



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



www.kcofc.org

**VOLUME 32
NUMBER 51**

DECEMBER 28, 2025

SHEPHERDS

Lee Fisher
Zachary Petties

DEACONS

Roger Deem
Paul Portley
Gaylen Williams

PREACHER

Phil McIntosh

TREASURER

Gaylen Williams

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 AM WORSHIP - 10:30 AM

SUNDAY PM WORSHIP - 5:00 PM

WEDNESDAY - 6:30 PM

Obedience or a Pure Heart- Which is it?

Shepherds Notes by Lee Fisher



When you think about your walk with God, you may sometimes wonder: Is it enough just to obey His commands? Or is it enough just to have a pure heart? The truth is, Scripture shows us that obedience and a pure heart are NOT opposites — they belong together. One without the other leaves us incomplete. They are Two Sides of the Same Coin!

Jesus said, *"If you love Me, keep My commandments"* (John 14:15). Obedience is meant to flow out of love. But He also warned: *"This people draws near to Me with their mouth, and honors Me with their lips, but their heart is far from Me"* (Matthew 15:8–9). Think about times you have gone through the motions — you showed up at worship, sang the songs, bowed your head in prayer — but your heart was not really in it. You did or said the right things, but it felt hollow. That is what Jesus was describing. God does not just want outward obedience; He wants your heart behind it.

On the other hand, you have felt deep love for God but struggled to follow through with obedience. It is true that believers can feel a deep love for God yet wrestle with obedience. The Lord reminds us that love is not only an emotion, but a commitment expressed in action. Jesus also said, *"For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments. And His commandments are not burdensome."* (1 John 5:3). Genuine purity of heart is not simply sincerity—it is a heart transformed by God's Word that produces obedience. The Christian life has tension between desire and discipline. Love for God must be reflected into our daily choices through faith, prayer, service, righteous, and obedience.

Think about the joy of serving others because you love God. When you pray, sing, or help someone in need, and you do it from a pure heart, your obedience feels alive! That is what God desires of us — inward purity and outward action working together. Paul reminds us: *"Now the purpose of the commandment is love from a pure heart, from a good conscience, and from sincere faith"* (1 Timothy 1:5). This shows us the harmony of Christian living—love from a pure heart, and faith working together. Obedience and a pure heart are not two separate roads; they are together in one unified way.

Sometimes we feel this tension: We love God deeply, but we stumble in obedience. Hebrews reminds us that even Jesus *"Though He was a Son, yet He learned obedience by the things which He suffered. And having been perfected, He became the author of eternal salvation to all who obey Him"* (Hebrews 5:8–9). If Christ Himself walked that path, then my struggles in life are not failures — they are opportunities to grow spiritually.

So, ask yourself, do I obey God's commands out of habit, or out of love? Do I claim to love God but resist His commands? Or do I strive for both out of a pure heart and faithful obedience? Psalm 24:3–4 reminds us: *"Who may ascend into the hill of the Lord? Or who may stand in His holy place? He who has clean hands and a pure heart..."* Clean hands (obedience) and a pure heart (genuine sincerity) belong together. When obedience and a pure heart are united, our faith is increased and it leads to a greater love and joy we have in God. ---Bro. Lee

Some Good Resolutions

By Dan C. Bailey

It is beneficial to make good resolutions for the New Year. When we reflect upon the past and plan for the future, resolutions are very helpful. How could we ever improve ourselves without resolving to do so? Here are some resolutions which will help us all to have a happy and blessed New Year.

Let Us Resolve To Read The Bible Daily

This is a simple resolution, and one that all Christians should make. If not, then why not? The Bible is the inspired and inerrant Word of God. It will strengthen our souls, guide our feet, and help us to have the best year possible. "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path" (Psalm 119:105). "All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works" (II Tim. 3:16-17). "I have rejoiced in the way of thy testimonies, as much as in all riches" (Psalm 119:14).

Let Us Resolve To Teach Others What We Know

Jesus gave the great commission to the apostles. "And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen" (Matt. 28:18-20). Now think about it for a moment. If Jesus commanded His apostles to teach the lost, and then commanded them to observe all things which He commanded them, then Jesus by implication has given the great commission to the disciples who were taught by the apostles. Then, they in turn taught the great commission to others whom they taught. So today, as Christians, we are to teach others the gospel and then baptize them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. In a parallel passage we read, "And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned" (Mark 16:15-16).

-Dan C. Bailey serves as a minister with the State Street Church of Christ in Bristol, VA.

Bailey, D. C. (2024, December 27). *BulletinGold*. BulletinGold. <https://bulletinoldextra.blogspot.com/search/label/New%20Year>



BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES



Please call, email, or text your birthdays (month/day) and anniversaries (month/day) to the office for everyone to get proper recognition in the bulletin.



MEMBERS' PICTURES

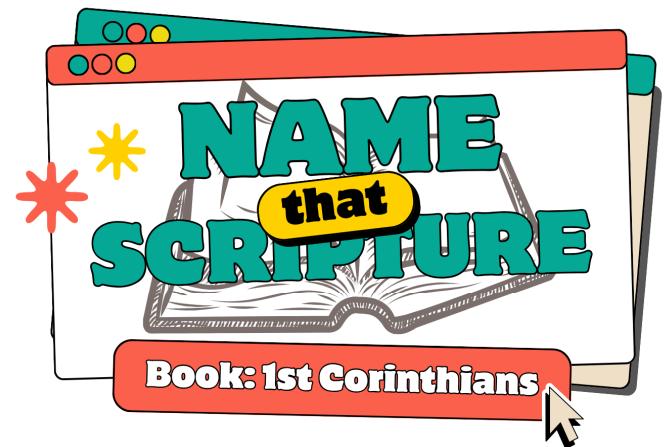


Please see Ron Dinwiddie to schedule a new picture of you and your family for our picture board and the directory.

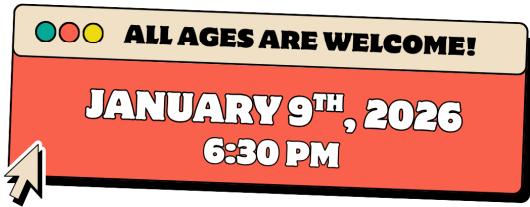
NEW FELLOWSHIP GROUP

The church would like to begin a fellowship group for our 65 & older brothers and sisters.

We welcome your ideas for gatherings and outings. You can contact the church office or see Ron Dinwiddie or Lee Fisher for more information.



Test Your Bible Knowledge!



Place: Fellowship Hall

SCRIPTURE READING

Sunday AM: "The Next Story" Joshua 1:5-7

⁵ No man shall be able to stand before you all the days of your life; as I was with Moses, so I will be with you. I will not leave you nor forsake you. ⁶ Be strong and of good courage, for to this people you shall divide as an inheritance the land which I swore to their fathers to give them. ⁷ Only be strong and very courageous, that you may observe to do according to all the law which Moses My servant commanded you; do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, that you may prosper wherever you go."

Sunday PM: "Overview of God's Word: Malachi"

Malachi 3:6-7

⁶ "For I am the Lord, I do not change; Therefore you are not consumed, O sons of Jacob. ⁷ Yet from the days of your fathers You have gone away from My ordinances And have not kept them. Return to Me, and I will return to you," Says the Lord of hosts. "But you said, 'In what way shall we return?'

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

12/28 - GAYLEN WILLIAMS
3 - RUFUS BROWN
5 - JADEN SEAY
9 - AL WILSON
9 - RALPH HUGHART
18 - BRUCE BROWN
30 - ALFREDA PETTAWAY
30 - KYENDON PETTIES

January Nursery Schedule

4- Victoria & Briana
11- Nichole & Brittni
18- Amanda & Evelyn
25- Brenda & Josephine

*We are in need of more ladies to help in the nursery. If you would like to be on the nursery list, please contact the office. Thank you!

ORDER OF SERVICE

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28, 2025

- ANNOUNCEMENTS: GAYLEN WILLIAMS
- 1ST PRAYER: ROGER BOYD
- SONG: PAUL PORTLEY
- SCRIPTURE READING: DAVID STARK
- SONG: PAUL PORTLEY
- SERMON: PHIL MCINTOSH
- INVITATION SONG: PAUL PORTLEY
- SONG BEFORE COMMUNION:
PAUL PORTLEY
- COMMUNION:
JONATHAN SMITH & QUINCY DANIELS
- SONG: PAUL PORTLEY
- OFFERING:
JONATHAN SMITH & QUINCY DANIELS
- CLOSING SONG: PAUL PORTLEY
- CLOSING PRAYER: PATRICK SELLERS
- AUDIO/VISUAL:
PATRICK SELLERS & DEREK COLE
- SECURITY: ROGER DEEM, SCOTT DAVIS, & BRUCE BROWN
- NURSERY:
NATALIE FISHER & GAYLE WILSON

January Cleaning Calendar

- May be done any time before the next Sunday.
- Please consult with your team leader for further questions.

4-TEAM KINGSFORD Kim-Marie Gaylen Nichole	7-TEAM JAMES Victoria
11-TEAM PHIL Michelle Ivette Juelz Ashley Madison	14-TEAM LEE Natalie Ken Adam Nicole LC

