

**New Caney  
Church of Christ**

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www.NewCaneyChurchofChrist.org

**Assembly Times**

*Sundays*  
Bible Class 9:30 a.m.  
Worship 10:30 a.m.  
*Wednesdays*  
Bible Classes 7:00 p.m.

***Retaining The Standard  
Of Sound Doctrine***

Evangelist: Charles Willis  
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**Know Your Bible: Answers**

1. The Bereans (Acts 17:11)
2. Peter (1 Peter 1:10-12)
3. Peter (2 Peter 1:21)
4. Paul (1 Timothy 4:13)

**This Week's Assignments & Events**

**Sunday Worship**

Greeter: John Van Baale  
Announcements: Kevin Buckner  
Encouragement Talk: John Franks  
Opening Prayer: Eddie Bowen  
Scripture Reading: Sandon Spyker  
Titus 1:1-9  
Song Leader: Arturo Orozco  
Table Talk: Ronnie Ramsey  
Contribution: Kyle Crain  
Helper: Casey Thomas  
Fruit of Vine: Tyler Blazek  
Helper: Truett Blazek  
Helper: Pete Galvan  
Closing Prayer: Lester Mabry

**Sunday Afternoons**

June 9 Nothing  
June 16 Parent Planned Youth Devotional  
June 23 3PM Evidences from Archaeology  
(90 minute presentation)  
June 30 Nothing

**Wednesday Evening**

Song Leader: Truett Blazek  
Speaker: Charles Willis



# Standing Firm

“Take up the full armor of God, that you may be able to resist  
in the evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm”  
Ephesians 6:13

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## Redeemed, How I Love To Proclaim It

There is no denying the fact that the greatest blessing we have in Christ is that we have been redeemed. Christ paid the cost of our ransom and has given us our freedom. Our love for God should greatly increase when we contemplate what He has done for us in providing a way of salvation in Christ. And we should love to proclaim to others about His redemption.

When asked why we put our faith in God and Christ, our heart should swell for being given the opportunity to express the feelings we have for God, our redeemer. We should long to tell others how Christ came to earth to live as a man (John 1:14) and die on the cross for our sins (2 Cor. 5:21; Heb. 2:9). We should desire to tell others how His blood cleanses us from our sins (Heb. 9:13-14). We should feel compelled to explain how the plan of salvation is tied to Christ's death on the cross. Telling the old, old story is a privilege.

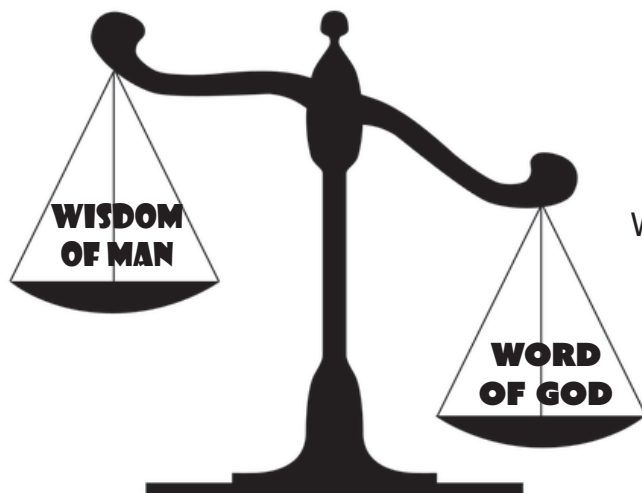
Why do we draw back from such opportunities to tell others? We often pray for the Lord to send one receptive soul into our life, and when the opportunity comes, we neglect to tell the story. Do we lie when we sing “I love to tell the story”? Are we ashamed of Christ and what He did for us (Rom. 1:16)? Our actions tell us much! When a friend asks us about our faith and we give an answer that is incomplete or is an obvious attempt to end the conversation, that friend will look somewhere else for an answer. They recognize we want to be left alone. We did not say we are ashamed, and in fact answered the questions to some extent, but our actions spoke louder than our words. We did not love to tell the story, and the listener knows when we feel that way. People can see passion and conviction.

Do you love to tell the story to those who already know it? It is encouraging and uplifting to hear others talk of their feelings for our redeemer and He has done for us. Like children with a good book, we never tire of hearing the same story told again and again. Yet, is that who we need to be telling it to? There is some good done, but

consider how much good could be done by telling the story to those who have not heard it! We easily fall into patterns and habits - that's human nature. We must be careful to avoid the trap of telling about our Redeemer ONLY when we are around the children of God. Instead, form a better habit -- make yourself tell the story to those you've never told it to before. You may find some of your friends know the story, and you may find some who do not. Forming this habit will reveal to us those who are receptive to the teaching of God in Christ and those who desire to know more.

Americans are busy people. Often I think we are too busy. Some love to proclaim the story of Redemption, but just don't have the time they would like to devote to the Kingdom. Really? It may require a sacrifice of time to proclaim the story. It may require you to schedule some time for that purpose. We all have the same amount of time, and we all seem to be able to accomplish those things that are important to us. The time is there, we just have to better utilize it. Perhaps we should consider proclaiming Christ in the car-pool, or on the lunch break. Perhaps we are too busy satisfying ourselves than doing the will of the Father.

The point is, if we really love to tell the story, we will. We will find the time and unashamedly speak of God and our salvation in Christ - to everyone who will listen. Redeemed, how I love to proclaim it! How about you? by Charles Willis



Which do you give more attention to?

Which convinces you?

Which is the authority in your life?

## Know Your Bible

### Scripture

1. What group of Christians examined the Scriptures to see if the truth had been taught?
2. Which apostle said the writings of the prophets were written for later generations?
3. Which apostle said Scripture came about by men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God?
4. Which apostle instructed the giving of attention to the public reading of Scripture?

*Answers On Back*

### Sunday Sermon

Point your phone camera at the square below, then click on the link to hear the sermon. Recordings will change mid-week.



## Tracing

by Charles Willis

I can remember my mother teaching me how to trace a drawing. We stood at the sliding glass door with a color book page taped to the glass with the morning sun shining through. She said, "be sure to draw all the lines, don't leave any out, but most of all follow the lines exactly; otherwise your picture won't look right when you're finished." Even though it's been a long time since that moment with my mother, I think her advice has some good applications for the Christian who is trying to stay within the bounds of God's Law.

Christians should be trying to live as Christ lived, "For you have been called for this purpose, since Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example for you to follow in His steps" (1 Peter 2:21). Our choices, decisions, and attitudes should trace the life of Christ. We should constantly hold Him before us and place our life over His to see where we have strayed outside the lines. If we are not in agreement with the life of Christ, our attempts at discipleship will have been in vain. So we must carefully and frequently refer to the pattern.

The Bible is the inspired word of God. It draws lines for the Christian. These lines guide us into a life that pleases God. For example, Jesus says, *"everyone who divorces his wife, except for the reason of unchastity, makes her commit adultery; and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery"* (Matthew 5:32). This is a line that is drawn in regard to marriage. We cannot cross over the line, else we would end up with something different than what God desires. This is a clear boundary that the Christian should desire to follow. Another example would be from John 13:34 - *"A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another."* This draws a line. Christians cannot hate one another. This line is made clearer in Matthew 5:23-24 where Jesus says if we remember our brother has something against us, *"leave your offering there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother, and then come and present your offering."* The New Testament is full of such lines that a Christian must follow.

Obedience to God's salvation is an agreement to trace the lines set down by the Father. We copy the pattern that we see in Scripture. God, through the Spirit and inspired writers, has said we must hear the word of God (Rom. 10:17), believe Jesus is the Son of God (John 3:36), repent of our sins (Luke 13:3), confess His name before men (Matt. 10:32-33), be baptized for the remission of sins (Acts 2:38), and live a life faith to Him from that point on (Rev. 2:26). Only by strictly tracing this plan in our life will we end up with the same result that occurred in the New Testament: the salvation of our soul!

Our entire life is spent tracing patterns of Christ and God's righteousness which are plainly stated in Scripture. We are in constant need to erase the areas where we drift outside the line, and retrace that area so we might "be conformed to the image of His Son" (Rom. 8:29). That's what the Christian life is all about! Most children learn how to trace things, and appreciate its simplicity. I hope those of us who are adults will apply that same principle to our Christian walk.