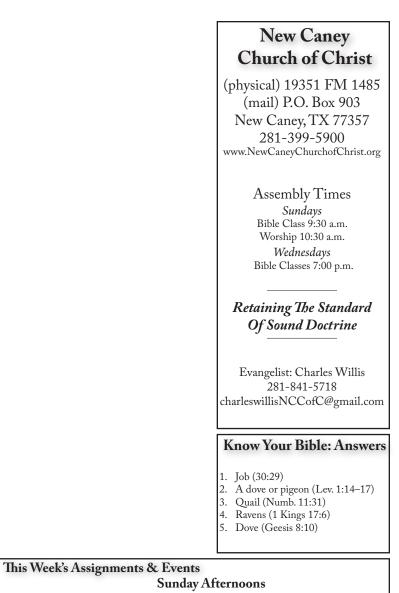
## **Family Matters**

Illness



#### Sunday Worship

Greeter: Gary Tuttle Announcements: Kevin Buckner Encouragement Talk: Charles Willis Opening Prayer: John Van Baale Scripture Reading: Eddie Bowen Luke 1:1–7 Song Leader: John Franks Table Talk: Arturo Orozco Contribution: Casey Thomas Helper: Corwin Richardson Fruit of Vine: Billy Lovell Helper: Truett Blazek Helper: Verlin Wilson Closing Prayer: Scott McDearman

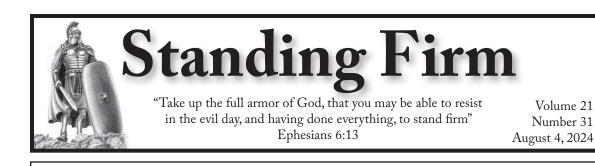
Sunday Afternoons Aug 4 3PM Devotionals

Aug 11 3PM Prayer Meeting

Aug 18 Nothing

Aug 25 Group Visitation (meet & go)

Wednesday Evening Song Leader: Corwin Richardson Speaker: Arturo Orozco



## **Going To The Erring Brother**

It seems it's always at night. Somehow night makes the trip more somber, more official. Most of the time nowadays you can't just drop by, you have to make an appointment. What will I say? Will the words come out as I intend? Will I remember the Scriptures I looked up? What will the reaction be? Surprising, isn't it, how many random thoughts go through your head in the short time it takes to drive over.

Here is a fellow Christian. The appearance is that something is very wrong in his life, something that stands out as amiss when compared to what the Scriptures would have Christians be and do, a missing of the mark, sin. And now someone needs to care, to take interest, and that someone is you and me.

Before you go, pray. Pray for your attitude and theirs. Pray for wisdom. Consider your own state before God and seek His forgiveness as needed. Can you really expect to influence someone to do what you neglect to do yourself (James 1:5; 5:16)?

When you arrive, be patient, listen, understand the facts (James 1:19). Together, look up the Scriptures that apply. It should come as no surprise that the erring brother in most cases knows what's going on is wrong and can likely identify the Scriptures as well as you can. If this is true, restoring a fellow Christian may take more than pointing to the words and expecting all to be well and the job done.

What results are we hoping for? Is it to change behavior? Surely it is, but is that enough? When you consider the Scripture (Gal. 6:1) consider this: if it is the spiritual who are to restore those in trespass, should it not be the ultimate goal to make that brother equally spiritual? Motivation to endure faithfully needs attention, encouragement and understanding. Whatever the sin may be, there can be no better beginning than to look again at the love of God for us, the terrible price willingly paid that our sins might be forgiven and the debt of love and gratitude we owe for that sacrifice. "We love Him, because He first loved us" (1 John 4:19).

Some will not return to faithfulness. While there may be
many strong external influences that account for this, there is
one observation we should carefully consider. The longer a sin is
practiced and the sinner ignored, the more the sin becomes habit
and the sinner is hardened. Each of us should become close to
all in the congregation, but it is nevertheless true that there will
always be those we spend more time with either by circumstance or
choice. As we work together, shop together, play together, shouldn't
somewhere in our conversation be God and His word, faithful
living, our weaknesses and our faults brought up? Shouldn't good
friends pray together besides over a meal? And, shouldn't they be
the ones best equipped to help us stay on the path that leads to
Heaven? By David Clark
•

## Unity! Can It Be Had In The Modern Religious World?

- It can be if we believe there is one God. The Ephesians were told to keep unity on the basis of this truth (Eph. 4:3–6).
- It can be if we realize the dangers of division. Paul taught against religious division (1 Cor. 1:10–13).
- It can be if we are willing to yield human opinion to the authority of God's word. Jeremiah urged that man's wisdom is not a safe guide (10:23).
- But unity does not now exist! The modern religious world is divided into several hundred denominations who war over names, creeds, practices, organization, worship, and ritual.

Unity can be had when creeds are discarded in favor of the Bible. It stands to reason that none can unite upon that which has divided religious people - human creeds. The world can have the blessings of unity when all people accept the Holy Scriptures as the sole authority in religion. The Bible only makes Christians! If all are just Christians, nothing more and nothing less, all will be united! By Donald Willis (New Caney Bulletin, 10/31/1982)

### Know Your Bible

## Birds

1. Who said he had become the companion of owls?

2. In the Mosaical sacrifices, what bird was normally offered?

3. What birds did God bring to the Israelites on a wind from the sea?

4. What birds fed Elijah by the brook Kerith?

5. What bird did Noah send out from the ark? 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



# **Bible Bees**

#### Be Kind

Eph. 4:32 "Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you."

#### Be Thankful

Psalm 100:4 "Enter His gates with thanksgiving And His courts with praise. Give thanks to Him, bless His name."

#### Be Doers

James 1:22 "prove yourselves doers of the word, and not merely hearers who delude themselves"

**Be Merciful** Luke 6:36 *"Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful."* 

#### Be Ready To Give An Answer

1 Pter 3:15<sup>5</sup> "sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts, always being ready to make a defense to everyone who asks you to give an account for the hope that is in you, yet with gentleness and reverence"

#### Be Strong

Eph. 6:10 "be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His might."

#### Be Fruitful

Col. 1:10 "that you will walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, to please Him in all respects, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God"

### **Be Transformed**

Rom. 12:2 "do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect."

## Be An Example

1 Tim. 4:12 "Let no one look down on your youthfulness, but rather in speech, conduct, love, faith and purity, show yourself an example of those who believe."

#### Be Holy

1 Pet. 1:15 "like the Holy One who called you, be holy yourselves also in all your behavior"

### Be Steadfast

1 Cor. 15:58 "be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your toil is not in vain in the Lord."

#### Be Ready

Matt. 24:44 "For this reason you also must be ready; for the Son of Man is coming at an hour when you do not think He will."