

WESTHILL

STAND

FIRM

1 THESSALONIANS 3:8

Westhill Church of Christ

3400 W. Hwy 22
Corsicana, TX 75110

903-872-5696

office@westhillchurchofchrist.org

westhillchurchofchrist.org

Sunday 9:30a, 10:30a, 6:00p

Tuesday 10:30a

Wednesday 6:30p

Wednesday Benevolence 8:30a

November 19, 2017

Placing Membership

Robert Dodson

We sometimes talk about “placing membership”. There are many who don’t know what this is all about, some who don’t have any idea how to do it and others who don’t see the need. Perhaps, we have been negligent in our teaching concerning this matter. So, let me mention a few points from the Bible.

First, we are not talking about placing membership in the church but in a local congregation. God adds the saved to the church (Acts 2:41, 47). Every Christian is a member of the one body of Christ, the church (1 Cor. 12:12-14; Rom. 12:4-5). The one church is made up of many different local churches of Christ (Acts 8:1; 9:31; 13:1; 14:23; Rom. 16:16; 1 Cor. 1:2; 4:17; 14:33; 16:19; Gal. 1:2; Col. 4:15-16; 1 The. 1:1; Rev. 1:11). Placing membership is seeking to become a member of a local church.

Second, there is no specific method by which we must place membership but it could be done in several ways. One brother who is well known by the local brethren may orally introduce the brother not so well known (Gal. 1:21-22; Acts 9:26-27). One mutually recognized brother may write a letter of introduction to brethren about one with whom they yet may not be familiar (Col. 4:10; Rom. 16:1-2). Several brethren may write a letter commending the faith of another (Acts 18:27). One who is a stranger may present himself before a local congregation and by self-commendation ask to be received into the fellowship of that group (2 Cor. 3:1-2). Placing membership is accomplished when a Christian makes known his desire to do so and is accepted by the congregation.

Third, placing membership is not an option but important and necessary for the Christian. It is to place oneself under the rule and care of the local church leadership (Acts 20:28-30; 1 The. 5:12-13; Heb. 13:17; 1 Pet. 5:1-3). It is to accept and fulfill one’s God given responsibility to the local church, as well as to be a recipient of the benefits of being a member of the congregation (Acts 2:42-47; 1 Cor. 5; 11:17-34; 14; 16:1-3; Phi. 4:14-16; Heb. 10:24-25). Placing membership is vital to every member of the Lord’s church.

If you have been saved by Christ, then you have been added to His church. You are a member of the church of Christ, but have you placed membership with a local congregation?

I Need GRACE
The Word Explains All
John 1:1-3; 14-18

The Old Law was _____ (it brought the _____ of sin – Romans 3:20; 7:7)

- We see the problem, now we need a solution

In John 1, we find the solution

- Notice immediately John's name for Jesus: The _____
 - Jesus is God
 - Jesus also came and _____ our Solution

1. The Word Explained the _____ (1:14, 18)

- "Show me Your Glory" – The Word is the only One who has seen Him
- You are sinful, the Law taught us. Yet the _____ still wants you!

2. The Word Explained the _____ (1:14, 17)

- Matthew 23 – even the outwardly righteous had flaws
- John 8:32; 14:16

3. The Word Explained _____ (1:14, 16, 17)

- The Father wants us and the only way is through His Son
 - Show me how I can earn salvation
 - Problem: There is _____ I can do to earn salvation
- Let us make sure we do not look at this word only in the context of debate
- Let us understand what the Word explained to us:
 - You do not _____ eternal life
 - Yet He came to give it to you anyway (through His _____)

In a world of confusion, isn't it refreshing to have everything that we need to know explained to us?

One Word: Grief

Jesus warned His the twelve that they would encounter grief (John 16)

- Yet this grief was to be _____
- Our grief can be _____ also!

1. Grieving over the Physical

"and He will wipe away every tear from their eyes; and there will no longer be any death; there will no longer be any mourning, or crying, or pain; the first things have passed away."
Revelation 21:4

"But we do not want you to be uninformed, brethren, about those who are asleep, so that you will not grieve as do the rest who have no hope."
1 Thessalonians 4:13

You can live knowing that you will be _____ again!

2. Grieving over the Spiritual

There is Good Grief

- 2 Corinthians 7:8-11
 - Keep it _____!
 - How?
 - _____ over sin
 - _____ over sin
 - Never _____ to sin

There is Bad Grief

- 2 Corinthians 2
- We need to allow those who have sinned to feel _____



Weekly Service
@ TriSun

Every Sunday
@ 8:30 AM

Wed. Night
Auditorium
Class

A Study in Jude

SENIOR'S YOUNG
AT HEART

MEETS EVERY
TUES. @ 10:30AM

Lads 2 Leaders
Events

Bible Bowl
Song Leading
Oral Speech & more...

WesthillWORKS! Leadership

Community Outreach

Benevolence Program
Habitat for Humanity
Food for Fitness

Local Missions

Cherokee Children's Home
In Search of the Lord's Way
Southwest School of Preaching
Brown Trail Spanish School of Preaching
The Truth in Love *ttil.tv*
WVBS Online School
school.wvbs.org
La Poynor Prison Ministry
(Steve & Carrie Handley)

Foreign Missions

Four Seas Bible College, Singapore
New Zealand Harvest Missions

Elders

Don Ivy - 214.695.5276
Percell Milton - 903.673.1819
Paul Slaughter - 903.872.1228
Paul Stewart - 903.872.3464
Darwin Thomas - 903.695.0176

Deacons

Scott Barham - 903.641.0133
David Baumgartner - 903.654.4057
Zach Drain - 903.521.6055
Joshua Haden - 903.602.9645
Micah Haden - 903.673.1177
Michael Jones - 214.803.5984
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 - 903.257.6464

Brent Stewart - 903.641.9052
Justin Williams - 903.875.8288

Ministers

Anthony Warnes - 430.775.0196 (Pulpit)
Cory Myers - 512.627.6672 (Family)
Tim Cooke - 903.641.5515 (Seniors)

Staff

Jay Mahoney - 903.467.9093 (Office)

Prayer List

Please remember **James & Sue Welch**. James has not been in good health and they both need our prayers.

Josie Horn's brother-in-law, John Juarez, passed away last Sunday. Please pray for the family and especially Josie's sister, Alma.

Bronny Watson's specialist said that the hole in his retina may heal itself. He has a follow-up in two weeks.

Continue to Remember: Don Bowen, Aline Barrett, Wanda Brown, Wanda Horner, Jan Ross, Sylvia Cockerham, Velma McDouglad, Billie Thomas, Vicki Ivy, Riley Wooten, Carolyn Milton

Announcements

We rejoice with **Natasha Vargas**, who obeyed the Gospel last Sunday and was **baptized** into Christ. Natasha is Eugenia Sosa's niece. Please remember to encourage our new sister in Christ!

We rejoice at the recent **baptism** of **Nate Haden!** Please be sure to pray for and encourage our new brother in Christ!

Thanksgiving Lunch: Make plans now to attend. Lunch will be served Thanksgiving Day at noon. Turkey, ham, dressing, and rolls will be provided. **Sign-up now** to let us know how many will be coming and what dish you would like to bring.

Eric Olsen & McKenzie Rash are to be married on Dec. 9.

A **Gift Drive for the Cherokee Children's Home** is set up in the back of the auditorium. Please select a child and return the gifts wrapped and attached with the information envelopes by Sunday, Dec. 12.

Lectureship DVD's & CD's are in for those who signed up to order them. There are still quite a few that have not picked theirs up. Please pick them up from Jay in the office.

Jim Milam has done an excellent job at recently updating an **online member's photo directory**. By going to the Westhill website and clicking on "directory" you can view an updated directory. Please contact the office if you do not know the password needed to open it.

Young at Heart Seniors Group meets every Tuesday morning at 10:30am for Bible Study. Everyone is welcome!

Birthdays This Week

November 19 - Barry Heathcote, Dee Murphy, & Martha Olsen

November 21 - Glyn Phillips

November 22 - Micah Haden

November 23 - Kerri Barham

November 24 - Connie Benishek

November 25 - Wanda Brown

Next Week:

Bible Class *The Life of the Apostle Paul*

AM Sermon *Don't Test Grace*

PM Sermon *One Word Study "Justification"*

Records for November 12, 2017

Bible Class	240
AM Worship.....	340
PM Worship.....	237
Wednesday.....	181
Contribution	\$8,167.56

Military: Clay Bayes, Blake Barrett, Jason Book, Alston Compton, David Dilbeck, Robert Johnson, Ryan Payne, Douglas Ramsey, & Ryan Stewart

Privileged to Serve

Song Leader	Joshua Haden
Opening Prayer	David Shastid
Communion Leader	Tim Cooke
Communion Servers	
David Baumgartner	Joshua Haden
Ken Green	Brian Hand
Mike Wylie	Josh Newman
Luke Baumgartner	Paul Stewart
Eric Olsen	Matt Newman
Larry Rowden	Frizzell Henry
Robby Thomas	
Closing Prayer	James Olsen
Nursery	Debbie Wylie & Jaxsen Mahoney
PM Song Leader	Justin Williams
PM Opening Prayer	Jimmy Horn
PM Closing Prayer	James Horn
Wed. Song Leader	Paul Ross
Wed. Invitation	Zach Drain
November Contact Elder	Percell Milton