

# THE GONZALES MESSENGER

## Gonzales Church of Christ

FEBRUARY 4TH, 2024



### Two Men Who Changed “Churches”

In the years of teaching others, one problem often has confronted those who are being taught. Some have deep roots in the places where they are worshiping and the decision to leave that behind is often not one that is easily made. They now look at the Bible so differently, for what they now know is right is so strange from what they were taught, believed and practiced for many years. Perhaps looking at two examples of men in the Bible who “changed churches” might help them as they struggle.

Saul of Tarsus, far better known as the apostle Paul, was a leader in the Jewish religion. As a young man, he was part of the stoning of the first Christian martyr. The Bible says that he not only took care of the outer garments of those who were actually killing a saint, but as he watched Stephen die, he agreed that it was a godly act to kill that Christian ([Acts 7:58; 8:1; 22:20](#)). He progressed in his religion and anti-Christian views above his peers ([Phil. 3:5-6; Gal. 1:14](#)).

Was Paul an evil, violent man? Far from it! He was part of the Jewish “church,” because his one rule was to live by his conscience and he lived a blameless life before God and man ([Acts 23:1; 24:16](#)). Yet when he understood the will of God, he immediately became a Christian ([Acts 22:16](#)). He left the Jewish “church” and began a new journey as one who was determined to always do the right thing. The fact he so willingly gave up his past life and embraced a new one is evidence of his honesty and devotion to God.

Apollos is another example of a man who “changed churches.” We know less about his life before becoming part of the church of Jesus, but everything we know shows his involvement in religion. He was a Jew who had been born in Alexandria, a great city on the coast of Africa with a substantial Jewish settlement. He was a man who knew the Bible and was skilled in publicly teaching others ([Acts 18:24-25](#)). In some way, he learned of the teachings of John the Baptist, and when he came to Ephesus, he taught others in the synagogue. In a sense, he had left the Jewish “church” and became part of the “John the Baptist church.” A Christian husband and wife heard him teaching and privately taught him about the church Jesus built. He “changed churches” and began to confront those Jews with whom he had formally worshiped, using the Bible to show them where they were wrong.

Today when one learns about the church of Jesus he stands at a crossroad in his life. The path he chooses reflects the nature of his heart. Two great leaders in the early church were devoted and active in religious lives. Their willingness to change shows what men who are honestly wrong need to do. **Dan Jenkins**

#### Lessons for this week:

##### Sunday:

**Bible Class: Parables of Jesus: The Sower**

**AM Worship Service: The Forgotten Vow of Jacob**

**PM Worship Service: Things That Belong to Salvation**

##### Wednesday:

**Bible Class: The Book of Esther**

#### Visit Us!

1225 S. Purpera Ave.  
Gonzales, LA 70737

#### Service Times:

##### Sunday:

Bible class 9am  
AM Worship Service 10 am  
PM Worship Service 1 pm

##### Wednesday:

Bible Class 7 pm

#### Contact Us!

225.644.5824-Office  
225.276.9203-Mobile

gonzalescofc.com  
gonzalescofc@eatel.net  
Facebook.com/gonzalescofc

#### Elders:

Ronald DeShazo  
Michael Krieger  
James Eaves  
Roberto Benitez

#### Deacons:

Patrick Adkins  
Isaac Benitez  
Tracy Boone  
Harold Douget  
Tim Schmidt

#### Ministers:

James Eaves  
Daniel Jaramillo

#### Attendance:

01/21	01/28
AM:132	AM:
PM:87	PM:
Wed:	Wed:

#### Contribution:

\$7301	\$6,648
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# Mark Your Calendars:

**February 4th-Youth Devo** moved to today! Begins at 2pm directly following the afternoon service.

**February 10th-Youth Valentine Activity**-Begins Saturday the 10th 9am @ the building. All youth are welcome. See Nancy Esmon and Amanda Eaves for more details.

**February 13th-Sweet Taters**-Tuesday@ 10am. This will be a brunch for Valentine’s Day. See the Arrowwoods for any information.

**February 18th-Youth Mentor Class:** Meeting directly after lunch which will be provided.

**February 23rd-Game Night**-Friday night 7pm @ the building join in on the fun and fellowship. Bring your favorite family friendly games and most delicious finger food.

**February 24th-Coffee Social**-join us at the building @9am for coffee, fellowship, and a devo.

## Birthdays This Week:

- 4th Charlotte DeShazo
- 6th Anthony Eaves
- 6th Alicia Mars
- 9th Lizzie Floyd

**Genesis 35:1-7** God said to Jacob, “Arise, go up to Bethel and dwell there. Make an altar there to the God who appeared to you when you fled from your brother Esau.

## Anniversaries This Week:

- 5th Mike & Gwynne Krieger

### Privileged to Serve 02-04-2024

<b>AM &amp; PM Assembly</b>	
Song Leader.....	Chris Ryan
Lord’s Table.....	Mike Krieger
AV Room.....	Kyles
Announcements.....	Patrick Adkins
Security	Mack Meek
<b>AM Assembly</b>	
Opening Prayer.....	Tracy Boone
Scripture.....	Isaac Eaves
Closing Prayer.....	Burt Duplessis Jr.
<b>PM Assembly</b>	
Opening Prayer.....	Harold Douget
Closing Prayer.....	Brett Coats
<b>Wed Assembly</b>	
Song Leader.....	Ethan Adkins
Devotional.....	David Esmon
Closing Prayer.....	Lynwood Joseph

### Privileged to Serve 02-11-2024

<b>AM &amp; PM Assembly</b>	
Song Leader.....	Brendan Babin
Lord’s Table.....	Tim Schmidt
AV Room.....	Kyles
Announcements.....	Patrick Adkins
Security	Tracy Boone
<b>AM Assembly</b>	
Opening Prayer.....	Shane Bryant
Scripture.....	Bent Mouille
Closing Prayer.....	Jerry Deslatte
<b>PM Assembly</b>	
Opening Prayer.....	Brett Coats
Closing Prayer.....	Dave Brady
<b>Wed Assembly</b>	
Song Leader.....	Cayden Moore
Devotional.....	Ben Vallery
Closing Prayer.....	Jerry Deslatte

**Prayer Requests** can be made using this QR code. You may also text prayer requests to Patrick Adkins (225-205-7109) or add them to the LIGHTPOST app.

