

# First United Methodist Church

1501 West 5<sup>th</sup> Street - Fort Stockton, Texas 79735

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## CONNECT WITH US

FSFUMC.COM

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Ministers: All Members /  
Pastor: Randy Thomas  
1st Sunday after Epiphany – Gold  
January 10, 2021

ONE STEP  
AT A TIME

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE A CHRISTIAN?

ACTS 11:19-26

## HERE TO SERVE

District Superintendent.....Eduardo Rivera  
Today's pianist.....Victor Gene Robbins  
Technical Support.....Vic Ivy & Ray Griffith  
Secretary / Bookkeeper.....Christina Duarte  
Children's Service Leader.....  
Nursery Attendant.....Antonia Terrazas  
Custodian.....Alexis Duarte & Delia Dutchover

# WORSHIP SERVICE

January 10, 2021

PRELUDE

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

Lord Of The Dance # 261

PRAYER

HYMN

Freely, Freely # 389

PRAYER & PRAISE CARD/MORNING PRAYER/LORDS PRAYER

PRAISE & WORSHIP

I'll Fly Away

Hand In Hand

Give Me Jesus

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Acts 11:19-26

MESSAGE

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE A CHRISTIAN?

By Pastor Randy Thomas

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**INVITATION TO RECEIVE CHRIST AND ALTAR TIME / JOIN THE CHURCH**

Please let us pray for you and help you any way we can.  
Please fill out your prayer/praise card in you  
bulletin, and place it in the offering.

## WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE A CHRISTIAN?

### Acts 11:19-26 (NKJV)

<sup>19</sup> Now those who were scattered after the persecution that arose over Stephen traveled as far as Phoenicia, Cyprus, and Antioch, preaching the word to no one but the Jews only. <sup>20</sup> But some of them were men from Cyprus and Cyrene, who, when they had come to Antioch, spoke to the Hellenists, preaching the Lord Jesus. <sup>21</sup> And the hand of the Lord was with them, and a great number believed and turned to the Lord. <sup>22</sup> Then news of these things came to the ears of the church in Jerusalem, and they sent out Barnabas to go as far as Antioch. <sup>23</sup> When he came and had seen the grace of God, he was glad, and encouraged them all that with purpose of heart they should continue with the Lord. <sup>24</sup> For he was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and of faith. And a great many people were added to the Lord. <sup>25</sup> Then Barnabas departed for Tarsus to seek Saul. <sup>26</sup> And when he had found him, he brought him to Antioch. So it was that for a whole year they assembled with the church and taught a great many people. And the disciples were first called Christians in Antioch. .

### Acts 1:8 (NKJV)

"But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

### 1 John 5:13 (NLT2)

I have written this to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know you have eternal life.

What does it mean to be a Christian? Four tests from the Gospel of John:

### I. TEST #1: CONFESS JESUS AS LORD

#### 1 John 4:15 (NLT2)

All who confess that Jesus is the Son of God have God living in them, and they live in God.

### II. TEST #2: OBEY THE COMMANDS OF GOD

#### 1 John 5:3 (NLT2)

Loving God means keeping his commandments, and his commandments are not burdensome.

#### John 14:15 (MSG)

"If you love me, show it by doing what I've told you.

### III. TEST #3: BUILD FRIENDSHIPS WITH BELIEVERS

#### 1 John 5:1 (NLT2)

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has become a child of God. And everyone who loves the Father loves his children, too.

### IV. TEST #4: GROW IN LOVE FOR OTHERS

#### 1 John 2:9-11 (NLT2)

<sup>9</sup> If anyone claims, "I am living in the light," but hates a Christian brother or

sister, that person is still living in darkness.<sup>10</sup> Anyone who loves another brother or sister is living in the light and does not cause others to stumble.<sup>11</sup> But anyone who hates another brother or sister is still living and walking in darkness. Such a person does not know the way to go, having been blinded by the darkness.

John Wesley: "Love suffereth long," or is longsuffering. If thou love thy neighbour for God's sake, thou wilt bear long with his infirmities: If he want wisdom, thou wilt pity and not despise him: If he be in error, thou wilt mildly endeavour to recover him, without any sharpness or reproach: If he be overtaken in a fault, thou wilt labour to restore him in the spirit of meekness.... "Love is kind." In his tongue is the law of kindness. The same is impressed on all his actions. And if you love your neighbour as yourself, you will not be able to prefer yourself before him. Nay, you will not be able to despise any one, any more than to hate him.

[Nay, you will think every man better than yourself.]

Consider the four tests to determine if you are a Christian:

1. Have you ever confessed Jesus is Lord and ask Him to forgive your sins?
2. I delight in obeying Him and keeping His commandments such as the Ten Commandments and other commands in the Bible
3. Do you have Christian friends? Can you call them and ask for prayer and for help in your Christian walk?
4. Are you growing in love as outlined in John Wesley's comments about love?

NOTES:

**\*Please notice the next steps for your card.**

NEXT STEPS

I just accepted Jesus Christ as my personal Savior.

I just recommitted my life to Jesus Christ.

I will examine my life in light of these four tests.

I will memorize the memory verse this week.

Please mark your next step on your Prayer Card and place it in the offering. Then, keep the next step above as a reminder for the upcoming week.

MEMORY VERSE FOR THE WEEK

**1 John 5:13 (NLT2)**

I have written this to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know you have eternal life.



- ⇒ Happy Birthday:
  - ⇒ Urien Rivera (Angel Tree) January 9th
  - ⇒ Jose Villalobos (Angel Tree) January 17th
  - ⇒ Harold Hopkins January 18th
  
- ⇒ The Church office is open Monday and Thursday from 9-12 and 1-3. All calls and emails will be answered throughout the week between 8-5.
  
- ⇒ All sermons and bulletins can be found on our website: **fsfumc.com**, as well as other updates and important information.
  
- ⇒ El Buen Vecino at 401 S. Valentine is open for those who need their services. Tuesday and Thursday 2-5, Wednesday 1-5
  
- ⇒ Our Food Bank is in need of donations of dry and canned goods. We still have enough for those in need. If you or someone you know can use that service, the office is ready to help Mondays and Thursdays: 9-12 noon and 1-3 pm

**WITH OUR GIFTS**

Received last Sunday:.....Tithes & Offerings.....\$1,120.00

**WITH OUR PRESENCE**

Last Sunday's Morning Service.....15  
Online Views (as of Thursday).....21

**FUMC MISSION STATEMENT**

New. Life. Now.

**WITH OUR PRAYERS**

Ruth & Emily Neyland who  
have continuing health  
issues,  
Johnnie & Olga Rivera.  
Kay Magee.  
Denna Sadler.  
Sara Borden.  
Melba Ward.

Sylvia Thomas.  
Eva Gail Abington.  
Shawn Beeles who has  
melanoma behind an eye.  
Ray Ortiz who has cancer.  
Brett Magee recently had  
knee surgery.

