

Youth NEWS

Saturday, February 11

This Saturday there will be a Jr/Sr High Progressive Dinner starting at 5 p.m. Plan to meet at the church building to carpool to the three homes.



Sunday, February 12 The monthly Jr/Sr High Devo will be hosted by the Verma's at their home following evening services.

February 17-18 Jr/Sr High girls are invited to Young Ladies' Day hosted by University church of Christ in San Marcos. See Athena for more information.

Education NEWS

In Search of the Lord's Way

The lesson for Sunday, February 12 at 7:30 a.m. on KMOL is entitled, "Overcoming Temptation." What do you do when you're tempted to sin? Are we slaves to sin, or has Christ provided a way for us to overcome our sins? In this message, we will learn how we can conquer the temptations that plague us.

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

FEBRUARY 5, 2017

"HAVE YE NOT READ"

by Ronnie Scherffius

One day at school, during English/Literature class, Joe was unwillingly put into the spotlight. While discussing the reading assignment the teacher looked at Joe and asked him to give his observations of the short story that had been assigned for that day. Joe immediately began to give a very insightful view of a television program he had seen some years before about the book that he was supposed to have read. After about five minutes the teacher interrupted, and with a stern and very unsatisfied look asked Joe, "Have you not read the reading assignment for today?"

On four separate occasions Jesus applied a similar question to the Jews as they tried to place Him in a bad light among the people. One such occasion was when the Sadducees inquired of the resurrection as they sought to demonstrate such an idea was illogical based on the Law of Moses: "The same day came to him the Sadducees, which say that there is no

resurrection, and asked him, Saying, Master, Moses said, If a man die, having no children, his brother shall marry his wife, and raise up seed unto his brother. Now there were with us seven brethren: and the first, when he had married a wife, deceased, and, having

no issue, left his wife unto his brother: Likewise the second also, and the third, unto the seventh. And last of all the woman died also. Therefore in the resurrection whose wife shall she be of the seven? for they all had her." (Mt. 22:23-28)

Supposing they had Him in a dilemma they anxiously awaited Jesus' response. The tables were turned, however, as Jesus showed the complete folly of their argument simply because of their failing to read the Scriptures: "Jesus answered and said unto them, Ye do err, not knowing the scriptures, nor the power of God. For in the resurrection they neither marry, nor are given in marriage, but are as the angels of God in heaven. But as touching the resurrection of the dead, have ye not read that which was spoken unto you by God, saying, I am the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob? God is not the God of the dead, but of the living" (Mt 22:29-32).

"... God is not the God of the dead, but of the living."

Matthew 22:32

The response of Jesus on this occasion not only put the Sadducees to shame, but provides for us some very sobering thoughts with regards to reading and studying the Scriptures. Three thoughts resonate from this statement of Christ to which all would do well to give heed.

Without Knowledge Of The Scriptures Man Is Without Truth

Certainly mankind knows and understands certain truths that pertain to the world in which we live. The laws of nature are easily discerned simply by observing those things around us (Mt. 16:2-3), but spiritual truths and those laws of God that guide and direct the soul are discovered only from the revealed will of God: "All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works" (2 Tim. 3:16-17). Men often try to direct their own paths, but this they do to their demise (Prov. 16:25). Only through diligent study and proper application of the Scriptures can men walk in the right paths (Jer. 10:23; 2 Tim. 2:15), for only in the Scriptures will man find God's word which is truth (John 17:17).

God's Power Is Revealed In Scriptures

Jesus told the Sadducees, "Ye do err, not knowing the Scriptures, nor the power of God" (Mt. 22:29). The Sadducees, failing to take knowledge of the revealed will of God failed not only to walk in truth, but also to consider the power of God to resurrect man from the dead. Apart from the Scriptures man has no knowledge of his origin. The world's most educated minds without the Scriptures, have concluded that man is the product of chance. He has no responsibility to any higher power for there is no higher power; he is simply a product of the evolutionary chain. Not only does the origin of humanity escape these "highly educated minds," but not knowing the Scriptures they have no understanding of man's end or of the existence and fate of man's soul. Paul spoke of those in his day who sought wisdom apart from the Scriptures: "For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness...For the Jews require a sign, and the Greeks seek after

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wisdom: But we preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews a stumblingblock, and unto the Greeks foolishness" (1 Cor. 1:18, 22-23).

Even as these Sadducees did in the first century, men today fail to realize the power of God, seeking after true wisdom in manmade philosophies and traditions (1 Cor. 1:19-21, 25-27).

The Scriptures Are The Words Of God

The words of Jesus clearly demonstrate that the Scriptures are not of man but originate from God: "have ye not read that which was spoken unto you by God" (Mt. 22:31). Having spoken these words Jesus quotes from the book of Exodus: "Moreover he said, I am the God of thy father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob" (3:6).

These words, though written by Moses, did not originate in his own imagination, but rather from the mind of the Creator of all things. Neither did the teaching of the prophets come from heart and mind of man but God revealed to those inspired men what they were to teach and say (Jer. 1:9; 2 Sam. 23:2). Peter affirmed this truth: "For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost" (2 Pt. 1:21). The Scriptures are God's inspired will for man. Certainly it is of the greatest importance for man to know the Scriptures, for without them he is ignorant of truth, and errs not knowing the power of God. Have you read the Scriptures?

News & ACTIVITIES

Thursday, February 9

All men are invited to attend a weekly Leadership Development class here at the building at 7 p.m.

Sunday, February 5

The monthly Men's Meeting will be held at 3:30 p.m.

Sunday, February 26

The Fourth Sunday Fellowship Meal this month will be held following evening services and will include the Annual Chili Cookoff!



- Brookdale Team #1 will meet today.
- Sunny Glen Children's Home is requesting canned beans/ranch-pinto and deodorant (non-aerosol).
- Mark your calendar for a baby shower honoring Trisha Foerster on Saturday, February 25. More details to come!

Records You Helped Make

For the Week of
JANUARY 29, 2017

Attendance

Sunday Bible Class.....	130
Sunday Morning Assembly.....	160
Sunday Evening Assembly.....	NA
Wednesday Attendance.....	89

Offering: \$5,373

Keep in PRAYER



MidTown Members:

Jeff Cannady
Les Daltry
Jan Farris
Dee Gilpatrick
Betty Key

Kathy Laws
Sandy Malone
Ann Pantel
Glen Pitts
Angela Sneeringer-Gonzalez
Clark Withers

& Friends Family:

Victor Benitez,
brother of Virginia Escojido
Bert Haynes,
father of Pam Stryker
Amber Brown,
friend of Leta Reeves
Glena Coon,
Bo Dykes and Doris
family of Peggy Matlock
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
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 Arnots
Sammy Snead,
brother-in-law of Ronnie Scherffius
Prem Verma,
father-in-law of Archana
Kennedy Young, Sr.,
uncle of Naomi Flonnory