

Beware the Band Wagon!

Church of Christ

128 Maple Ave.

By Joe Slater

A band wagon was a large, decorated wagon upon which a musical band performed, often at the front of a parade. As spectators applauded the musicians, other people might jump onboard and ride along, hoping to share in the glory. When the music stopped and the applause died down, however, the extra passengers would jump right back off. Thus, the practice of joining any popular trend came to be known as “climbing onto the band wagon.”

In New Testament days, multitudes of people were converting to Christ. They faced the danger of the “band wagon” effect just as we do. Paul taught some of them: “as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling” (Philippians 2:12). To work something out is to see it through to completion (think of “working out” a math problem – you cannot stop in the middle of your calculations, but must complete the process).

Happily, our brethren in the Jerusalem church were not band wagon disciples. Luke mentions four items (Acts 2:42) in which they continued steadfastly:

The apostles’ teaching. First, they continued to be taught by the apostles. Second, they constantly behaved in keeping with what the apostles taught them. Being a Christian involves life-long learning and growing. When you stop learning and growing, you start dying!

Fellowship. The church is a spiritual family. Going it alone is next to impossible. The early church regularly spent much time together, sharing one another’s joys, sorrows, successes, and failures. When fellowship wanes, disciples weaken and may perish.

The breaking of the bread. We need constant reminders of Jesus and what He did for us at Calvary. The Lord ordained Communion (the Lord’s Supper) upon the first day of each week (Acts 20:7) for this very purpose. “Do this in remembrance of Me” (Luke 22:19).

Prayers. Paul wrote to the Colossians to “continue in prayer” (4:2). Jesus taught that we ought always to pray and not lose heart (Luke 18:1). Did you pray yesterday? Pray again today! Did you pray this morning? Pray again tonight!

Let us not treat the Lord and His church like a band wagon. When we obeyed the gospel, we committed ourselves to a lifetime of faithfulness. May we continue steadfastly as the early disciples did!

Joe Slater serves as minister of the Church of Christ in Justin, TX



Schedule of Services:

Greeting: Mark

Song Leader: Mark

Opening Hymn:

545—O Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Opening Prayer: Dale

Hymn:

68—Count Your Blessings

Scripture Reading: Ray

Acts 2:40-47

Hymn:

300—Must Jesus Bear The Cross Alone

Lord’s Supper: Tom

Hymn:

177—Just A Closer Walk With Thee

Sermon: Mark

Invitation Hymn:

639—Where He Leads Me

Closing Hymn:

414—Shall We Gather At the River

Closing Prayer: Larry

PRAYER LIST

- *Bonnie and her family .
- *Margaret and Albert.
- *Wanda and her family.
- *Kathy and her friends
- *Zarna’s family and friends
- *Larry and Ruth.
- *Pat and Ron and their daughters.
- *Juanita’s sister Betty and the rest of her family. Her son Dale’s mother-in-law was in an auto accident recently.
- *Mary and her family.
- *Robert and Sara. Their friend Kim.
- *Ray and Barbara
- *Dale and his family. Aunt Mary’s daughter is in the hospital following a heart attack.
- *Ray, Rebecca, and Steven.
- *Myron & Carole and their family.
- *Mark and his family .
- *Our congregation



CALENDAR

- Apr. 11—Worship 11 am
Speaker: Mark
- Apr. 11—Bible Study 6 pm
on-line with Dale
- Apr. 14—(b.) Sara
- Apr. 14—(a.) Brendan & Lisa Marie
- Apr. 16—(b.) Eric
- Apr. 18—Worship 11 am.
Speaker: Mark
- Apr. 18—Bible Study 6 pm
on-line with Dale
- Apr. 25—Worship 11 am
Speaker: Mark
- Apr. 25—Bible Study 6 pm

About	Accord	added	among
Anyone	apostles	baptized	believed
Bread	breaking	church	common
Continuing	daily	divided	every
Exhorted	favor	generation	gladly
Having	heart	house	other
People	perverse	possessions	praising
Received	saved	saying	signs
Temple	testified	their	things

G N O M A A B N E D D D T T D C D G
 R O V A F N E R A V E H U E E H A N
 H Y C A O L Y E E V E O N X Z U I I
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 N O I T A R E N E G S G N I H T R A
 D E I F I T S E T Y E R G T S S N P

Hidden Message: _____

**When I hear somebody sigh, ‘Life is hard,’
 I am always tempted to ask, ‘Compared to
 what?’—Sydney Harris**



SUNDAY: Worship — 11:00 am; Bible Study — 6:00 pm (on Zoom)
 Website: Chardonchurchofchrist.org
 E-mail: church_of_Christ@roadrunner.com
 Pod Cast: Chardon.podbean.com
 Follow us on FaceBook

Answer to Puzzle: And they continued steadfastly in the apostles’ doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers.