

**New Caney
Church of Christ**

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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***

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Know Your Bible: Answers

1. Moses (Exodus 34:27-28)
2. 40 (Acts 23:20-21)
3. Jonah (3:4-10)
4. Ananias (Acts 9:9)
5. Jesus (Matthew 4:1-2)

This Week's Assignments & Events

Sunday Worship

Greeter: Ronnie Lightfoot
Announcements: Kevin Buckner
Encouragement Talk: Eddie Bowen
Opening Prayer: Sandon Spyker
Scripture Reading: Kyle Crain
Luke 7:24-35
Song Leader: Josh Emerson
Table Talk: John Franks
Contribution: Arturo Orozco
Helper: Aaron Heald
Fruit of Vine: Tyler Blazek
Helper: Truett Blazek
Helper: Lester Mabry
Closing Prayer: Billy Sherry

Sunday Afternoons

Mar 9 Nothing
Mar 16 3PM Yard Work Day
Mar 23 Nothing
Mar 30 Nothing

Wednesday Evening

Song Leader: John Franks
Speaker: John Van Baale



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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Not Knowing God's Plan

We struggle not knowing all of God's plan for our life. We think we have life figured out and then something happens that throws us into a spiritual tailspin. We become uneasy and sometimes doubtful of our righteousness before God. This real-life dilemma is evident in a few scriptural examples which we can learn from.

David had to flee from Jerusalem (2 Samuel 15:13-18). He was God's anointed King, but his son Absalom conspired to overtake the throne by winning the hearts of the people. David's messengers told him, *“Arise and let us flee, for otherwise none of us will escape from Absalom.”* So David, most of his house, servants, and 600 men went before him as they left Jerusalem.

David seemed to be perplexed by this course of events. Zadok came to David carrying the Ark of the Covenant to join the leaving, but David refused him saying, *“Return the ark of God to the city. If I find favor in the sight of the Lord, then He will bring me back again and show me both it and His habitation. But if He should say thus, ‘I have no delight in you,’ behold, here I am, let Him do to me as seems good to Him.”* David's example to us is great: though he did not know God's plan, and sought answers, he submitted himself to God's will. Though he may have been unsure of how to proceed, or how God would keep the promises made to him, David never stopped trusting and submitting unto God.

Jeremiah was thrown in a cistern (Jer. 38:1-13). Jeremiah was a prophet who lived a very difficult life. He lived through the fall of the Israelite nation into the Babylonian captivity. He was sorely mistreated by his own people. In chapter 37 Jeremiah is arrested on false charges, beaten, and thrown into prison *“many days”* (37:16). He pled with the king to keep him at the palace and not return him to the house of Jonathan the scribe *“that I may not die there”* (37:20). King Zedekiah gave Jeremiah a residence in the court of the guardhouse with a daily allotment of food.

As Jeremiah spoke the word of the Lord concerning the coming destruction at the hand of the Babylonians, the city officials pled with the king to kill Jeremiah for he

discouraged the men of war and all the people. Zedekiah relented, saying, *“he is in your hands; for the king can do nothing against you”* (38:4). The city officials imprisoned Jeremiah by letting him down with ropes into the cistern of Malchijah which was in the court of the guardhouse. There was no water, *“and Jeremiah sank into the mud”* (38:7). Their plan seemed to be to let him die of starvation and thirst in the cistern, for there was a famine.

Jeremiah’s trials are frequent during his life, but this example is strong. He was doing God’s will, speaking the truth with all zeal, urging men to flee from Jerusalem. Yet he was beaten, imprisoned, and left to die in the mud. Jeremiah’s heart was to continually do the will of the Lord, even when he did not fully understand why things were happening to him. His confidence remained in knowing God whom he served.

Jehoshaphat The King had a large army assembled against him. He prayed, *“O our God, will You not judge them? For we are powerless before this great multitude who are coming against us; nor do we know what to do, but our eyes are on You.”* (2 Chron. 20:12). His trust in God never diminished. He waited to see God work His plan, which He did by defeating the enemy so Israel did not have to fight them.

Out attitude and demeanor of trust in God must never waver, despite the degree of the trial. We tend to put too much trust in our own understanding. We think we know how things are supposed to happen, and we think we can tell when something bad or good has happened. Age and experience tell us we are often wrong about these judgments. Our proper attitude should be to *“Trust in the Lord with all your heart And do not lean on your own understanding”* (Proverbs 3:5). When the trial is upon us, that is the time to trust in God. *“Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.”* (Phil. 4:6). When we trust in God, our anxiety and fears are relieved because the One who controls all things will direct our steps. If it is His will that we go through the trial, so be it. If it is His will that we avoid the trial, so be it. Never take your eyes off of God!

Charles Willis

Know Your Bible

Fasts

1. Who fasted for 40 days on Mt. Sinai?
2. How many men bound themselves by an oath to fast until they had killed Paul?
3. What prophet’s preaching drove the people of Ninevah to fast?
4. Who was Paul waiting for while he fasted 3 days in Damascus?
5. Who fasted for 40 days after his baptism?

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.



Conviction To Follow Truth by Charles Willis (written in 2015)

When studying with someone who is a member of a denomination we speak a lot about how they must have the conviction to follow the truth even when the truth of God is different than their beliefs. We believe it is essential that men be willing to admit they were wrong and change their thinking in order to be right with God. These truths ARE important to someone who is learning the truth, but it is very difficult!

When someone is unwilling to admit the truth we often say they are blind (2 Cor. 4:4; 1 John 2:11). These are condemned in Scripture and rightfully so. After we have been a Christian for a long time it is easy to begin thinking “I am right” about everything we believe. Instead of maintaining the attitude of the Bereans to “Search the Scriptures daily” (Acts 17:11) we can become close-minded and blind to the truth relying on the fact that we have been taught correctly by others. When faced with truth, some Christians are much less willing to admit they were wrong on some point of doctrine than those who have left denominations and were wrong about many points of doctrine. We can begin to expect of others what we are not willing to do ourselves!

I am not advocating an attitude that is easily led astray from the truth, but one that adamantly clings to it! We must be those whose love for truth is stronger than our love of self. It is embarrassing to admit we are wrong. We should feel ashamed to consider how we might have led others into error, but that should not prevent us from repenting! Better to repent and live than to continue to believe a lie and die eternally! I hope you will pray with me that God will help us to keep a pure heart, a soft heart, one that is easily pricked to do right and be right. To accomplish this we must be those who read the book and examine ourselves regularly. We can be nothing less than this if we truly desire to sing: “I have decided to follow Jesus... no turning back, no turning back”!

**Have you applied this
in your marriage?**

*Let no unwholesome word
proceed from your mouth, but
only such a word as is good for
edification according to the need
of the moment, so that it will
give grace to those who hear.*



Ephesians 4:29