

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. The Ephesians (Acts 19:19)

2. Absalom (2 Samuel 14:28–33)

3. Samson (Judges 15:4–5)

4. The Amalekites (1 Samuel 30:1)

5. Abimelech (Judges 9:49)

This Week's Assignments & Events		
Sunday Worship	Sunday Afternoons	
Greeter: Lester Mabry	May 10	Nothing
Announcements: John Van Baale		
Encouragement Talk: Josh Emerson	May 17	Nothing
Opening Prayer: John Franks		
Scripture Reading: Jordan Thomas	May 24	Nothing
Luke 21:34–38		
Song Leader: Kevin Buckner		
Table Talk: Arturo Orozco	May 31	3PM Visitation Day
Contribution: Gary Tuttle		
Helper: Corwin Richardson		
Fruit of Vine: Tyler Blazek	Wednesday Evening	
Helper: Truett Blazek	Song Leader: Jordan Thomas	
Helper: Verlin Wilson	Speaker: Paul Hainline	
Closing Prayer: Kyle Crain		



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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Instructions To Corinth

Any study of the congregation in Corinth will easily lead one to conclude there were a lot of problems going on. Many in the congregation had struggles with the truth and against temptation. In the first letter Paul address several specific concerns including a lack of unity, tolerating one who is in sin and needs to be removed from their midst, issues regarding marriage, problems relating to eating meat sacrificed to idols and putting stumbling blocks before others, and many issues related to miraculous spiritual gifts. At the writing of the second letter, it seems many of those concerns had been righteously heard and repentance has occurred (2 Cor. 7:8–13).

In the second letter to Corinth Paul address other concerns about their following through on pledged contributions to the needy saints in Jerusalem. Some continued to question Paul’s apostleship, which he defends. He states, *“I am afraid that perhaps when I come I may find you to be not what I wish and may be found by you to be not what you wish; that perhaps there will be strife, jealousy, angry tempers, disputes, slanders, gossip, arrogance, disturbances; I am afraid that when I come again my God may humiliate me before you, and I may mourn over many of those who have sinned in the past and not repented of the impurity, immorality and sensuality which they have practiced.”* (2 Cor. 12:20–21). There was still much need for growth in Corinth, and for the saints to “test yourselves to see if you are in the faith” (2 Cor. 13:5).

Through both letters, it is very important to note that Paul continuously address them as brethren in Christ. In his very last written remarks to these weaker brethren, he gives instruction that many of us need to hear. *“Finally, brethren, rejoice, be made complete, be comforted, be like-minded, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you”* (2 Cor. 13:11). If you are trying to grow in Christ, these instructions are very helpful, and a good summation of what we all should be doing.

1. **Rejoice** - The reason for our rejoicing is in the salvation through Christ Jesus! In our daily lives it is easy to become distracted with life’s challenges so that we fail to keep our Salvation in Him as our focus. We have every reason to rejoice every day, even the hardest and most difficult of days. When brethren become sour, argumentative, combative, and strive against one another and against God’s word, this is an indication of a loss of focus (and sin is likely). Christians should be those who rejoice!

2. **Be Made Complete** - The Greek word translated as “complete” means *“to strengthen, perfect, complete, make one what he ought to be”* (Thayer’s Greek Lexicon). In other words, we cannot

remain as we are. We need to grow to completion. We need to mature as we “ought.” Too many Christians fail to see this need in their own life. They have not examined themselves closely enough to see if they are in the faith (2 Cor. 13:8). This completion requires effort, time, and patience with ourselves. If we want to move past the kind of problems which existed in the Corinthian congregation, each individual must apply this instruction to ourselves.

3. **Be Comforted** - God is the “*Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our affliction*” (2 Cor. 1:3–4). We will never be comforted if we remain in our sin, but if we repent and serve the Lord in righteousness, we should be comforted in God’s forgiveness and grace. This is another daily concept which we need to think about. We can grow in faith as we regularly consider what God has done for us.
4. **Be Like-Minded** - This was the problem in 1 Corinthians 1:10–17, that the brethren were divided and quarrelled amongst themselves. In a similar way in the second letter some were still questioning Paul’s authority as an apostle. The acceptance of God’s truth was not universally accepted in the congregation. They were not like-minded. Oh that brethren today could see the importance of this instruction! The bickering over opinions and feelings, the biting of each other over nonsense, the countless divisions and splitting of congregations over issues not related to an abuse of authority or of anything contrary to the doctrine of Christ. It just seems at times, brethren do not want to get along. The purposes and goals within a congregation should be the same - to please God! To worship God! To bring honor to His name! To cause others to believe and serve Him! To go to heaven! May that forever be our like-minded purpose in this congregation!
5. **Live In Peace** - I do think this statement was directed to the brethren. As in: live in peace with one another. We cannot be fighting one another and think that God will be pleased. As parents none of us are pleased when our children fight. “*By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another*” (John 13:35). It is also true that we must live in peace with God. We make Him our enemy when we are a friend of the world (James 4:4). Living in obedience is how we remain at peace with God.

The instructions at the end of 2 Corinthians can help each one of us to live more righteously before God, and help our congregation to be more pleasing before Him. I urge of us to examine ourselves to see if we are in the faith. How well are we applying these instructions in our lives?

***Know
Your
Bible***

Fire

1. What group of converts brined their books of magic?
2. Who burned Joab’s barley field just to get his attention?
3. Who burned the Philistine’s grain by tying torches to the tails of foxes?
4. What nation burned David’s city of Ziklag?
5. What judge killed about 1,000 people when he burned the tower of Shechem?

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.



Jesus Christ: The Way, The Truth and The Life

Dan Dow

THE WAY: Jesus Christ is the way of salvation. The Hebrew writer stated He is the “*author of eternal salvation*” (Hebrews 5:9). Therefore, Jesus alone can offer the true path to follow (Matthew 8:22; 10:38; 16:24; 19:21). The heavenly Father committed Jesus’ words to us at the time of His transfiguration, “*This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye Him*” (Matthew 17:5). In Acts 9:2 we read that Saul of Tarsus was persecuting those who followed those “that were of the Way.” In other words, he persecuted those who followed the teachings of Jesus Christ.

THE TRUTH: Jesus Christ is the Truth. In His prayer to the Father He said He had preached the Father’s message (John 17:6–8) and that message was Truth (John 17:17). Truth is defined as “consistency” or “never changing.” The equation 2+2=4 is truth. It is true today, always has been true, and always will be true. In like manner Jesus is Truth, and such is His message. “*Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today, yea and forever*” (Hebrews 13:8). His truth of salvation has not changed since the foundation of the New Testament church (Faith + Repentance + Confession + Baptism = Salvation), nor will it ever change. (cf. John 8:24, Luke 13:3, Matthew 10:32,33; Mark 16:15,16)

THE LIFE: Jesus Christ is Life eternal. The gospel of John gives us great insight into this aspect of Jesus’ sonship. John begins the book by telling us, “*in him was life; and the life was the light of men*” (John 1:4). By the third chapter, Jesus is talking to Nicodemus concerning the New birth (Baptism). In verse 15 and 16 Jesus said, “*Whosoever believeth in Him may have eternal life. For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten, that whosoever believeth on Him should not perish, but have eternal life.*”

“*He that believeth on the Son hath eternal life; but he that obeyeth not the Son shall not see life*” (John 3:36).

In the next chapter Jesus speaks to the Samaritan woman concerning the water of life, to which He says,

“Whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall become in him a well of water springing up unto eternal life” (John 4:10ff).

Here we see an obvious need to enter into Christ.

The WAY and TRUTH that Jesus offers results in ETERNAL LIFE. All three are obviously related in Christ Jesus.