

Saturday, April 18



The next youth devotional will be hosted by the Jobs Family on

Saturday, April 18 at 6 p.m., here at building. Boys bring drinks, girls bring desserts.

Saturday, April 25

There will be a Peach Valley Christian Youth Camp Annual Bar-B-Q

Fundraiser at 11:30. See the flyer in the hallway for more details.



June 14-19 Hensel Bible Camp

July 19-24 Peach Valley Bible Camp

EDUCATION

In Search of the Lord's Way

The lesson for Sunday, April 19 at 7:30 a.m. on KMOL is entitled, "Left Behind?" Several books and movies recently talk about the rapture and a sudden disappearance of a mass of people. Does the Bible speak of a rapture and what does it say? In this lesson we're going to see if people are really left behind.

SUNDAYS

Bible Classes9:00 AM
Morning Worship10:00 AM
Evening Worship 5:00 PM

Mondays (every first and third week)

Ladies' Bible Study 7:00 PM

Tuesdays (September through May)

Men's Bible Study 10:00 AM

Ladies' Bible Study..... 10:00 AM

WEDNESDAYS

Midweek Bible Study 7:00 PM

EVANGELIST

Clay Bond

SUPPORTED WORKS

James and Emily Cammock
Hamilton, New Zealand

Cecil Shaw

Ocho Rios, Jamaica

Mike Batot

Southwest School of Bible Studies

THE MIDTOWN MESSENGER IS THE WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE MIDTOWN CHURCH OF CHRIST, 5901 N. MAIN, VICTORIA, TEXAS 77904 . 361-573-0030
www.midtowncoc.org

"The Holy Spirit and Inspiration" by Gary Colley

The Bible is the only book in the world that is actually inspired by God. Though there are other books that claim inspiration, none come up to the Book of books (Isa. 34:16; Jn. 5:39-40). The Bible teaches that the Holy Spirit is the third member of the Godhead and is the revelator of all truth through the apostles (Jn. 14:15; 15:14; 16:13).

Inspiration is defined as "a divine influence upon human beings resulting in writing, as of the Scriptures" (Webster's New World Dictionary of the American Language, p. 757).

We are indebted to God the Father, who in love and mercy for lost man made the plan, or scheme of redemption (Jn. 3:16-17). We are also indebted to Jesus, the only begotten Son of God, who was sent by the Father to be the covering for our sins (1 Jn. 2:2), and who came to this low land of sorrow, sickness, temptation, and death to be the perfect sacrifice for sin through His death on the cross (Jn. 1:29; Heb. 2:9; 5:8-9). And, we are indebted to the Holy Spirit, who revealed all of these things to us through the apostles in the New Testament. The apostles

were inspired as well as their message, which means simply that they received the power of the Holy Spirit to reveal all truth to the world (Gal. 1:11-12).

They were the "apostles" (one sent GC), the "witnesses" of the Son of God, and the authorized representatives or "ambassadors" of the King of kings and Lord of Lords (1 Tim. 1:1; 6:15; Lk. 24:46-49; II Cor. 5:18-20). Though some today claim to be apostles, witnesses, and ambassadors, there were and are no successors today to these men chosen by the Lord. We must be humble enough to teach what these inspired men left for us in the Scriptures. The New Testament is sealed with the blood of Jesus and must not be tampered with, mutilated, perverted, or changed in any way (Matt. 26:28; Rev. 22:18-19; I Cor. 4:6).

Revelation and Inspiration

There is an important difference in revelation and inspiration. Revelation is the act of revealing or making known something to someone else, while inspiration is the ability

"But when that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away"

1 Cor. 13:10

given to record accurately that which has been revealed or made known. The Holy Spirit was not to “speak of Himself” but rather whatsoever He heard (Jn. 16:13). He was to reveal or speak only that which He heard from God about Jesus. His mission was to “reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness (of Christ GC), and of judgment” (Jn. 16:8).

In Acts 2, we see how the Holy Spirit carried out His mission. It was through the preaching of the apostles (Acts 2:4, 36-42). Paul reveals to the Corinthian church how the Holy Spirit was to accomplish the deliverance of this inspiration. It would be from His knowledge of the mind of God. “Inspiration” in the Bible simply means “God breathed.” Paul had this inspiration in his mind as he wrote, “But as it is written (Isa. 64:4), Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.

But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God. For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? Even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God. Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God. Which things also we speak, not in the words which man’s wisdom teacheth, but that which the Holy Spirit teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual” (1 Cor. 2:9-13). These verses teach that we cannot know the mind of man unless and until he opens his mouth and reveals what he is thinking. In like manner, no man knows the mind of God unless the Holy Spirit reveals it.

The apostles had the powers of the Holy Spirit, or “spiritual gifts” (1 Cor. 12), to accompany and affirm the truths which they spoke (Acts 1:8; Heb. 2:1-4). But until the fullness of revelation was given, Paul further identifies this “inspiration” given to the apostles by the power of the Holy

Devotion to Christ



You are invited to attend a series of gospel sermons.

April 19-22

Presented by Gary Colley

Sunday, April 19 at 9 a.m.

◆ *“What About Faithfulness”*

Sunday, April 19 at 10 a.m.

◆ *“Our Eyes Must Be Open”*

Sunday, April 19 at 1 p.m.

◆ *“Why Preach the Word of God”*

Monday, April 20 at 7 p.m.

◆ *“Avoiding the Breakup of the Home”*

Tuesday, April 21 at 7 p.m.

◆ *“Personal Responsibility”*

Wednesday, April 22 at 7 p.m.

◆ *“Locks Needed On Our Homes”*

Spirit as being only in parts, until “that which is perfect [or complete] is come.”

This identifies the fullness of revelation in the giving of the New Testament. To the Corinthian brethren he wrote, “Charity never faileth: but whether there be prophecies, they shall fail; whether there be tongues, they shall cease; whether there be knowledge, it shall vanish away. For we know in part, and we prophesy in part. But when that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away” (1 Cor. 13:8-10).

In exhorting Christians to “be doers of the word and not hearers only,” James writes, that which is perfect has come, in “the perfect law of liberty!” (Jas. 1:25).

News

& ACTIVITIES

Today!

The monthly Men’s Meeting will be held at 3:30 p.m., here at the building.

Fridays at 7 p.m.

Information sheets for the Friday Night Singings are available on the bulletin board in the hallway.

Sunday, April 19

A fellowship meal will follow morning worship and evening service has been moved to 1 p.m. (from 5 p.m.)

Friday, April 24

MidTown will host the area-wide Friday Night Singing at 7 p.m.

- Homewood Team #2 will meet today.
- Please see the wedding invitation for Jennifer York and Joshua Miles posted on the bulletin board in the hallway.
- A kind thank you to Ben Jamison for his work constructing the new bulletin and directory boards!

Records You Helped Make

For the Week of
APRIL 5, 2015

Attendance

Sunday Bible Class.....93

Sunday Morning Assembly.....122

Sunday Evening Assembly.....87

Offering: \$4,604

Keep in PRAYER

MidTown Members:

Jeff Cannady

Dee Gilpatrick

Betty Key

Sandy Malone

Bob Neel

Ann Pantel

Glen Pitts

Rex Sims

Etta Williams

& Friends Family:

Cynthia Barrett,
daughter of Dee Gilpatrick

Josephine Escojido,
mother of Lupe Escojido

Pam Hawkins,
daughter-in-law of June

Jim Hinchey,
brother-in-law of Lupe Escojido

Amy Jamison,
daughter of Terry

Perliene Johnson,
mom of Patsy Randle

Dorothy Koenig,
mother of Mickey DeDear

Dorothy McCarn
aunt of Pam Clifton



Edna Randall,
aunt of Randy Tipton

Sarah Randle,
mother of Steve

Ernest Rundzieher,
brother of Jackie Rutherford

Richard Smith,
uncle of Les Daltry

Ray Shannon,
son of Donna

Ray Williams,
son of Etta