

From the Pastor

The Bible indeed speaks of the Holy Spirit—the Spirit of God. But, we have seen that there is no reference showing that the apostles or the early church viewed the Holy Spirit as a third co-equal member of the Godhead or God family. The Spirit of God is the power that God the Father and His Son (the Word who became Jesus Christ) use to do whatever they do.

Paul wrote in Ephesians 4:4-6, “There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all, and in you all.” By one Spirit—God’s power—the Father is able to be in us all.

It is also through God’s Spirit that we can have the very mind, life, spirit, nature and attitudes of Jesus Christ, God’s firstborn Son, formed in us. Galatians 4:6-7 records, “And because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying out, Abba, Father. Therefore, you are no longer a slave but a son, and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ.”

Remember, as we seek to use God’s Spirit to change, as we seek to use the power God gives us through His Spirit, we can grow to become more like Jesus Christ in spirit and character. The Spirit of God and the Spirit of Christ are one and the same thing. There are not two different Spirits. Paul wrote in Romans 8:9-11, “But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God [the Father] dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ [clearly the Son’s Spirit], he is not His. And if Christ is in you [by the Spirit], the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. But if the Spirit of Him [the Father] who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit [the Father’s] who dwells in you.”

If we are growing in their character (the example of which is the character of Jesus Christ since we have record of His character of life in the Word of God), the qualities of their character will be in us. It will be as if they are dwelling in us. Just as Jesus said in John 14:23, “Jesus answered and said to him, ‘If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him.’”

The Spirit proceeds from the Father (John 15:26). The Father gives the Spirit upon Jesus’ request to give it (John 14:16, 26). In John 16:7 Jesus said, “Nevertheless I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send Him to you.”

From these last four scriptures we see that the Father and Son work in concert to send the Holy Spirit—the Comforter, the Spirit of Truth—to us. It is God’s Spirit that leads us into all truth (John 16:13) and enables us to change to become like Jesus Christ—to have the Spirit of Christ in us. It is not a third co-equal member of the God family. However, it is the power that enables us to become members of God’s family if we use that power to change.

	Victoria	Corpus Christi	Harlingen
Sunset Today in:	8:30pm	8:29pm	8:27pm
Sunset Friday 7-14	8:29pm	8:29pm	8:26pm

Church of God South Texas

Victoria - Corpus Christi - Harlingen



Victoria

Sermon: Jim Chapman

Corpus Christi

Sermon: Steve Moody

Harlingen

Sermonette: DVD
Sermon: Michael Watts

“And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent.”
John 17:3

Announcements and Schedule

Sabbath 7/8	Regular times and locations for Corpus Christi, Harlingen, Victoria and San Antonio.
Sabbath 7/15	Regular times and locations for all congregations. Mr. Moody will be in Victoria and San Antonio. Mr. Mendez will be in Corpus Christi and Harlingen.

From Joel Meeker:

Additional Openings for the Feast of Tabernacles in Orford, Québec

All Canadian members have now been accommodated for this small site, so we are able to open the Orford, Québec, site for additional transfers from other countries. Interested members may now register for Orford by clicking on the registration link at <http://feast.cogwa.org> or by going directly to the COGWA portal at <https://portal.cogwa.org/acct/>.

Upcoming Activities: Dates to Remember

San Antonio Potluck: The next regularly scheduled potluck will be August 5.

Victoria Potluck and Bible Study: We have scheduled a potluck and Bible Study for July 29. I would like to do this once a quarter.

Corpus Christ Brown Bag Social and Bible Study: We have scheduled a brown bag social and Bible Study for the Sabbath of July 29th.

Recent Article from One Accord Magazine-July 2017

Ordinations-page 18



Michael Watts and Arnold Mendez Sr.

On the first day of Unleavened Bread, April 11, 2017, the Harlingen, Texas, congregation was blessed with the ordination of Michael Watts to the office of deacon. The local pastor, Arnold Mendez Sr., ordained him during the morning service.

Michael Watts has been very helpful to the congregation. He delivers sermons, sermonettes and also helps out with song leading. He is very hospitable and has hosted several Night to Be Much Observed celebrations at his home. He consistently helps out in other areas including the setup and takedown of the hall. He has served the Church tirelessly for many years. He was born into the Church and has a long history in the Church. His father was a deacon, and his grandfather was an elder.

Michael Watts always displays a can-do attitude. He is energetic and is a consistent, dependable servant to the congregation.

The Harlingen congregation has been blessed to have such a dedicated and faithful servant. The members are appreciative of all the work that he has done and rejoice because his work has been recognized with his ordination.