

Periodical
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CENTRAL'S ASSEMBLIES	
BRING A FRIEND AND ATTEND	
SUNDAY	9:30 A.M.
BIBLE STUDY	10:30 A.M.
WORSHIP	5:00 P.M.
SUNDAY EVENING	
WEDNESDAY	7:00 P.M.
MID-WEEK CLASSES	

"But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you."

Matthew 6 :33 KJV

IN SEARCH
OF THE LORD'S WAY

"These were more noble... they searched the scriptures daily..." (Acts 17:11)

Sundays at 7:30 AM on KOCB—TV34

SEARCH PROGRAMS:

May 17, "Free Will"
May 24, "Can Christians Be Lost"

LAST WEEK'S RECORD

Bible School	No Classes
Worship Service	38
Sunday Evening	No Services
Wednesday Evening	No Services
Contribution	\$4,429.60

Cleaning Team for this week is #3

You can find our worship service on:

Central's Facebook Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/centralchurchofchristshawneeok/>

Central's YouTube Channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCq8ft4soarDDSYok8ol9xpw>

Central's Webpage:

<http://www.shawneecentralcofc.org/media.php/t=sermons>

If you would like to mail your offering in the mail to the church, you can mail it to:

Central Church of Christ
P.O. Box 1228
Shawnee, OK 74802

If you would like someone to pick up your contribution, drop off communion supplies, or have any other needs please call the Church office.
405-273-3065

Or you can contact one of our Elders or Deacons.

Our recorded worship services will be ready by 2:00 p.m. on Sunday you can find this on
And our Church website



May 17, 2020 Vol. L 24, No. 20

THE GOSPEL GUIDE

ELDERS:

- Dennis Brodersen
- Paul Harris
- Steve Kelly
- Bob Perry
- Bob Stephens

DEACONS:

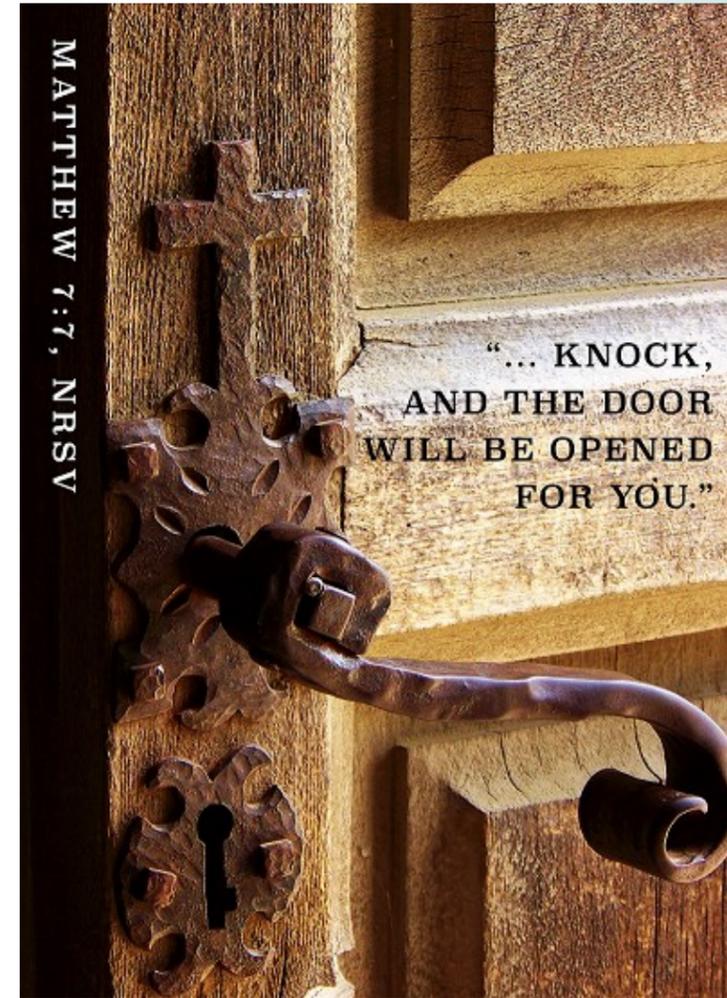
- Dale Beard
- Jim Cross
- Joe Curtis
- Tracy Gettle
- Keith Lawrence
- Ron Taffe

Secretary:

- Lois Carter

MISSIONS:

- Haiti Children's Home
- Hope Harbor Children's Home
- Liflyfield Christian & Adoption
- Nicaragua
- Search
- Southern Africa Bible College



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First Things First

"...seek first his kingdom and his righteousness,"
Jesus, Matthew 6:33

We live in a complex and complicated world. There never seems to be enough time for family, for leisure, for ourselves, or for God. We are so caught up in the urgent things in life we often forget the important things of life. The German poet and philosopher Johann Goethe once wrote, "Things which matter most must never be at the mercy of things which matter least." The inability to focus on the truly important things in life becomes a barrier to spiritual health.

One condition preventing a person from finding purpose and meaning to life is anxiety. Fear and worry about the uncertainty of our physical world inhibit a person's ability to live life abundantly. Jesus addressed the problem of anxiety about this physical life in many of his teachings. He provides an effective strategy to deal with worry in his Sermon on the Mount in Matthew 6:25-33.

*"Therefore, I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you shall eat or what you shall drink, nor about your body, what you shall put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And which of you by being anxious can add one cubit to his span of life? And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin; yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you, O men of little faith? Therefore do not be anxious, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For the Gentiles seek all these things; and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. **But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things shall be yours as well.**"*

Jesus speaks about fundamental elements of substance and life: food, drink, and clothing. We physically could not exist for any amount of time without these things, yet Jesus suggests we not worry or be anxious about these essentials to our very survival. Think of how many non-essential items distract us from spiritual purpose daily...the car, house, and insurance payment...how the lawn looks...if the kids are getting enough playing time in little league...do people like me...will I get promoted at work...will I have to deal with a difficult person or situation. A myriad of urgent items (many of which will not be important one, ten, or certainly fifty years from now) drain our energy and sap our spiritual strength.

(continued in the next column)

The advice of Jesus does not discount the need for the essentials of our physical existence, but it urges believers to "seek first his kingdom and his righteousness." When the important things (seeking God and righteousness) are addressed as a priority, Jesus promises the urgent things "shall be yours as well."

True genius is the ability to transform the complicated into the simple. Jesus Christ was able to consistently transform the complicated issues of human psychology and human existence into simple, concrete ideas that were easy to implement in the lives of believers. Jesus advocated putting first things first and focusing on a spiritual purpose. He tore down the old ideas of God's law being complex and hard to understand, with a new philosophy that was easy to understand, simple to implement, but challenging to master.

Jesus framed his philosophy in the golden rule, which simply stated in Matthew 7:12, *"So whatever you wish that men would do to you, do so to them; for this is the law and the prophets."* People tend to focus on the idealistic principle to "Treat other people the way you would like to be treated," while forgetting the importance Jesus placed on this teaching. He says, **"...this is the law and the prophets."** This concept of service to our fellow man summarizes God's law, according to Jesus.

Application

Many things distract us daily. Jesus said, "seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things shall be yours as well." We have to set our priorities. We demonstrate is what we choose to do the things that are most important to us.

Put God first in your life

IN OUR Thoughts and Prayers

Don Mack - Is scheduled to have surgery on May 28th in OKC.

Ron Cole— Had surgery on May 12.

Kolby Kavest Shadaram

Kolby is graduating from Shawnee High School. His extra-curricular activities include track and an internship with the Citizen Pottawatomie Nation in networking. Kolby's plan after graduation is to enter the Computer Networking Program at Gordon Cooper Technology Center. One of Kolby's favorite youth group memories are the visits and talking before Bible class started. Some of the things he will never forget are the Stories Joe Curtis told him. Kolby would like to say thank you to Nathan Kelly, Joe Curtis, and Ken Whittington for being great influences in his Christian walk. Kolby would also like to thank Nathan Kelly for being his youth minister.



Miguel Kayvan Shadaram

Miguel is graduating from Shawnee High School. His plan after graduation is to enter either the Aircraft Maintenance program or the Computer Networking program at Gordon Cooper Technology Center. Miguel spent many years going to Burnt Cabin Christian Camp as well as attending Bible classes and Area Wide Teen Gatherings with the youth group. He would like to thank Nancy Harber, Karen Marasco, Joe and Amber Curtis, Ken Whittington, Bob and Janet Stephens, Nathan Kelly, Steve and Mary Kelly, Jimmy and Jennifer Hyde, and Austin Beard for all being an influence on him in his Christian walk.

Sympathy is expressed to the family of Jodi Roberts . Jodi passed away on Friday May 9, 2020. Jodi was a long time member at Tecumseh Church of Christ.



CONTINUING PRAYER CONCERNS

Chad Beard, Carol Brodersen, Debra Campbell, Harold Carothers, Blake Carter (great grandson of Sue Merritt), Boyd Cheney, Joe Curtis (brother-in-law of Joe Akins), Thelma Divine, Fredith Hanifan, Sandon Hilditch, Diane Lawerance, Thearlene Morris, James Reeves, Carl Weeks, Dorothy Strickland, John Sullivan, Debbie Taffe, Emma White, Beverly Woodard, Hayden Leonard, Reggie Ford (brother to Lois Carter), Ron Cole (son in law to Paul and Paula Harris), Carla Dame (daughter of Betty Emery), and Ann Bivins.

All these members and friends have continuing health concerns or other special circumstances.

They appreciate your interest and prayers.

FROM THE ELDERS

We are looking forward to the time when conditions allow life to return to normal. Until that time, we will exercise caution in our endeavors as a Church. In the first week of June, the elders will evaluate the possibility of adding additional assemblies. For now, the elders have determined that we will conduct one worship service each week on Sunday morning at 10:30 a.m.

As many are restricting their activities, please call the church office, one of the elders or one of the deacons if you have any needs.

TIPTON HOME



Our Tipton Home collection for the month of **May** is **Saltine Crackers** Please place these items in the barrel in the foyer. Thank you.

LOOKING AHEAD

Sunday morning worship service only.
10:30a.m.

The senior Reception scheduled for Sunday, May 17 has unfortunately been postponed. We will reschedule it as soon as it is safe to gather together again. We are still collecting money for our six seniors. You can donate to one of the elders or their wives.

All 2020 summer camp sessions at Burnt Cabin have been cancelled. We are saddened by this, but are also thankful that the camp board is concerned about the health and safety of our children.