

**New Caney
Church of Christ**

(physical) 19351 FM 1485
(mail) P.O. Box 903
New Caney, TX 77357
281-399-5900
www.NewCaneyChurchofChrist.org

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
281-841-5718
charleswillisNCCofC@gmail.com

Know Your Bible: Answers

1. Peter's mother-in-law (Matt. 8:14-15)
2. A Fig Tree (Matt. 21:17-20)
3. Cana (John 2:1-11)
4. Peter (Matt. 14:28-31)
5. Peter (Matt. 17:24-27)

This Week's Assignments & Events

Sunday Worship

Greeter: Jonathan Lovell
Announcements: Ronnie Ramsey
Encouragement Talk: Robert McCorkle
Opening Prayer: Todd McAdams
Scripture Reading: Eddie Bowen
2 Thessalonians 2:11-17
Song Leader: John Franks
Table Talk: Harper Flores
Contribution: Tyler Blazek
Helper: Brad Smith
Fruit of Vine: Jacobs McAdams
Helper: Billy Lovell
Helper: Verlin Wilson
Closing Prayer: Scott McDearman

Sunday Afternoons

Dec 31 Nothing
Jan 7 Nothing
Jan 14 3PM Devotionals
Jan 21 Nothing

Wednesday Evening

Song Leader: Arturo Orozco
Speaker: Harper Flores



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

Volume 21
Number 53
December 31, 2023

Contrasting Churches

Local churches may be led either by godly or by not-godly men—that is, by men who are most concerned for God and things of the Spirit or by men whose concerns are primarily human and temporal. Such churches can be distinguished by the following: Goals: Godly leaders have as their goal “the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ; that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting, but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head—Christ” (Eph. 4:12-15). Ungodly men have as their primary goal increasing numbers—a big church. They consider numerical growth proof of God’s approval.

Doctrine: Godly leaders are determined to abide in the doctrine of Christ and not to go beyond it (2 John 9). Not-godly men, knowing that most of the public “will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables” (2 Tim. 4:3-4), provide the teachers that will tickle their ears.

Discipline: Godly leaders will insist that in harmony with God’s instructions the church “withdraw from every brother who walks disorderly” (2 Thess. 3:6). Not-godly leaders advertise: “Come as you are” and boast that they are not judgmental, receiving everyone regardless of lifestyle.

Worship: Godly leaders insist that God be worshiped “acceptably with reverence and godly fear” (Heb. 12:28) while not-godly men place great emphasis on “worship” that pleases the public and seem concerned only that everyone leave “feeling good about themselves” and eager to return.

Preachers: Godly leaders are not nearly as concerned with excellence of speech or of wisdom as that preachers be “determined not to know anything ... save Jesus Christ and him crucified” (1 Cor. 2:1-2). Not-godly leaders insist that preachers be entertaining and personally popular, even with the world.

Activities: Godly leaders test every proposed action by the scriptures, determined to “do all in the name of the Lord Jesus” (Col. 3:17) while not-godly leaders offer whatever people want—sports, entertainment, education, feasts, travel—with little apparent concern for what God wants.

What kind of church are you seeking—the church of your choice or the church of God’s choice? By Sewell Hall

Reflection

by Charles Willis

The end of a year is always a time of looking backward and then looking forward. We acknowledge a span of time and we look back to where we were a year ago. We consider our thoughts at this same moment a year ago and consider if we made any of the changes we desired to see in ourselves. We see the shortcomings and the defeats as well as the successes. Then we look forward to the coming year with determinations and goals for what we want to change in ourselves and for our families.

This is a process that is good for us, but also one that Scriptures says the Christian needs to do.

“Test yourselves to see if you are in the faith; examine yourselves!”
(2 Corinthians 13:5).

“examine everything carefully; hold fast to that which is good”
(1 Thessalonians 5:22).

“each one must examine his own work, and then he will have reason for boasting in regard to himself alone, and not in regard to another”
(Galatians 6:4).

We need to spiritually examine ourselves, and not just once a year.

I encourage you to seriously reflect and examine yourself and your commitment to God and His righteousness. Repent when needed. Make plans for tomorrow (literally) to make needed changes - and get to work.

Know Your Bible

Miracles of Jesus

1. What woman got up and started doing household chores after Jesus healed her of a fever?
2. What unproductive tree did Jesus wither by cursing it?
3. Where did Jesus work his first miracle?
4. Which apostle did Jesus enable to walk on the water?
5. Who did Jesus sent to catch a fish with a coin in it’s mouth?

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.



A Thousand Times...No!

by David Diestelkamp

Ever notice that you can say “no” a thousand times, but all those no’s are canceled by one “yes”? “No, you can’t have a cookie, can’t have a cookie, can’t have a cookie! Okay, yes!” The cookie will be eaten! To concede and fail you don’t have to say yes as many times as you must say no to remain steadfast and succeed.

A thousand no’s to fornication are deleted by one yes that robs one of his virtue and virginity. A thousand no’s to adultery are swept away by a yes that destroys family, home and soul. A thousand no’s to drugs are erased by a yes that opens the door to all kinds of destruction and excess. A thousand no’s to stealing are forgotten by a yes on our record when we stand before the law. A thousand no’s to pornography are overwhelmed by a yes that writes indelible images in the mind. It applies across the board to all sin.

While it is certainly true that forgiveness in Christ is available for any sinful yes decision we make, this must not be seen as license to make that errant decision even once. We are called to completely die to sin (Rom. 6) — it is to have no part in us, or us in it.

Parents often tire of the “May I have a cookie?” question and finally concede with a yes. Kids know this. Satan knows this. We tire of saying no and looking different from others. We tire of our “no” answer causing abstinence from activities that appear pleasurable and fun. We tire of always being the one to say no. In time, sin nags us to the point where we finally want to say, “Okay, yes just this time.” How much more can God expect us to resist — how many more times must we say no?

The Hebrew writer reminds us, “*You have not yet resisted to bloodshed, striving against sin*” (Heb. 12:4). We’re not just talking about saying no to the point of alienation and missing out on some of life’s pleasures. Resisting “to bloodshed, striving against sin” means saying no to sin until it kills us! That means a thousand times no to the sin that tempts us from within and from without. And when we have said no a thousand times it is then time to say it a thousand and one times, and more!

Nothing will be impossible with God.

Luke 1:37