

**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. David to Solomon (1 Chron. 28:10)
2. Samson (Judges 16:30)
3. Ruth (1:16)
4. Job (42:2)

This Week's Assignments & Events

Sunday Worship

Greeter: Ronnie Lightfoot
Announcements: Josh Emerson
Encouragement Talk: Brad Smith
Opening Prayer: Eddie Bowen
Scripture Reading: Jacob McAdams
1 Timothy 5:1-16
Song Leader: John Franks
Table Talk: John Van Baale
Contribution: Pete Galvan
Helper: Joel Jordan
Fruit of Vine: Billy Lovell
Helper: Ryan Haarmann
Helper: Harper Flores
Closing Prayer: Victor Studdard

Sunday Afternoons

Mar 17 3PM Yard/Building Workday
Mar 24 Nothing
Mar 31 Nothing
Apr 7 3PM Group Visitation (meet & go)

Wednesday Evening

Song Leader: Ryan Haarmann
Speaker: Tyler Blazek



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 11
March 17, 2024

God Will Use You

Many Christians seem to have an attitude that they have little or nothing to contribute to the Kingdom of God. Some look around the congregation and see how others are able to serve with a talent God has given them, but they do not see any such gift in themselves. While it is very true that we are to use the talents God has given us, sometimes God’s use of us is very simple and basic. Visit the orphan and widow in their distress (James 1:27), sharing with someone who has need (Ephesians 4:28), to say some words of encouragement (1 Thessalonians 5:11; Titus 2:4; Hebrews 3:13). Sometimes we just look to hard for a special gift and forget the obvious ways in which God wants us to serve.

God often uses us for His purpose, and we will not know that. Consider the example of Joseph. After he was ruling in Egypt, when his brothers came to buy grain, Joseph said, “*God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant in the earth, and to keep you alive by a great deliverance... it was not you who sent me here, but God*” (Genesis 45:7-8). God used a man who had been mistreated by his brothers and imprisoned unjustly to bring about the physical salvation of many people. Joseph was given a special gift of interpreting dreams and God blessed his efforts with success, but Joseph was not “trained” to be a national leader, he was not “trained” to be in charge of all of Potiphar’s business dealings and staff. God was with him, but Joseph was faithful to God in all the situations in his life. God used Joseph.

The example of Joseph is unique. Consider another example that is very lowly and common. Dorcas (Tabitha) “*was abounding with deeds of kindness and charity which she continually did*” (Acts 9:36). When she died, all the widows were showing Peter “*all the tunics and garments that Dorcas used to make while she was with them*” (Acts 9:39). Granted, not everyone can sew well, but Tabitha did what she could for others and is remembered and held up in Scripture as a woman of faith. Peter prayed and God raised Dorcas from the dead and “*it became known all over Joppa, and many believe in the*

Lord” (Acts 9:42). God used the faithful disciple Dorcas.

The Lord told Ananias that Saul *“is a chosen instrument of Mine, to bear My name before the Gentiles and kings and the sons of Israel”* (Acts 9:15). An instrument to be used. Paul later writes, *“Then I went into the regions of Syria and Cilicia. I was still unknown by sight to the churches of Judea which are in Christ; but they only kept hearing, “The man who once persecuted us is now preaching the faith which he once tried to destroy”. And they were glorifying God because of me”* (Galatians 1:21–24). While Saul was a gifted man, he had also been a disbeliever. I am encouraged when I think there is not much I can do in serving God, and remember His use of Saul.

Mordecai told Esther, *“who knows whether you have not attained royalty for such a time as this?”* (Esther 4:14). She is remembered in Scripture for her faith, bravery, and doing great things for God’s people. God used Esther.

“Therefore, if anyone cleanses himself from these things, he will be an implement for honor, sanctified, useful to the Master, prepared for every good work” (2 Timothy 2:21). When we have faith, we are prepared for God to use us, and He does use us. We must have the desire and willingness to be spent doing His work.

Consider 1 Peter 4:10–11. *“As each one has received a special gift, employ it in serving one another as good stewards of the manifold grace of God; whoever speaks, is to do so as one who is speaking the utterances of God; whoever serves is to do so as one who is serving by the strength which God supplies; so that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belongs the glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.”*

Christians are useful to the Master. He gives us gifts and He supplies us with strength to serve. David *“served the purpose of God in his own generation”* (Acts 13:36), and we must serve God in our generation. Be faithful and “be prepared for every good work,” useful to the Master.

By Charles Willis

Know Your Bible

Who Said It?

1. The Lord has chosen you to build a house for the sanctuary; be strong, and do it.
2. Let me die with the Philistines.
3. Do not urge me to leave you or turn back from following you; for where you go, I will go, and where you lodge, I will lodge. Your people shall be my people, and your God, my God.
4. I know that You can do all things, And that no purpose of Yours can be thwarted.

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.



Gifts

by Charles Willis

I enjoy giving and receiving gifts. The giving is much more enjoyable to me, especially when I am giving to children, and even more when they are my grandchildren. To see little eyes light up with a sparkle at the sight of the wrapping paper and bow, and then grow larger when the gift is seen for the first time. It is a gratifying feeling for the gift giver. Many parents (and grand parents) spoil children at birthdays by giving an abundance of gifts. I am troubled by parents who do not give their children a much greater gift.

We shower our children with baubles and beads, plastic and paper, games and toys. We spend lots of money on these things when we know they have little if any lasting value. Why will some refuse to give their children the gift of the Word of God? I’m not talking about buying them a Bible, but giving them knowledge of the Word of God. To share with them the things that have led you to believe in Jesus as the Son of God. To educate them in the ways of God as they grow, learning to deal with every situation from a standpoint of “God first.” These have a much greater value and important, yet by the actions of some parents you would think the piece of molded plastic from the toy store has more value.

How much more should we consider the gift of God that was given to each of us. “Christ also loved you, and gave Himself up for us” (Eph. 5:2). “Husbands love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her” (Eph. 5:25). “I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me, and delivered Himself up for me” (Gal. 2:20). God’s love for us has been demonstrated by the immensity of the gift. As those who receive the blessings of this gift, are we as thankful as we ought to be? Have we come to a point in our life that we take the sacrifice of Christ for granted? May it never be! “Thanks be to God who always leads us in His triumph in Christ” (2 Cor. 2:14).

The gift of God is beyond comparison and the benefits beyond imagination. May we all truly be thankful for the salvation afforded us through Jesus Christ. May we all work to share this gift with our children and grandchildren, and all we come in contact with. There is no greater gift that could ever be given to any person!