



# Welcome To The Killeen Church of Christ!

*"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



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### ***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*

### **SERVICE SCHEDULE**

SUNDAY BIBLE CLASS - 9:30 AM

SUNDAY WORSHIP - 10:30 AM

WEDNESDAY - 7:00 PM



## **THROW ANOTHER LOG ON THE FIRE**

By Phil McIntosh

Occasionally my family and I take advantage of an opportunity to get out of town. We pack up some essentials (food, coffee, phones, tablets, computer, camping chairs, etc.- as if they're all really *essential* right?) and hit the road. We try to always stay at Texas

State Parks because the scenery is usually great, the price is very affordable, and the peace and quiet is in abundance. We like to go on hikes, watch movies together, or even get out on the water. One of our favorite activities is the fire. We have a fire pit that we take with us so we can sit around it at night and cook our hot dogs/sausages/marshmallows (if you've never had a 'mallow-dog' ask me about it sometime). There is nothing like the crackle of a fire. The flames as they ebb and flow, dimming and sharpening, are mesmerizing. Enjoying a fire is not just a one shot, set-it-and-forget-it, exercise though. You must tend the fire by rearranging the pieces that have burned and created a loose proximity to the other wood which causes the fire to die down. The only way to ensure your fire stays hot and active until you're finished with it is to continually add wood. Fire is powerful. If one were to examine it within a positive vein, he would see that fire is effective in purification and powering of engines. It is the last element, that of locomotion and energy, with which we are interested today.

There was a congregation of the Lord's church who categorized their local church family, after having recently completed a personal evangelism seminar, as being "on fire." The same phrase can be used for someone who was newly converted to Christ. It's possible a person may obey the gospel and want to light the whole world on fire for Jesus. Such a person perhaps cannot get enough Jesus and they want anybody and everybody around them to hear the message and change their lives too. Their "fire" in their heart and soul is burning hot and heavy. Such an attitude is commendable; however, at the same time, caution should be exercised. If some unexpected water is poured on that fire, it might go out. The devil is capable of discouraging and surprising us. If he can put out our fire for the Lord, he will (**1 Pet. 5:8**). The apostle Paul said that one of his worries for the church in Corinth was that someone would pull them away from the "simplicity" that was in Christ (**2 Cor. 11:3**). A fire under the heart and soul of an individual is desired by God, but that fire must be maintained, or it can grow cold and turn grey and ashy, profitable for not much more than salt that lost its seasoning (**Matt. 5:13**).

Take a moment and read a portion of a parable from Jesus. He was speaking about how people would receive and handle the word of God. Recorded for us in Matthew 13, Jesus spoke of four different types of soils. Two of those soils are mentioned here:

“Behold, a sower went out to sow...<sup>5</sup> Some fell on stony places, **where they did not have much earth**; and they immediately sprang up because they had no depth of earth. <sup>6</sup> But when the sun was up they were scorched, and because they had no root they withered away...<sup>8</sup> But others fell on good ground and yielded a crop: some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty.’” -Matthew 13:3b-8 (emphasis mine)

Notice that the stony soil that Jesus mentioned received the word “with joy” (*Matt. 13:21*). It was eager, it was zealous, it was ready to roll. However, its roots were shallow, and it was easily pulled up. Why? Because that soul’s fire wasn’t maintained. It didn’t have deep enough ties to the knowledge of the Lord in the word of God and wasn’t entrenched enough in faith to withstand water being poured on its brand-new fire. It might have started out with great verve, but it quickly regressed and wilted. If its roots had dug into the word of God and wrapped themselves around the truth often enough and tightly enough it could have corrected course and caught fire again.

The necessity of tending the fire is not a tenet of Christianity relegated only to the brand-new. Every Christian, of all ages and experience, should be mindful of their fire. Examine yourself (*2 Cor. 13:5*) and check that fire. How? Try some of these:

1. Gauge your general interest in spiritual matters like Bible reading/discussion/study
2. Question what kind of mood you’ve had lately toward God and His people
3. Inspect your life for time dedicated to spiritual growth versus worldly activity
4. Think about your recent attendance to worship, Bible class, extracurriculars
5. Ponder how active your prayer life has been lately
6. Ask yourself where God and His commands sit in your heart’s priority list
7. Consider if you have felt spiritually sluggish lately or just generally despondent

Depending on your conclusions from the above suggestions, you might need to feed the embers that your heart still holds and ignite them again. So long as you have not passed from this world and the Savior has not returned, that fire can be lit ablaze again (*Rom. 8:31; Phil. 4:13*). Your goal, though, should be to never allow your fire to dissipate to that point. Ensure that you are ever burning for God and the King of kings by periodically, purposefully, and perpetually throwing another log on that fire.

## SPRING CLEAN-UP AT THE NOLANVILLE ENCAMPMENT:

There will be a spring clean-up at the campground on Saturday, April 2nd, @ 9:00 am  
(Rain date will be April 9th).

Please bring work gloves & weed eaters.

Everyone is welcome!

Please contact Roger Deem for any questions.

**Please join us for special Fellowship Luncheon on Sunday, April 3rd, following the morning service to honor Dan Carter.**

**Dan will be moving and will begin ministering at the Morgan Mill church of Christ, near Stephenville, Texas, beginning May 1st.**

## YOUTH DEVOTIONAL

Join us for our Youth Devotional April 10th, at 5:00 pm, in the fellowship hall. Please bring finger foods.



**JOIN US!**

**P.E.P. NIGHT**  
HOLY BIBLE  
(Personal Evangelism & Pizza)

Join us for P.E.P Night (Personal Evangelism & Pizza) on April 15th, at 6:00 pm, in the fellowship hall.



