

From the Pastor

The next section of the Sermon on the Mount is found in Matthew 6:24-34. Jesus introduces this section by saying in verse 24, “No one can serve two masters for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon [margin – riches].

It is very natural and easy for us (since we are physical beings living in a very real physical world) to focus almost exclusively on seeking the physical necessities imposed on us in this physical life. We must earn a living—provide the necessities of life for our families and ourselves—food, clothing, and shelter. The endeavor of meeting these needs is very real to us.

The problem is that we can become so focused on pursuing these things that we do not focus on (we forget) the real purpose for which we have been given this life. Jesus deals with these issues directly in verses 25-32. Jesus then states what needs to be the priority of our lives—what we should focus on first and above all. In verse 33 He said, “But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness and all these things shall be added to you.” Do we believe this?

Seeking God’s kingdom simply means doing what we must do (live the way God wants us to live) to inherit life in God’s family. To inherit life in God’s family we must be seeking righteousness—learning to live pleasing to God—living by what God says is right—instead of doing what is simply pleasing to the self.

We must ask ourselves, “Is seeking to build a relationship with God something that is important to us?” To build a relationship with God takes time and effort—just like building a relationship with anyone. There is only so much time in the day. Is seeking God something we want to do? Do we want to do it badly enough to dedicate the time necessary to prayer, study, fasting, and meditation? Again, the answers to those questions will depend on how real God is and how important it is to us to draw closer to God—to serve Him.

Paul exhorted the brethren in Thessalonica with these words, “Finally then, brethren, we urge and exhort in the Lord Jesus that you should abound more and more, just as you received from us how you ought to walk and to please God...”

As we approach the Passover, we need to analyze our lives and answer, “Is seeking God’s ways most important to us?”

	Victoria	Corpus Christi	Harlingen
Sunset Today in:	7:37pm	7:38pm	7:40pm
Sunset Friday 3-23	7:40pm	7:42pm	7:43pm

Church of God South Texas

Victoria - Corpus Christi - Harlingen



March 17, 2018

Victoria

Sermon: Steve Moody

Corpus Christi

Sermonette: DVD

Sermon: Arnold Mendez

Harlingen

Split Sermon: Michael Watts

Split Sermon: Arnold Mendez

“That you would have a walk worthy of God who calls you into His own kingdom and glory.”

1 Thessalonians 2:12

Announcements and Schedule

Sabbath 3/17	Regular times and locations for Corpus Christi, San Antonio, Harlingen, and Victoria.
Sabbath 3/24	Regular times and locations for San Antonio and Victoria. Corpus Christi services will be in the Goose Island camp site. Mr. Moody will be at the campout for Bible Study at 1:00 p.m. Mr. Jack Hendren will be in San Antonio. There will be a DVD in Victoria. The Harlingen congregation will meet at the home of Al and Donna Schmidt for a DVD recording.

Upcoming Activities: Dates to Remember

2018 Camp Applications

The camp application system is now open. Simply go to your COGWA portal account, look under the Events area on the bottom left of your account main page and click on the "Click Here to Apply." If you do not already have a COGWA portal account, go to the "Apply" page of the camp website (<http://camps.cogwa.org/apply/>) and click the link in the second paragraph for instructions on how to set up your portal account. Details about each camp can be found on the individual camp pages of the camp website.

Please note that we need a NEW photo (taken within the three months before an application is submitted) of each person that applies for camp to use in case of a medical emergency. If you need to upload a new photo, go to your portal account home page, find the name of the person applying for camp at the top right of the page under the "Household Members" heading and click the camera icon. Follow the instructions to upload a new photo and make that the default profile image.

We would also like to remind everyone that we want all COGWA attendees who wish to attend camp to have that opportunity. To help ensure that, we offer scholarship help (generally a partial tuition scholarship) to those who need it to be sure they can attend one camp this year. Simply contact the camp director to request a scholarship to get the process started.

Ken Treybig
CYC Overall Coordinator

San Antonio Potluck: The next regularly will be May 5, 2018.

Goose Island Campout: March 23-25, 2018 Bible Study is scheduled for 1:00 p.m. Sabbath

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.

Time: Victoria – 10:00 a.m.
Corpus Christi – TBA

Feast of Unleavened Bread – Last Holy Day: Friday, April 6, 2018.

Time: 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.