

Family Matters

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

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Know Your Bible: Answers

1. Abram & Sarai (Gen. 17:5, 15)
2. Jacob (Gen. 32:28)
3. Hoshea (Numbers 13:16)
4. Simon (John 1:42)
5. Daniel (1:6-7)
6. Mattaniah (2 Kings 24:17)

This Week's Assignments & Events

Sunday Worship

Greeter: Lester Mabry
Announcements: Josh Emerson
Encouragement Talk: John Van Baale
Opening Prayer: John Franks
Scripture Reading: Corwin Richardson
Luke 14:25–35
Song Leader: Billy Lovell
Table Talk: Leighton Daniels
Contribution: Tyler Blazek
Helper: Truett Blazek
Fruit of Vine: Kevin Buckner
Helper: Verlin Wilson
Helper: Gobi Warner
Closing Prayer: Kyle Crain

Sunday Afternoons

Nov 16	Nothing
Nov 23	Nothing
Nov 30	Nothing
Dec 7	3PM Sim

Wednesday Evening

Song Leader: Arturo Orozco
Speaker: John Van Baale



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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Enthusiasm

Have you ever worshipped some place that was lacking in enthusiasm? It's kind of like going to the funeral home. No one says much to you except the preacher. If you received a note of thanks for visiting, it likely came from the preacher. The singing was lethargic and depressing. Prayers were said in a way that was difficult to hear, and sometimes difficult to understand, often filled with "typical prayer phrases" that are frequently repeated. It's sad that for some, worshipping God is not as exciting as it once was. Enthusiasm is "ardent zeal or interest; fervor." It is the opposite of discourages or disinterested. It suggests involvement and concern. Doesn't it seem strange that some congregations are lacking in this quality? We display our enthusiasm in attendance, our participation, greeting visitors, and our attitude while singing. We sometimes sing songs like "Word For The Night Is Coming", "Rescue The Perishing, Care For The Dying", "Her Am I, Lord Send Me", and then sleep through the sermon. Is this enthusiasm or are we deceiving ourselves?

Those Christians who are enthused about God must tell others about Christ. They cannot help but tell others what they believe because they are excited about it. They will invite others to the worship assemblies because they are invigorated by what takes place in the assembly. They want others to be excited about God. The truly enthusiastic want to learn more about God and His will for us. They will regularly study their Bible in private and with others. They desire to be busy doing the Lord's work. They easily keep their priorities in perspective of the heavenly goal.

Misplaced enthusiasm can lead to sin. Being excited about the work is good, but when the excitement becomes more important than the authority, sin is right around the corner. Some who are enthusiastic about doing good work would have the church fulfill responsibilities that belong to the individual. They again see the need, they see the work is good, but they do not seek to determine if it's authorized from the Bible. Our enthusiasm can even offend others when trying to teach them. If we are

not careful about how we say things, and the tone of voice it's said with, our enthusiasm to spread the truth can be done in an offensive manner. A careful, logical approach is best. We must be diligent to have enthusiasm, but not let it control our thinking.

To kill a church, you don't have to fire the preacher. You don't have to burn the building down. The elders don't need to resign. The Bibles can even stay in the pews. All that needs to be done is be indifferent to the purposes of God. Just kind of shrug your shoulders about what God says, and the local church will die. Be unconcerned about spreading the truth, about refuting error, about worshipping in such a way as to edify the brethren. This slow, grinding force of indifference will kill a church.

Does your service display enthusiasm or indifference? When strangers visit our assemblies, do they see people who are enthusiastic about being at the assembly or do they see people who are present only out of compulsion? Do people see spiritual zeal or spiritual laziness? We should try to adopt the attitude of the Apostle Paul who said, *"Brethren, I do not regard myself as having laid hold of it yet; but one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and reaching forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus"* (Philippians 3:13–14). His enthusiasm is obvious, and ours should be also. There is one more trait of enthusiasm to consider: *it's contagious!*

By Charles Willis



Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, this he will also reap. For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap CORRUPTION, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap ETERNAL LIFE.

Galatians 6:7-8

***Know
Your
Bible***

What was their original name? The list below is their changed name.

- 1. Abraham and Sarah
- 2. Israel
- 3. Joshua
- 4. Peter
- 5. Belteshazzar
- 6. Zedekiah

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.



TRUTH: IS IMPORTANT by Charles Willis

The Word of God is truth. It is the only thing God has given us to convey His will of how to please Him. He no longer speaks to men except through His word of truth. He no longer sends prophets or inspires men to write. Those things intended in the first century (1 Corinthians 13). Jesus said, *"Sanctify them in the truth; Your word is truth"* (John 17:17). Sanctify means "to set apart." In Scripture those who have been "set apart" are called saints. "Sanctify" and "Saint" are from the same root word in Greek. What sets us apart from the world? The word of truth. We must see the personal importance of the truth.

Jesus said, *"you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free"* (John 8:32). Freedom only comes by knowing God's truth. Many are still enslaved to sin, though they call themselves a Christian, because they do not know the truth. God *"desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth"* (1 Timothy 2:4). Clearly, salvation includes knowing the truth. God has told us how to be saved in His word of truth. Paul wrote about *"the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation"* (Ephesians 1:13). "Gospel" meaning "good news". God's truth brings good news to us about how to be saved. Peter wrote, *"you have in obedience to the truth purified your souls..."* (1 Peter 1:22). "Purified" is about our forgiveness from God. The truth will make you free.

"In the exercise of His will He brought us forth by the word of truth" (James 1:18). It is God's will that all men be saved (1 Timothy 2:4). We cannot save ourselves, God has brought a way of salvation to us. Jesus told Nicodemus, *"unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God"* (John 3:3), and (in verse 5) *"unless one is born of water and the Spirit he cannot enter into the kingdom of God."* We understand "born of water" refers to baptism, and of "the spirit" is about our changed thinking (the capital "S" is added by some publishers on the word spirit). Our thinking changes to conform to God's word. In the New Testament this about putting on the New Man in Christ: *"put on the new self, which in the likeness of God has been created in righteousness and holiness of the truth"* (Ephesians 4:24). The truth is how we learn to be baptized and live in obedience. *"You have been born again not of seed which is perishable but imperishable, that is, through the living and enduring word of God"* (1 Peter 1:23). The "seed" is the "truth" which is implanted in us when we read or hear it. That seed sprouts and grows in us to the point we obey God. Without the truth of God no one would be saved. No one would know salvation is needed or possible, and no one would know how to please God.

Change the way you think about God's word. The truth is important!