

## **Christian: Is it Your Name?**

by Sam Willcutt

It is truly sad today to see so many congregations of the Lord's people flippantly change the name of the Lord's church, simply to appeal to the present culture. Congregations that appeal to the "Community Church" fashion do not understand that the name of the church is indeed important.

Names themselves are indeed important. We may learn this lesson by noting the people listed in the Bible whose names were changed: God changed the name "Abram" to "Abraham" (Gen. 17:5), God changed the name "Sarai" to "Sarah" (Gen. 17:15), God changed the name "Jacob" to "Israel" (Gen. 32:38), and we see Saul's name change to "Paul" (Acts 13:9). In the latter case, is it not significant that once Saul of Tarsus understood his new-found purpose for life, he decided to leave off his old name characterized by his old life, and chose a new name that described him from thenceforth to underscore his new life in Christ? This shows the true importance in names.

God has always intended for His people to be called by His name (cf. 2 Chron. 7:14). Likewise, those who are not called by His name are consequently not His people:

The people of thy holiness have possessed it but a little while: our adversaries have trodden down thy sanctuary. We are thine: thou never barest rule over them; they were not called by thy name. (Isa. 63:18-19)

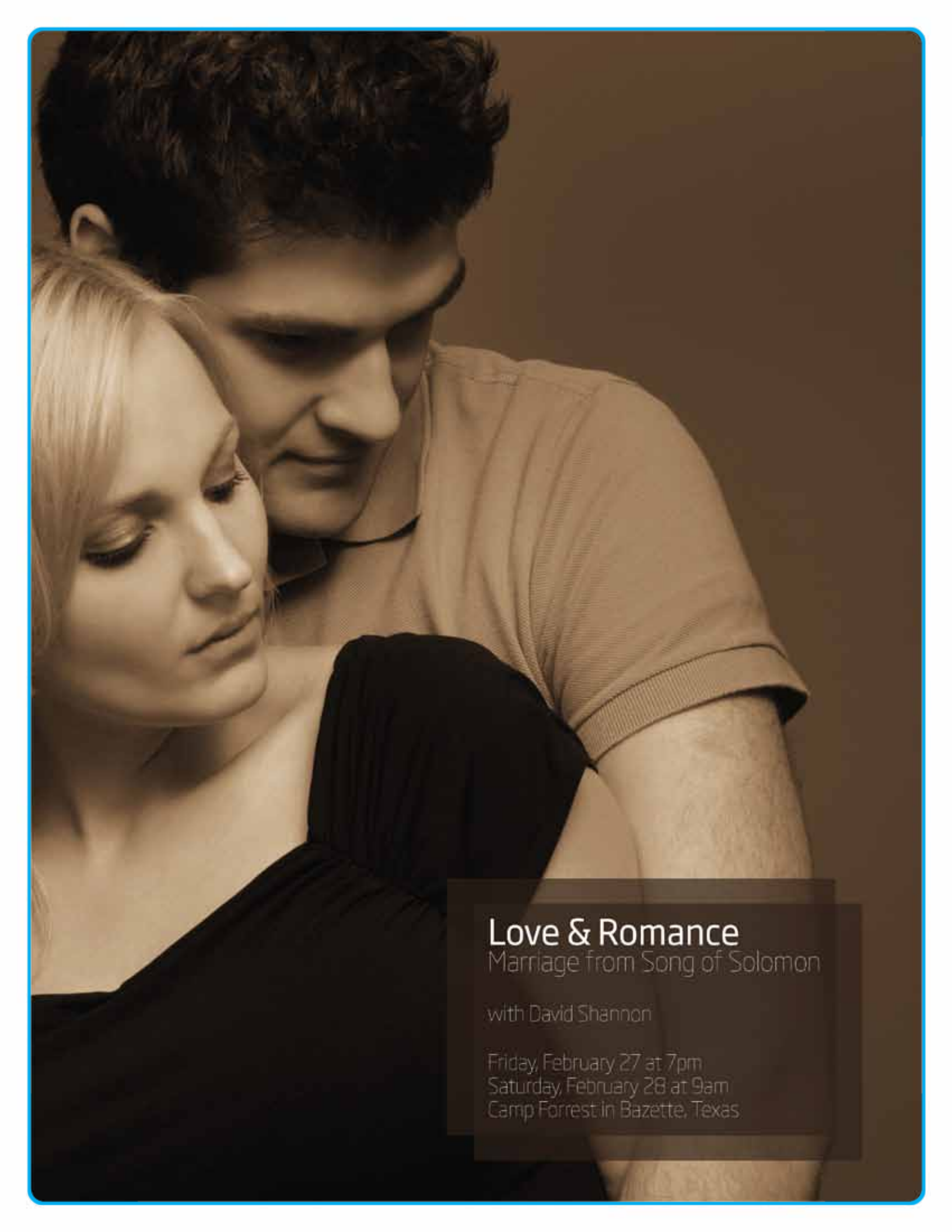
An important fact to consider is that this name was never decided by the insight of men, but it is divine in origin—God Himself gave this name:

Even unto them will I give in mine house and

within my walls a place and a name better than of sons and daughters: I will give them an everlasting name, that shall not be cut off. (Isa. 56:5; cf. 62:2)

This new name was given to the Gentile disciples and fulfilled in Acts 11:26: "And when he found him, he brought him unto Antioch...And the disciples were called Christians first in Antioch." From henceforth, they would no longer be identified as either "Jew" or "Gentile," but "Christian" (cf. Gal. 3:28), which identifies us as followers of Christ. Please understand that this name is not a title, but a name that shows possession. We are a people belonging to Jesus Christ! Since He redeemed us with His blood (Acts 20:28), it is only right that we belong to Him.

The problems in the 21st century are similar to those in the first century—many want to blaspheme the name of the church, and in turn, the name of Christ. James asked, "Do not they blaspheme that worthy name by the which ye are called?" (James 2:7). Weak brethren do this when they replace the name of Christ with "So-and-so Community Church" or "So-and-so Family of God" and such like. Why remove the name of Christ? Why remove that which distinguishes us from other man-made churches? Why remove the sound, biblical Page 2 The Southwesterner February 1, 2015 title stated in the Bible? "Salute one another with an holy kiss. The churches of Christ salute you" (Rom. 16:16). "Church of Christ" is not a name that identifies us as a denomination among denominations, but it is an identity from the Bible that shows the world to whom we belong! What better name is there? Dear friend, I do not believe that there is one!



## Love & Romance

Marriage from Song of Solomon

with David Shannon

Friday, February 27 at 7pm

Saturday, February 28 at 9am

Camp Forrest in Bazette, Texas

# Correspondence/Encouragement

## **Inmate Correspondence:**

### **Zachory Cabano #01886823**

Hutchins Unit  
1500 E. Langdon Rd.  
Dallas, TX 75241

### **Paul Jones #01934698**

Bradshaw Unit  
PO Box 9000  
Henderson, TX 75653

## **Missions Correspondence:**

### **Cherokee Home for Children**

Director: Delton McGuire  
P.O. Box 295  
Cherokee, Texas 76832  
Email: chc@centex.net

### **James & Emily Cammock - New Zealand**

Hamilton Church of Christ  
P.O. Box 412  
Waikato Mail Centre  
Hamilton 3240  
New Zealand  
011-64-7-855-8586  
Email: church-of-christ-cammock@hotmail.com

### **Steve & Carrie Handley - Prison Ministry**

11353 CR 4345  
La Rue, TX 75770  
Email: shandley56@gmail.com

## **Southwest School of Bible Studies:**

### **Michelle Chennault & Kati Haffner**

1215 W. Slaughter Ln. #1413  
Austin, TX 78748

## **Encouragement**

### **Melba & Eleanor Bower**

3002 W. 2nd Ave. #305  
Corsicana, Tx 75110

### **Cecil & Pat Ellis**

275 FM 55  
Purdon, TX 76679

### **Barbara Gould**

1600 Crestmont  
Corsicana, TX 75110

### **Gayle & Christine Garner**

915 N. 26th St.  
Corsicana, TX 75110

### **Justin Mahoney #029939**

312 W. 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave.  
Corsicana, TX 75110

### **Thelma Martin**

1201 Ficklin  
Corscana, TX 75110

### **Roy & Sandra McCullough**

447 SWCR 1005  
Corsicana, TX 75110

### **Gertrude Walker**

1612 Woodcrest  
Corsicana, TX 75110

## Mission Works

### **Westhill Works**

Benevolence Program - Dickie Russell

### **Local Works**

Cherokee Children's Home - Delton McGuire, Director  
Preaching Students - Southwest School of Bible Studies  
The Truth in Love - www.ttil.tv

### **Prison Works**

La Poynor Prison Ministry - Steve & Carrie Handley

### **Foreign Works**

New Zealand Harvest Missions - James & Emily Cammock

## Leadership

### **Elders**

Percell Milton - 903.673.1819  
Paul Slaughter - 903.872.1228  
Paul Stewart - 903.872.3464  
Darwin Thomas - 903.695.0176

### **Ministers**

Sam Dilbeck - 903.229.8415  
Cory Myers - 512.627.6672

### **Deacons**

James Ainsworth - 903.872.1390  
Scott Barham - 903.641.0133  
David Baumgartner - 903.654.4057  
Zach Drain - 903.521.6055

Dan Gibson - 903.641.9587  
Joshua Haden - 903.602.9645  
Micah Haden - 903.673.1177  
James Horn - 903.599.9114  
Michael Jones - 214.803.5984  
Roy McCullough - 903.872.2069  
Greg Olsen - 903.654.1406  
James Olsen - 903.874.8918  
Rusty Owens - 903.695.0095  
Billy Roughton - 903.654.4032  
Dickie Russell - 903.874.4457  
David Shastid - 903.695.0108  
Brent Stewart - 903.641.9052  
Justin Williams - 903.875.8288

# Prayer List

**Bill Abercrombie** is suffering from fluid on the brain and facing treatment.

**Jim Bess** suffered a stroke Thursday morning, but is doing well.

**Melba & Eleanor Bower** have moved into room 305 at Heritage Oaks Retirement Village. See pg. 3 for mailing address.

**Bud Moore** is meeting with doctors today and is scheduled for a triple bypass surgery Tuesday morning at 10:00 or 10:30.

**Meagan Gould** has started an oral chemo treatment.

**Dalton McCullough's** surgery was stopped due to dropping blood pressure. He is okay and hopefully will have surgery at a later date.

**Continue to Remember:** Don Bowen, Jo Ann Chambers, Bobby Compton, Gayle Garner, Velma McDougald, Ruth Moore, Henry & Eula Parrish, Irene Ross, Brenda Russell, Helen Strange, Pat Wheat, Melissa Armstrong, Alyce Barnes, Earlean Bailey, Bonnie Ellison, Brenda Russell.

**Service Men:** Clay Bayes, Jason Book, Alston Compton, Robert Johnson, Josh Moehring, Ryan Payne, Devin Peterson, Douglas Ramsey, Ryan Stewart, Morgan Weaver, Payton Weaver, and Kye White.

## Announcements

**Thelma Martin Will Be 97** on Tuesday, Feb 24! Her address is on page 3 if you'd like to send a card.

**Gertrude Walker Will Turn 103** next Sunday, March 1! Her address is on page 3 if you'd like to send her a birthday card.

**Our Love & Sympathy** are extended to Mary Harris and her family at the passing of Charles Harris. His service was held yesterday.

**Our Annual Couple's Retreat** is Feb. 27-28. Any married couples interested in driving out for these lessons (the rooms are all booked), see Brent or Lanette Stewart.

**Colleyville Ladies' Day** Saturday, February 28. Lieh Brumback will be speaking on "Wait Upon the Lord." Breakfast and registration begin at 8:30 and lunch will be provided. Summer Haffner will speak in a special session for the Jr. High & High School girls. RSVP at 817.281.1681

## Birthdays This Week:

- February 22 - Paul Stewart
- February 23 - Barbara Shore
- February 24 - Marcia Lou Braly, Gayle Garner, Thelma Martin, Ellissa McCombs, Austin Roughton
- February 25 - Isaac Haden
- February 26 - Bobbie Allen, Beverly Heim
- February 27 - Hank Jett
- February 28 - Nate Haden, Paul Loosier

## Next Week's Bible Class

Judges 13-16  
Samson: God's Mighty Man of Strength

## Records for February 15, 2015

Bible Class .....	166
AM Worship .....	264
PM Worship .....	146
Wednesday .....	178
Contribution .....	\$8,663.75

## Privileged to Serve

<b>Song Leader</b>	Mark Blaylock
<b>Opening Prayer</b>	Micah Haden
<b>Communion Leader</b>	Nick Hoffman
<b>Communion Servers</b>	
Bryan Bearden	Dan Gibson
Wade Hall	Zack Lewis
David Mahoney	Gene McDougald
Buck Murphy	Rick Newton
Aubrey Parrish	Wayne Prater
Austin Roughton	Robby Thomas
Bronny Watson	
<b>Closing Prayer</b>	George Schmidt
<b>Nursery</b>	Ashley Jones & Addie Shastid
<b>PM Song Leader</b>	Mark Blaylock
<b>PM Opening Prayer</b>	Eric Olsen
<b>PM Closing Prayer</b>	Carter Bearden
<b>Wed. Song Leader</b>	Justin Williams
<b>Wed. Devo</b>	Greg Olsen
<b>February Contact Elder</b>	Percell Milton - 903.673.1819