

Killeen Church of Christ Bulletin

**“Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man.”
-Ecclesiastes 12:13**

**VOLUME 24
NUMBER 43**

NOVEMBER 5, 2017

SHEPHERDS

*Boyce Edwards
Lee Fisher
Zachary Petties*

DEACONS

*Jacob Bryant
Rey Cruz
Roger Deem
Gaylen Williams*

PREACHERS

*Dan Carter
Boyce Edwards*

TREASURER

Trevor Heilman

MONTHLY SUPPORT:

*Cherokee Home
For Children
Cherokee, TX*

*Christian Homes &
Family Services
Abilene, TX*

*Foster's Home
For Children
Stephenville, TX*

*Sunny Glen
Children's Home
San Benito, TX*

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

SUNDAY

BIBLE CLASSES _____ 9:30 A.M.

WORSHIP _____ 10:30 A.M.

EVENING WORSHIP _____ 5:00 P.M.

WEDNESDAY

CLASSES/WORSHIP _____ 7:00 P.M.

WE MUST OBEY GOD BY ANDREW PHILLIPS

You may have played this game before; it is one I have never forgotten. When I was in high school, I was part of a youth rally Bible class where the teacher led us through an interesting illustration. One person was blindfolded and told to walk across a room that had been transformed with tables and chairs into an obstacle course. Our job as classmates was to shout wrong directions; our goal was to keep the blindfolded person from making it across the room. One participant walked beside the blindfolded person, giving him the right directions. The room quickly grew so loud with students yelling that it was difficult to tell whose voice should be obeyed. Our situation in this media-saturated world is not all that different. Whether through 24-hour news networks or social media sites, we are flooded with news, opinions and editorials. We often have more information than we know what to do with, and we struggle with how to process it all. Whose voice should we trust? Whose voice should we obey? Amid all the noise, where do we turn?

A Clear Principle-Every Pentecost in Jerusalem would have seemed busy and chaotic, but the year Jesus was crucified, the crowds must have been especially noisy. They would have been discussing the events surrounding the crucifixion, the darkness that fell over the land, and the reports of His resurrection. In Acts 2, the noise of Pentecost was pierced with the message of the gospel. In Acts 4, Peter and John were thrown into prison after healing a man and preaching about Jesus in the temple courts. The leaders, scribes and elders instructed Peter and John to stop preaching the message of Jesus. Peter responded in Acts 4:19-20: "Whether it is right in the sight of God to listen to you rather than to God, you must judge, for we cannot but speak of what we have seen and heard" (ESV). The church continued to grow, and God continued to perform wonders and signs through the apostles. When the high priest had them imprisoned, God provided a way for them to escape and continue preaching in the temple. The doors were still locked, and the guards were still there, but God had delivered the apostles. They were brought before the council again, who reminded them that preaching the message of Jesus had been forbidden. Here is how they responded in Acts 5:29: "We must obey God rather than men."

How did they decide what to do and whose instructions to obey? They used a simple, clear principle: "We must obey God rather than men." When the religious leaders told them to stop teaching about Jesus, they obeyed God. In Acts 12, after James was put to death and Peter was put in prison, they obeyed God. In Acts 17, when the intellectuals in Athens snickered at the idea of resurrection from the dead, Paul obeyed God. In the face of persecution, the church obeyed God, and it grew. In confusing times, this clear directive provides guidance and reassurance.

A Challenging Principle-"We must obey God rather than men" is a clear statement, but a challenging one. Can you imagine those words coming from the mouth of Moses? I can picture him taking Joshua aside and reminding him to rely on God's instructions rather than men's opinions. Moses understood what it was like to stand accused in front of his own countrymen. In Numbers 16, a few leaders of the Israelites named Korah, Dathan and Abiram gathered 250 other influential men to stand against Moses. They accused him of seizing too much glory for himself. Moses relied on God, and God made Himself known in a powerful way. He opened up the ground and sent down fire, confirming Moses as Israel's leader. Moses knew what it was like to count on God's will rather than human opinion. "We must obey God rather than men." As Peter himself discovered, there are times when this principle is easier than others. In Acts 4 and 5, Peter's voice appears quick and confident, declaring that they will obey God and continue to teach about Jesus. In Acts 15, as the leaders in the church were debating about whether Gentile Christians needed to obey the Law of Moses also, it was Peter who stood up and spoke powerfully about the way God had shown salvation to them and now made no distinction between Jews and Gentiles. Yet Galatians 2 tells how Peter slipped back into old patterns of behavior. When certain men were around, Peter stopped eating with the Gentile Christians and began eating only with Jews. Paul had to confront Peter and remind him that how God saw Christians was more important than how others viewed them. Another challenge occurs when our own desires conflict with how God wants us to live. The clearest example of this is seen when Jesus prayed in the Garden of Gethsemane shortly before He went to the cross. He knew what would happen to Him, and He prayed: "Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me. Nevertheless, not my will, but yours, be done" (Luke 22:42). Jesus submitted His own will to God's. There will be times when the voices calling for us to go against God's will are our own, and Jesus gives us a model to follow when that happens.

"We must obey God rather than men." We might not have to face off with 250 influential leaders, but what happens when a close friend ridicules a decision we have made? What happens when our culture tells us that certain actions and choices are acceptable rather than sinful? What happens when we simply want to do something we know we should not do? We obey God rather than men. Like participants in a blindfold exercise, Christians are called to listen among all the competing voices for the one voice that provides true guidance. It will not always be easy, but it will always be right.

From the Desk of Dan Carter

HOW IMPORTANT IS IT?

If we had some type of illness that would necessitate a trip to the doctor, or, even the hospital, would we make the necessary arrangements to take care of the need?

Of course, to ask the question is only to answer it. We are careful with the physical body. We want to be sure that our physical man is in perfect working order. We would spend all we had to take care of our physical body. If such be the case, why are we not as concerned with the spiritual man? Churches that continue to stand in the Old Paths are looked upon as odd, and are fading away, while those who offer more entertainment are bursting at the seams. What is happening? Are we less interested in the Word of God and more for the word of man? I am afraid that this situation will only get worse. Old gospel preachers, as myself, are being put out to pasture. No longer do we hear the cry for the Old Paths (Jer.6:16), but, "Speak to us Smooth Things" (Isa.30:10).

Are we bound to repeat history? Israel was God's chosen; but, soon they began to want less of the Word and more of the world.

Now, there needs to be a balance in preaching.

Preachers need to be sure they are teaching the Word of God, but we need to bring the hearers along. We all need to grow in "The Grace and Knowledge" of our Savior (2 Peter 3:18). The entire Word must be preached. Time does not need to be used to continue to condemn sin, but we need to encourage the Body of Christ to continue in good works for Christ (Eph. 2:10). Brethren need to be commended as they grow and show Christ living in them. Preachers need to be able to strike a balance. We should "Exhort and Reprove"(2 Tim.4:2), with all long-suffering. We preachers need to have compassion, even when error is pointed out.

Now to the other side of the coin. God's people must be dedicated to the Lord. The world is trying to pull us away. Activities of the world are fine in their time and place, but nothing, nothing, can take the place of the Body of Christ.

This congregation must dedicate itself to God's Way, no matter what! This work comes first. As a member of this congregation, dedicate yourself to it, in the Lord. This body needs every member active and faithful. Attendance is low. We need to be at every service (Heb.10:25). This is your family. This is your home. It is so sad to see attendance so low. Every member needs to think seriously about this. Paul talks about "The Whole Body" coming together (I Cor.14:23), "In One Place."



REJOICE! -We rejoice for our new sister in Christ, Debra Yanez, and brother Antwuan Perry, who were recently baptized. Please welcome them and keep them in your prayers.

Top Secret
C.I.A.
TEEN CLASS!

Otherwise known as
Christianity in Action

Come join us in solving a
mystery using your
investigative skills!

Date: Saturday, 11/11
Time: 1400 hours till 1600 hours
Location: 5903 Drystone Lane
(Williams Home)

Call Agents Gaylen and Nichole for details
(585) 746-1338; (254) 258-1571

YEAR LONG BIBLE STUDY

Read the Bible through the year with your brothers and sisters in Christ!

Each day covers a different theme regarding the books of the Bible; for example:

- Sunday –The Gospels
- Monday– The Books of Law
- Tuesday-The Books of History
- Wednesday-The Book of Psalms
- Thursday-The Books of Poetry
- Friday-The Books of Prophecy
- Saturday-The Epistles

Week 39 (October 29)

Sun: Acts 1-2
 Mon: Numbers 25-28
 Tues: II Chronicles 6-10
 Wed: Psalms 114-116
 Thurs: Proverbs 26-27
 Fri: Obadiah
 Sat: Hebrews 1-4

Week 40 (November 5)

Sun: Acts 3-4
 Mon: Numbers 29-32
 Tues: II Chronicles 11-15
 Wed: Psalms 117-118
 Thurs: Proverbs 28
 Fri: Jonah
 Sat: Hebrews 5-7

Week 41 (November 12)

Sun: Acts 5-6
 Mon: Numbers 33-36
 Tues: II Chronicles 16-20
 Wed: Psalms 119
 Thurs: Proverbs 29-30
 Fri: Micah
 Sat: Hebrews 8-10

Week 42 (November 19)

Sun: Acts 7-8
 Mon: Deuteronomy 1-3
 Tues: II Chronicles 21-24
 Wed: Psalms 120-121
 Thurs: Proverbs 31
 Fri: Nahum
 Sat: Hebrews 11-13

**If you would like to join the forum to ask questions, share insights, or to receive encouragement, please see Gaylen or Nichole Williams.*

THOSE TO SERVE THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 5, 2017:

PARKING LOT DUTY: PATRICK SELLERS

HALL MONITOR: JACOB BRYANT

AUDIO/VIDEO SYSTEMS FOR NOVEMBER:
BRETT LINGLE

ANNOUNCEMENTS: BOYCE EDWARDS

SONG DIRECTOR: GAYLEN WILIAMS

COMMUNION:

(NORTH) LEE FISHER, TREVOR HEILMAN
 KYLE POCANOWSKI, CHARLES CULVER

(SOUTH) ROGER DEEM, DENNIS MARLER
 BRUCE BROWN, JOHN HOBSON

SCRIPTURE READING: JOHN LLEWELLYN

PICK UP CARDS: RANGER SANDERS
 BO BRYANT

PRAYERS:

(A.M.) ANDRE PETTAWAY, AL WILSON
 (P.M.) GAYLEN WILLIAMS, JOHN LLEWELLYN

NURSERY ATTENDANTS (A.M.):

DIANE LINGLE & ANGELA THOMAS

EVENING SONG DIRECTOR: REGGIE BASS

EVENING COMMUNION:

TREVOR HEILMAN, DENNIS MARLER

WEDNESDAY SONG LEADER:

ZACK PETTIES

WEDNESDAY PRAYER: JIM DUKES

PREPARE COMMUNION FOR NOVEMBER:

TOMMY & SHERI BAILEY

OFFICE: 254-634-7373 or leave a message at 254-634-7476 /
kcofc@embarqmail.com

DAN CARTER: 254-213-8217 / gospel1killeen@embarqmail.com

BOYCE EDWARDS: 254-319-5008 / bkedward@embarqmail.com

WEBSITE: www.kcofc.org

NEWS FROM THE PEWS

REMEMBER OUR MILITARY & CIVILIANS:

Rikki Martin's husband, Christopher, is deployed to South Korea. Please keep this family in your prayers.

Zane Wilson is moving to Colorado. Please keep him in your prayers.

OUR SICK: Connie Cruz is recovering from adverse side effects due to a shot she had received. Please keep her in your prayers.

CONTINUED PRAYERS FOR OUR SICK & HOMEBOUND:

Willard Dunn, Cesar Ortiz, Jonathan Simmons Sr., Linda Walts, David Chapman, Jessica Bryant's friends (David & Sharissa Wills), Rey Cruz's family members in Puerto Rico, Tina Pallo, Jim Dukes, Kyle Pocanowski's mother, James Garner, Scott Davis, David Shilling, Letty Burgos' father, Maggie Landes, Brett Lingle, Brenda Sellers' mother & stepmother, & her sister (Jesse), Connie Havens, Al & Gayle Wilson's sister-in-law (Regina Farmer), Jean Basco, Alice Saffor, Dora Ray Chanslor, John Llewellyn's sister (Janet Schleyer), Nelda Cox, Mary Culp, Sybil Cason, Janet Simmons, Jonathan Simmons Jr., Garnie & Nada Miller, Gail Mende's son (Eric), Shirl Foster, Zack & Amanda Petties' son-in-law's stepmother (Vivian), & Amanda Petties' brother & nephew. Please keep these members and loved ones in your prayers as they battle health problems.

VISITATION TEAMS: Visitation Team #2 will meet with their leader, Reggie Bass, today, to get their visitation assignments. Team members are: Reggie & Janet Bass, Boyce Edwards, Zack & Amanda Petties, and Gaylen & Nichole Williams.

FELLOWSHIP POTLUCK LUNCHEON: We invite everyone to stay for our monthly Fellowship Potluck Luncheon today, following the morning service in the Fellowship Hall. **KITCHEN GROUP #6** will have kitchen duties (Victoria Polanco, Cheryl Flores, Linda Deem, and Bethany Vera).

HOLIDAY GIFT BASKETS: Our annual holiday baskets project for benevolence will be on December 2. If anyone would like to contribute to the cost of the supplies, please see Lee Fisher.

FOSTER'S HOME FOR CHILDREN

DRIVE: Our annual drive for Foster's Home for Children, in Stephenville, TX, is underway and will run until November 26. We are collecting boxed cereal. Please place these items in the foyer on the table. Thank You!

SUPER FUN YOUTH ACTIVITIES

COMING UP! Gaylen & Nichole Williams will host a fellowship for the Teen Class called (Top Secret-CIA) aka Christianity in Action, on Saturday, November 11, from 2-4. There will also be an artistic activity for all the youth on Sunday, November 19, at 3:30 pm. The details and sign up sheets are in the foyer.

Welcome to all our visitors and members!! To our visitors, we invite you to come back and visit with us whenever you can! Our speaker this morning is Dan Carter.

Please fill out an Attendance Card and pass it to the inner aisle so we may have a record of your attendance.

Thank You!

2017 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

NOVEMBER

- 5-Fellowship Luncheon after morning service. Group #6 will have kitchen duties.
- 10-Office will be closed in observance of Veteran's Day.
- 11-Teen Fellowship at the home of Gaylen & Nichole Williams from 2-4.
- 18-Ladies breakfast & workday at 9:30 am, in the fellowship hall.
- 19-Youth artistic activity in the fellowship hall at 3:30 pm.
- 26-Foster's Home For Children Drive will end.

DECEMBER

- 2- Holiday Basket Project



Calling young Artists of all ages!

Come join us in the fellowship hall for some cool art fun!

When: Nov. 19th

Time: 3:30pm (just before services)

Please sign up in foyer for some artistic creativity!

If you would like to volunteer to help please see Gaylen and Nichole Williams

Our change drive for Christian Homes and Services in Abilene, TX, has ended. Please turn your change cans in. Thank you for your generosity and efforts in this year's drive!

