

**Saturday, April 18**



The April devotional for families 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.



**EDUCATION**

**In Search of the Lord's Way**

The lesson for Sunday, April 5 at 7:30 a.m. on KMOL is entitled, "The Law." When you open your Bible, you see the words Old Testament and New Testament. What does that mean? Some people see no difference at all between the Old and the New, but what does God say about the two?

**SUNDAYS**

**Bible Classes .....9:00 AM**  
**Morning Worship .....10:00 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](http://www.midtowncoc.org)

NEWS AND INFORMATION FOR MID-TOWN MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

The **Midtown** CHURCH OF CHRIST  
**Messenger**

MARCH 29, 2015

"Why I Obeyed the Gospel" (part 3) by Gary Colley

*This article is continued from last week. By way of review, in last week's article brother Colley stated that he obeyed the gospel because he learned of his sin and because he learned of God's love.*

**B**ecause I Learned of the Interest of the Holy Spirit. If any man is ever saved, it will be by the power of the Holy Spirit. There is no direct working of the Holy Spirit in man's conversion today, but through His thoroughly furnishing Word all men can know His witness to their salvation.

The Holy Spirit has declared and announced in the Word the mind of God, the plan of salvation, and all things that pertain to life and godliness (II Pet. 1:3; I Cor. 2:9-11). It is only through the study of the New Testament that any man knows the conditions of salvation. It is through the Word that the Holy Spirit bears witness with our spirit that we are the children of God. In writing to the

"For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them."

*Eph. 2:10*

Roman church of Christ, Paul clearly states, "The Spirit himself beareth witness with [NOT TO, but with, GC] our spirit, that we are the children of God: and if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ, if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified

together" (Rom. 8:16- 17). Hence there are two who are to bear testimony or witness that we are the children of God. The Bible principle is that "at the mouth of two witnesses or three every word may be established" (Matt. 18:16). The Holy Spirit states that all must believe (Jn. 8:21, 24), must repent (Lk. 13:3, 5), must confess (Matt. 10:32-33), and must be baptized for the remission of sins in order to be saved (Mk. 16:15-16; Acts 2:38). When my spirit has complied with these conditions of salvation, the Holy Spirit and my spirit are in complete agreement, and thereby witnesses to the fact that we are children of God.

Because I Learned of the Grace of God. If any man is ever saved it will also be by the grace of God. The only way any can know of God's grace is by reading the New Testament, where the Holy Spirit has revealed all truth (Jn. 16:8, 13). To the preacher Titus, Paul wrote, "For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, teaching us

that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world” (Tit. 2:11- 12). Though this grace in the Gospel has been revealed to all men, no man can be saved unless he obeys the Gospel message. Meeting the conditions of grace does not mean that man earns his salvation, or that any have any demands on the grace of God. To the Ephesian church Paul wrote, “For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: not of works, lest any man should boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them” (Eph.2:8- 10). Yes, God’s grace is the gift of God; but it takes two to make a complete gift, a giver and a receiver. God has offered salvation to all men, but all men have not met the conditions whereby God’s grace can come to them. When one refuses to obey God’s offer of grace, he has received the grace of God, but it is in vain to him who is disobedient (II Cor. 6:1). We must not be among those who are “ever learning, but never able to come to a knowledge of the truth” (II Tim. 3:7).

Because of My Desire for all Spiritual Blessings. When we have learned about the spiritual blessings that we can enjoy, we must also learn where these blessings are offered. Paul makes it clear to the church at Ephesus, who were saved by grace, that all spiritual blessings were to be found only IN CHRIST (Eph. 1:3). These abundant blessings consist of the name we are to wear, the worship we are to render to our Heavenly Father, the fellowship and peace we enjoy in the body or church, and the confident hope we have of Heaven. All of the promises of God are found only IN CHRIST (II Cor. 1:20); inheritance as the fruit of sonship is found IN CHRIST (Eph. 1:11); we are made new creatures IN CHRIST (II Cor. 5:17); we are among the blessed dead “who die IN THE LORD” (Rev. 14:13). We cannot possibly die IN THE LORD

Records You Helped Make  
For the Week of  
MARCH 22, 2015

**Attendance**

Sunday Bible Class.....117  
Sunday Morning Assembly.....156  
Sunday Evening Assembly.....104

**Offering: \$4,556**

while continuing to live OUT OF CHRIST. To be IN CHRIST means to be in His body or the church He built (Matt. 16:18). He has promised to save this body or church, and no other (Eph. 5:23). IN CHRIST is the place where condemnation has been removed from the obedient (Rom. 8:1-2). Since all the saved are added by the Lord to this church (Acts 2:41, 47), the importance of entering into the church of Christ cannot be over emphasized! It is a shame in the religious world today that some want to minimize the importance of the Lord’s church, while others want to completely eliminate it! But we should not let any man rob us of the salvation promised IN CHRIST!

These are a few of the reasons why this writer has obeyed the Gospel. It is also his reason for continuing to preach the unsearchable riches of Christ to a lost and dying world, with the desire that all men and women should obey and be saved. It is the reason for wanting the best for our children, grandchildren, and generations yet to be born, who need to obey the Gospel. It is because it is the best life anyone can live here which offers the blessings of eternity (I Jn. 2:25). It is our prayer, dear reader, that you will be moved to step out upon your faith in the Christ and to submit to His blessed will for your salvation. “Why I Obeyed The Gospel?” Because I want to go to Heaven! (Jn. 14:6; Acts 4:12).

## News & ACTIVITIES

### Today!

A Q&A box is located in the foyer for your bible questions and Clay will answer them the last Sunday evening of every month.

### Friday, April 3

The Friday Night Singings will begin. Information sheets are available on the bulletin board in the hallway.

### Sunday, April 12

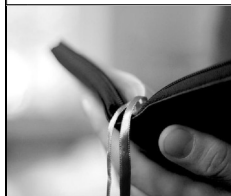
Men’s Meeting will be held at 3:30 p.m.

### Friday, April 25

MidTown will host a Friday Night Singing at 7 p.m.

- Sign-up to teach a lesson for the Adult Summer Series on the clipboard on the front pew.
- Please take a moment to read the new thank you notes posted on the hallway bulletin board.
- Homewood Team #5 will meet today.

## Devotion to Christ



*You are invited to  
attend a series of  
gospel sermons.*

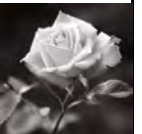
April 19-22

Presented by Gary Colley

## Keep in PRAYER

### RESPONSES:

Please keep **Virginia Escojido** in prayer who responded on Wednesday with a prayer request for her brother.



### IN SYMPATHY:

We extend our deepest sympathy to the family of Trenton Jenkins on the loss of his granddaughter, Mia Storm Jenkins.

### 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*



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*