christ is in us, the hope of glory"* (Col. 1:27).

The hope we have in Christ is real. Its value is set in contrast to the inability of this world to sustain our desire for something better. Paul makes this clear in 1 Tim. 6:17-19. Material things do not provide real hope, material riches are uncertain. Our association with things is brief. When our happiness is linked to "things," our happiness leaves when we lose our "things."

True, living hope calls for a response. Bodily exercise helps a little in warding off the ravages of disease and old age. Spiritual exercise extends into the life to come. *"For therefore we labor and suffer reproach, because we trust in the living God, who is the Saviour of all men, specially of those that believe"* (1 Tim. 4:10). We labor and are sustained in our hope by the expectation of receiving our reward. Are we seeking to trust in ourselves? No! But we are serious about actively pursuing godliness. The Lord who cannot lie gives us hope (Heb. 6:19,20).

Hope in Christ brings comfort, joy, and peace. "If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable" (1 Cor. 15:19). Paul's statement is understood in the context of the resurrection of the dead. If Christ be not raised and if in Christ we have placed our hope, then in reality we do not have hope. But Christ was raised! He lives! He sustains and gives hope! He dispels despair and discouragement and defeat.

So, the next time someone asks you; "Are you going to heaven?" what will you say?