

"Christian Giving"

Tim Dooley

We Are Stewards, Not Owners. In Matthew 25:14–30 Jesus tells a story of a man who delivers his own wealth to his servants, and when he returned those servants were called to give an account of their stewardship. Everything we have is thanks to the blessings of God. 1 Timothy 6:7 tells us, “For we brought nothing into *this* world, *and it is* certain we can carry nothing out.” Someone says, “Well, I worked hard for everything I have, God hasn’t given me anything.” People all over the world work just as hard as you do and do not have the blessings you have. Conversely, there are people all over the world who do not lift so much as a finger compared to you who have much more. God gave you a brain, a strong back, and opportunities. What you have you have because of Him! Consider also that Matthew 25 places our eternal destiny squarely on this issue! Martin Luther once said, “I have tried to keep things in my hands and lost them all, but what I have given into God’s hands I still possess.” **We Are Commanded, Not Encouraged.** Many who want to dilute the word of God in order to make it more “palatable,” or “appealing,” want to hear God use words like encourage, suggest, or recommend. The problem with this is God requires certain things of us in order for us to reap eternal benefits. Passages like Matthew 25, Hebrews 13:16, and 2 Corinthians 9:6–7 all make certain demands. “But I live in the land of the free,” shouts the American modernist/pluralist. Yes you do and God allows all me the freedom to choose to do good or not. To those who choose to not do good it is sin (James 4:17). **We Are To Be Christ-Like, Not World-Like.** Christians are supposed to be different than the rest of the world, not conformed to it (Romans 12:1–2). We are to let our light shine before the men of this world (Matthew 5:16). God predestined His children to be changed into the like image of the Son (Romans 8:9). But being like the world will cause many Christians-in-name-only to be lost for eternity. “Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that *is* in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—is not of the Father but is of the world. And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever” (1 John 2:15–17). What example did Jesus leave us in regards to this issue (1 Peter 2:21)? “For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, that you through His poverty might become rich” (2 Corinthians 8:9). So how is your giving to the Lord and His work? Is there more you can do? Do you need to spend some time reflecting on how God has blessed you and how you are using those blessings? Do you need to take a long hard look at your life and your budget? Do you have a budget? Someone once said, “If you give what you do not need, it isn’t giving.” And remember God said, “For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also” (Matthew 6:21).



Welcome

TO
KOUNTZE
CHURCH OF CHRIST

Jan.

“Behold, God is my
helper; the Lord is the
upholder of my life.”

Psalm 54:5

2nd

Meeting Times

Sunday Bible Class – 9:30

AM Worship – 10:30

PM Worship – 1:30

Wednesday Night Bible Class – 7:00

409.246.3872

kcofc@yahoo.com

kountzechurchofchrist.com

1035 N Pine St

Kountze, TX 77625

101.3 FM Radio

Kountze Church of Christ

Today's Lessons

AM.....Storms of the Church
PM.....Congregational Singing

Men to Serve

Announcements.....Bud Wolcott
Song Leader.....Sterling McDonald
Opening Prayer.....
Communion Leader.....Steve Deatrick
Sermon.....Corey Tackett
Closing Prayer.....

Announcements and Upcoming Events

- We will host an area wide singing on January 29th.
- Today is first Sunday fellowship. Please plan to stay for lunch!

Jan 16th – Men’s Business Meeting

Records

Sunday AM.....Wednesday PM.....N/A
Sunday PM.....Contribution.....N/A

Birthdays:

Anniversaries:

Visitors,

You are welcome and wanted. We are glad you made the decision to be with us.

If you have any questions or needs, please reach out to any of our members and we’ll be more than happy to help you.

If you’re looking for a Church home, we’d love the opportunity to study with you and have you join our congregation’s family.

Prayer Requests and Updates

Members:

- Dwayne Baker
- Ed & Linda Bumstead
- Gaylon & Gladys Williams
-

Family and Friends:

- Tony Wright
- Kyle Shavers
- Danny Roberts
- The Walter’s family
- Steve Martinka
- Shawn Gunter
- Susan Golden
- Kyle Tantillo
- Donna Melton
-