#### From the Pastor

We have been covering the teachings of Jesus Christ as found in what is called the Sermon on the Mount in Matthew 5-7. In order to inherit life in the family of God we must grow to think like (have the same mind and approach as) Jesus Christ. Remember Paul exhorted God's people in Philippi, "Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus." (Philippians 2:5) The Sermon on the Mount reveals many aspects of the mind of Christ that we need to make a part of our own way of thinking and living.

Having the same mind and approach as Jesus Christ is not just a nice sentiment. Those words describe the very essence of what a Christian must be doing. Too often we are still governed by and motivated to do what we want to do instead of seeking to live as Jesus Christ lived. His total commitment in living His life was to live by every word that proceeded from His Father's mouth. John recorded this motivation in Christ's mind in John 4:34, "Jesus said to them, 'My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me, and to finish His work.""

Jesus' total purpose for coming to the earth was to fulfill the incredible responsibilities given to Him for the accomplishing of God's plan for having a family of sons and daughters.

Jesus came to teach the spiritual terms of the New Covenant. Today the New Covenant is only being offered to the few that God calls to be a part of the firstfruits of His family. The spiritual terms are contained in the spirit of the law. The spirit of the law reveals God's (and Christ's) mind of love—God's mind of love behind His giving the law.

Jesus Christ also came to live a life that exemplified the type of life our Father wants us to live. Christ's life illuminates the path we are to follow. John 1:4 records, "In Him was life, and the life was the light of men." In 1 John 2:6 we read, "He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as He walked."

And, of course, the very vital part for the purpose of Jesus' coming was to die as the perfect sacrifice for sin. Without His completing this incredible mission of dying without sin, we could not have access to eternal life ourselves. This is what the Passover memorial is all about—remembering what Jesus willingly did so that we can have access to life.

|                    | Victoria | Corpus Christi | Harlingen |
|--------------------|----------|----------------|-----------|
| Sunset Today in:   | 6:33pm   | 6:34pm         | 6:37pm    |
| Sunset Friday 3-16 | 7:36pm   | 7:38pm         | 7:40pm    |



## <u>Victoria</u>

Sermon: Jim Chapman

### **Corpus Christi**

Sermonette: DVD Sermon: Steve Moody

### **Harlingen**

Sermonette: Orlando Mascorro Sermon: Michael Watts

"But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin."

1 John 1:7

| Announcemer  | nts and Schedule                                    |  |
|--------------|---|--|
| Sabbath 3/10 | Regular times and locations for Corpus Christi, San |  |
|              | Antonio, Harlingen, and Victoria.                   |  |
| Sabbath 3/17 | Regular times and locations for Corpus Christi, San |  |
|              | Antonio and Victoria. Mr. Moody will be in          |  |
|              | Victoria and San Antonio. Mr. Mendez will be in     |  |
|              | Corpus Christi and Harlingen.                       |  |

# Upcoming Activities: Dates to Remember

#### Houston Dinner Dance from Jim Servidio, pastor of Houston North:

The Houston congregations invite you to join us for our upcoming Spring dinner dance on April 7th. Here is the link to register: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfP8fapvv-vmnzMDkSr2oQGm2tA2Yut\_quqkACITNLoGnnAQg/viewform

San Antonio Potluck: The next regularly will be March 3, 2018.

**Goose Island Campout**: March 23-25, 2018 If you are interested, to reserve a campsite please contact Arnold Mendez Sr. directly. He has prereserved a group of campsites and he will assign you a site. He can be contacted at arnold.mendez@cogwa.org

**Passover**: Observed Thursday evening, March 29, 2018. Time: 7:40 p.m. Corpus Christi, Harlingen, & Victoria

**Night to Be Much Observed:** Friday evening, March 30, 2018. Mark and Amalia Monsivais have graciously opened their home for this event. Please see Mark or Amalia and let them know if you will be attending this event at their home.

Feast of Unleavened Bread – First Holy Day: Sabbath, March 31, 2018. Victoria – 10:00 a.m. Corpus Christi – 3:00 p.m. Harlingen –10:00 a.m.

#### Feast of Unleavened Bread – Last Holy Day: Friday, April 6, 2018. Victoria – 10:00 a.m.

**Corpus Christi & Harlingen** — The Harlingen congregation will combine with the Corpus Christi congregation for services at 1:00 p.m. There will be a potluck after services. The Harlingen congregation will provide dessert.