

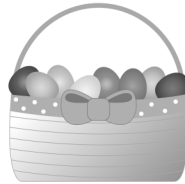
Youth NEWS



The April Jr./Sr. High Devotional will be hosted by Steve Randle on Sunday, April 9 following evening services here at the building.

Mark your calendar for a youth rally hosted by MidTown May 5-6 with Joe Wells. More details to come!

Everyone is Invited to Egg Hunt



There will be an Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 8 at 11 a.m. at the Hutt and Harris' homes. If you plan to participate in the hunt, please bring 1 or 2 dozen filled eggs and your basket.

Everyone at the congregation is invited to enjoy hotdogs, served at the Hutts' house. Parking is available at both homes.

Please bring your lawn chair. Also, girls bring desserts and boys bring chips.

Education NEWS

In Search of the Lord's Way

The lesson for Sunday, April 9 at 7:30 a.m. on KMOL is entitled, 4.9.17 – "The Nature of Worship." Many people attend worship every Sunday, but do they understand what they are doing? Some churches have turned their worship into theatrical productions. What does God desire in worship?

SUNDAYS

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

Ronnie Scherffius

SUPPORTED WORKS

James and Emily Cammock
Hamilton, New Zealand

John Moore
Bible Land Passages

Cecil Shaw
Ocho Rios, Jamaica

Student Support
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

NEWS AND
INFORMATION
FOR MID-
TOWN
MEMBERS AND
FRIENDS

The Midtown CHURCH OF CHRIST Messenger

APRIL 2, 2017

"THE THIEF ON THE CROSS" by Ronnie Scherffius

Of the traditions and doctrines of men, few have brought to ruin so many as the false doctrine of "salvation by faith only." True to form, Satan has clouded the simple truth by prejudicing the hearts and minds of men through perversion: obedience to the gospel has become "works salvation," baptism is demeaned as "water salvation," saving faith has been perverted to "accept Jesus into your heart," and the saving grace of God has been corrupted into "salvation by grace through faith apart from works," **the holy grail of Protestant denominationalism.**

With the insertion of one simple word Satan has changed the truth of God into a lie and deceived the masses into believing that man is **not** responsible to obey the gospel of Christ; that man is **not** capable, of his own volition, to heed the gospel call; that man does **not** have a free will to choose; that baptism is **not** a part of God's plan of salvation.

THERE IS SOMETHING MAN MUST DO

The Bible is clear regarding man's responsibility and required action to the soul saving gospel of Jesus Christ! Jesus declared, "Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that **doeth** the will of my Father which is in heaven" (Mat. 7:21). The immediate response to the first gospel sermon was, "Men and brethren, what shall we **do**" (Acts 2:37). After hearing Cornelius' account of events Peter began, "Of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of

persons: But in every nation he that feareth him, **and worketh righteousness**, is accepted with him" (Acts 10:34-35). Paul recounted that the Romans had "**obeyed** from the heart" the pattern of doctrine delivered to them (Rom. 6:17), i.e., the gospel of Christ (Rom. 1:16-17). James admonished the saints to be "**doers** of the word, and not hearers only" (Jam. 1:22), an admonition John phrased as **walking** in the light (1 John 1:5-7). Beyond reasonable doubt the Bible clearly affirms there is something man must do regarding his salvation from sin.

THE NECESSITY OF BAPTISM

Equally certain is the necessity of man to be baptized (immersed in water) in order to receive the remission of sins. Jesus clearly instructed, "He that **believeth and is baptized** shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned" (Mark 16:16). In response to

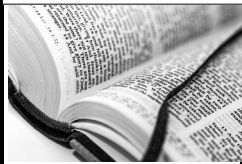
those pricked by the gospel at Pentecost the apostles commanded, “Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins” (Acts 2:38). Account after inspired account it is clearly demonstrated the necessity of baptism for one’s salvation (Acts 2:41; Acts 8:12-13; Acts 8:36; Acts 10:47-48; Acts 16:15; Acts 16:33; Acts 18:8; Acts 19:5; Acts 22:16; Rom. 6:3-4; 1 Cor. 1:12-13; 1 Cor. 12:13; Gal. 3:26-27; et al).

TRANSGRESSING THE WORD OF GOD

In response to the scribes and Pharisees fallacious charge of sin against His disciples for failure to wash their hands before eating, Jesus replied, “Why do ye also transgress the commandment of God by your tradition” (Mat. 15:3)? Comparing the Word of God to Protestant precepts we discover how completely corrupt God’s simple plan of salvation becomes when truth is tempered by the traditions of men. Wesleyan Methodism teaches that, “faith is the only response essential for salvation” (Methodist Discipline 53). Calvinist Presbyterianism frees man of his role in salvation and places all responsibility on the Holy Spirit: “The grace of faith, whereby the elect are enabled to believe to the king of their souls, is the work of the Spirit of Christ in their hearts” (Confession of Faith 54-55). Baptist doctrine does not fall far from the Protestant tree: “We believe the Scriptures teach that the salvation of sinners is wholly of grace” (Baptist Manual 61). Article six of the Baptist creed reads:

Justification includes the pardon of sin, and the gift of eternal life on principles of righteousness; that it is bestowed, not in consideration of any works of righteousness which we have done, but solely through faith in Christ; by means of which faith his perfect righteousness is freely imputed to us by God. (62)

SOME QUESTIONS ABOUT JESUS CHRIST AND SALVATION



APRIL 2 - 5

Presented by
Ronnie Scherffius

- Sunday, April 2 at 9 a.m.**
♦ “What Does The Old Testament Say About Christ?”
- Sunday, April 2 at 10 a.m.**
♦ “What Is The Nature of Christ: Is He God Or Man?”
- Sunday, April 2 at 1 p.m.**
♦ “What Will You Do with Jesus Which Is Called Christ?”
- Monday, April 3 at 7 p.m.**
♦ “Why Will Some Be Lost?”
- Tuesday, April 4 at 7 p.m.**
♦ “How Can I Remain Faithful?”
- Wednesday, April 5 at 7 p.m.**
♦ “How Can I Know What Is Right?”

Jeremiah professed, “O Lord, I know that the way of man is not in himself: **it is not in man** that walketh to direct his steps” (Jer. 10:23). The Jews of Paul’s day, following the path of their fathers, sought to direct their steps in the way of righteousness, an error which the apostle condemned: “For they being ignorant of God’s righteousness, and going about **to establish their own righteousness**, have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God” (Rom. 10:3). How empty and powerless are the words of man when seeking the way to salvation apart from Gods revealed will! How true the words of the wiseman: “There is a way that seemeth right unto a man, but **the end thereof are the ways of death**” (Pro. 16:25).

News & ACTIVITIES

Today!

Plan to stay this morning following services for a potluck luncheon. Evening services have been moved to 1 p.m. instead of 5 p.m. Please invite your friends to MidTown’s Gospel Meeting this Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday at 7 p.m. Pick up invitations for your friends and family in the foyer.

Sunday, April 9

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

Thursday, April 13

The Leadership Development Class will be held at 7 p.m.

Sunday, April 16

There will be a Teacher’s Meeting with all ladies’ interested in teaching after evening services.

- Brookdale Team #1 will meet today.
- Check out MidTown’s updated website at www.midtowncoc.org to listen to sermons or read bulletins.

Records You Helped Make

For the Week of
MARCH 26, 2017

Attendance

Sunday Bible Class.....	120
Sunday Morning Assembly.....	161
Sunday Evening Assembly.....	114
Wednesday Attendance.....	105

Offering: \$4,574.03

Keep in PRAYER

BAPTISM:

We rejoice at the baptism of **Isaac Jobs** and pray his walk with Christ will bear much fruit.

MidTown Members:

Paul Atkinson
Buster Bailey
Jeff Cannady
Les Daltry
Jan Farris
Dee Gilpatrick

Betty Key
Kathy Laws
Betty Mabe
Sandy Malone
Ann Pantel
Glen Pitts
Angela Sneeringer
Mickey Tisue
Clark Withers

& Friends Family:

Victor Benitez,
brother of Virginia Escojido
Bert Haynes,
father of Pam Stryker
Kim Neel-Farthing,
daughter of Joyce
June Green,
mother of Janice FitzSimmons
Amy Jamison,
daughter of Terry
Barbara Lopez,
mother of Rosalba Barton
Liz Lopez,
friend of Nina Siegel
Janell Marshall
mother of Karon Barton’s
sister-in-law
Amanda Mueller
sister of Amy Harris

Fred Porter,
brother-in-law of Della Rampley
Madeline Posey,
family of Julie Posey
Sarah Randle,
mother of Steve
Polly Ray,
aunt of Connie Cleveland
Scott Reeves,
son of Sam and Leta
brother of Sherry Lynch
Gary Rush,
friend of the Arnos
Sammy Snead,
brother-in-law of Ronnie Scherffius
Agnes Sergel,
grandmother of Athena Scherffius
Prem Verma,
father-in-law of Archana
Kennedy Young, Sr.,
uncle of Naomi Flonnory