TODAY'S MESSAGES	
Sunday Morning	SUNDAY EVENING
An Example To Inspire Us! Acts 5:40-42	CANCELLED

**Are You a Secret Disciple?** 



"After these things Joseph of Arimathea, being a disciple of Jesus, but a secret one for fear of the Jews, asked Pilate that he might take away the body of Jesus; and Pilate granted permission. So he came and took away His body. Nicodemus, who had first come to Him by night, also came, bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about a hundred pounds weight." John 19:38-39

It is not until the aftermath of Jesus' traumatic sacrifice that we are introduced to Joseph of Arimathea. We are told in Mark's account that he was a prominent member of the council.

Though previously introduced, we are also made aware of Nicodemus who himself is a member of the council. There are two other very interesting things that that this duo has in common. One is that they both wanted to take responsibility for the body of Jesus after his death. The other is that they are "secret disciples," Nicodemus having previously come to Jesus under cover of darkness.

The question must be asked, can one truly be a disciple of the Lord in secret? It is true that both of these men are described as lovers of God. It is true that they ultimately acted in the service of the Lord. It is also true, however, that during Christ's ministry, they kept their feelings for him to themselves and did nothing to support his mission. Scriptures reveal that fear was what caused them to remain hidden.

Beloved, we are not in the same place, time, circumstance or culture as these men but so many of us share "secret discipleship" with them. This condition involves internal acknowledgement and perhaps even love for the Savior but little to no external acknowledgement outside the occasional worship attendance and little to no works of service in his name. The "secret disciples" do not share their faith or the gospel out of fear of being ridiculed, ostracized or perhaps fired. Invitations to worship and bible studies are not extended to acquaintances and friends may not even realize that Christianity is part of their lives. Traits like these must beg the question whether a person is a Christian at all.

It is true that Jesus warned his followers that the Christian life would potentially be unpopular among the masses, but he encouraged that we live the Christian life and proclaim the gospel boldly. Most notably, Jesus said in Mark 8:38, "For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man will also be ashamed of him when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels." I don't know about you church but I want to be claimed by the Lord, so I am sure to claim him every day(by words and deeds).

--By Bro Lee Lewis

For the Shepherds, Brother Ben



# The Wheless Lane Messenger

Church of Christ at Wheless Lane 2702 Wheless Lane Austin, TX 78723

MAY 30, 2021

## **ELDERS**

DeWayne Calloway Paul Noel Sam Roberts

## **MINISTER**

## **DEACON**

Batthias Matthews

## YOUTH MINISTER

Charles Gaston

# SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

#### Sunday

10:00 a.m. Morning Worship 11:45 a.m. Bible Class 5:00 p.m. Evening Worship

#### Wednesday

7:00 p.m. Bible Class

#### Friday

10:00 a.m. Seasoned Saints Bible Class (Suspended)

Visitors' Day & Fellowship Every Last Sunday of the Month

## OFFICE

(512) 926-2988

## FAX

(512) 926-3001

### **EMAIL**

whelesscoc@whelesscoc.org

### WEBSITE

www.whelesscoc.org

## An Example To Inspire Us! Acts 5:17-41



What would it take for us stop saying out loud that Jesus is the son of God and the savior of the world?

What would it take for us to stop saying out loud that the moral standards taught by **The Bible** are right?

What would it take for us to stop trying to help people know the truth about their souls?

What would it take?

We are truly blessed to live in a land where our ability to worship is protected by the governmental laws. Right now, I am not as concerned about changes in the laws as I am about our reaction to changes in the social pressures.

Without any governmental pressure at all, social pressures can make us swallow the Gospel if we are not careful. What I mean by that is social pressures can make use stop saying out loud the truths we know about Jesus. Social pressures make us stop standing for the life taught in **The Bible**. And social pressures can make us stop sharing with people the good news of the Gospel.

This morning, let's look at an example that can inspire us to keep doing what God asked, even when the environment is uncomfortable.

Bro. Sam

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

Call To Worship

Ronnie Green

Song Leader William Wright

Scripture Reading *R.J. Kirby* 

<u>Prayer</u> **Paul Noel** 

Sermon
Sam Roberts

Communion/Offering
Westley Shaw

Announcements
DeWayne Calloway

Closing Prayer Richard Noel

Ushers
Ivan Booker
Wayne Roberts
Batthias Matthews

# Welcome Visitors!

Welcome to the Church of Christ at Wheless Lane. We are honored you chose to worship with us. As members of the church of Christ our goal is to teach and practice New Testament doctrine. We invite you to observe our services and evaluate the doctrine. We would love to be your church-on-the-road or your new congregation if you are relocating to the Austin area.



## **REQUEST FOR PRAYERS**

Wanda Buford—Prayers for my niece, Tarsha as she go through her radiation and chemo treatments.

Bettie Washington—Prayers that my minor surgery will be successful, and I will have a speedy recovery.

JoAnn McClellan—Prayers for comfort and healing as I recover from my surgery.

## PLAN OF SALVATION

Faith – which results from hearing the Word of God (Romans 10:17). Faith is essential to salvation (Mark 16:16; John 8:24; 20:30-31; Hebrews 11:6).

Repentance – a change of mind which causes one to turn away from sinful practices. It is commanded for everyone (Acts 2:38; 3:19; 17:30).

Confession – confession is an outward confession of faith in Jesus as the Son of God (Matthew 10:32; Romans 10:9-10). All who deny Christ has no part of him.

Baptism – a "command" of Christ, "you must be born again." It is an act which is essential to salvation (Mat 28:19; Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; 22:16).

## > SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP SERVICES

have resumed at the building Livestream via Facebook and YouTube will continue.

- Levels 2 Youth Study Sunday via Zoom at 1:00 pm
   Levels 3 and 4 Youth Study Every Sunday via Zoom at 11:30 am
   Wednesday Night Bible Class via Zoom at 7:00 pm
- > Gifts for Grads

If you want to bring gifts for the grads, the Women's Ministry is collecting gifts for the next three weeks and will present them to each 20-21 graduate. If you want to, you will simply bring a wrapped gift for each of the graduates. (**Remember to put that it's from you**.) You may bring your gifts on a Saturday or a Sunday, and there will be someone at the building to receive it. All the gifts will be presented to the graduates at the same time, at a later date. Please call Sis Roberts, or any member on the Women's Ministry committee for additional information.

- > **June 5, 2021**ALL BROTHERS MEETING 9:00 am via Zoom
- > June 6, 2021
  MASK OPTIONAL for those VACCINATED
- > FREE Weekly Bible Correspondence Course

—A lesson will be mailed each week including a stamped envelope to mail lesson back. It will be graded, and the next lesson will be mailed.

—email Sis Vergie Sharp at vergiasharp@att.net for more details

# Congratulations to our Graduating Seniors



## Alyssa Matthews

Graduating from Manor Senior High School June 1, 2021 at Shoreline Church, 9:30 am Graduation will be live-streamed @ManorISD on Facebook and YouTube

Imagine Smith

Graduating from Akins High School June 3, 2021 at Burger Stadium, 3:00 pm

## Justice Nicholson

Graduating from Texas Empowerment Academy June 4, 2021 at Sterling Event Center, 4:00 pm

# WHELESS EDUCATION TEACHER ROTATION for May 2021

## LEVEL 1 (Nursery—Age 2)

Sunday: Vicki Russell Wednesday: Vicki Russell

### **LEVEL 2 (Ages 3—5)**

Sunday: Kaylin & Kayrin Monroe Wednesday: Kaylin & Kayrin Monroe

## LEVEL 3 (1st—2nd Grade)

Sunday: Tasha Cllifton Wednesday: Tasha Clifton

#### LEVEL 4 (3rd—5th Grade)

Sunday: Batthias Matthews Wednesday: Batthias Matthews

### LEVEL 5 (6th—8th Grade)

Sunday: Charles Gaston Wednesday: Charles Gaston

### LEVEL 6 (9th—12th Grade)

Sunday: DeWayne Calloway
Wednesday: DeWayne Calloway

## TRANSITIONS CLASS (Ages 18-23)

Sunday: Westley Shaw Wednesday: Westley Shaw

## PRINCIPLES CLASS

Sunday: Paul Noel

### ADULTS BIBLE CLASS

Sunday: Sam Roberts
Wednesday: DeWayne Calloway

## SICK & SHUT IN

## **FOR THE IMPRISONED**Bro. Bryant Johnson

## STATISTICS

ATTENDANCE

Morning Evening

Wednesday

Visitors

RESPONSES

Baptisms (Cum)

Placed Membership

CONTRIBUTION

Weekly