

Privileged to Serve

Morning Worship

Announcements: Sibio Farrington

Song Leader: Kyle Pool

Opening Prayer: Ben Grant

Lord's Table:
Presiding: Tyler Christian

Assisting: Ricardo Alvillar
Julius Cook

Sermon: Chad Futrell

Closing P.: Luka Herrera

Those serving Wednesday

Teacher: Byran Hatcher

Announcements: Byran Hatcher

Devotional: Julius Cook

Song Leader: Chad Futrell

Closing Prayer: Cam Christian

Pantry Item
Soup

Sermon Notes

October 5, 2025

Welcome!

Cape Fear
Church of Christ

3808 Village Dr
Fayetteville, NC
28304

Phone:
(910) 425-1108

Website:
capefearcoc.org
Find us on
Facebook!
Sermons are
archived on our
YouTube page!

Service Times
Sunday:
B. C. 9:00am
Worship 10:00am

Wednesday Night:
B. C. 7:00pm

Ladies' Class:
Tuesdays 10:00am

Elders
Wade Hedgepeth
Byran Hatcher

Volume 51 Issue 1

The
Cape Fear Crier

“Cry aloud and shout...for great in the midst of thee is the Holy One of Israel.” Isaiah 12:6

Forgiving Our Brother

Our love for one another can only be shown in the actions that such love prompts. With this in mind, our Lord tells us how we are to treat those who would sin against us. *“Moreover if thy brother shall trespass against thee, go and tell him his fault between thee and him alone: if he shall hear thee, thou hast gained thy brother”* (Matt. 18:15). The word “brother” is a term of endearment which was instituted by our Lord and Saviour. It is not to be taken lightly. Christians are called brethren because they are of the one redeemed family with Jehovah God as their Father and Christ as their Brother. Therefore, as the Father and the Son are one (John 17:21), Christians are to be united in doctrine, priorities, and helping one another to their eternal destiny.

Our Lord did not choose the word brother arbitrarily. This word carries with it the love (*agape*) of one another (I John 4:7-11,16). As members of the same family, each is to be concerned with the others’ physical and spiritual welfare (Rom. 15:2) and work with each other in the caring of one another (Rom. 13:8-10). Love seeks opportunity to do good to all men, but especially to those who are of the household of faith (Gal. 6:10). Our love for one another can only be shown in the actions that such love prompts. With this in mind, our Lord tells us how we are to treat those who would sin against us.

Matthew 18:15 tells us how to deal with brethren who sin against us personally or in a private manner. This is apparent in the phrase, *“...if thy brother shall trespass against thee.”* If a brother sins and injures another’s character, his person, his property, or his spirit, whether by words or conduct, the situation must be dealt with. The brother who is trespassed (sinned) against is under obligation to go and try to resolve the matter and restore the erring brother (Gal. 6:1). How is this to be done? As Matthew 18:15 indicates, he is to go to the erring brother and tell him of his fault (sin). This is to be done in the absence of any other person and without speaking to anyone.

It is to be done privately. He should be told his fault in the spirit of gentleness and love. This is for his soul's sake in order that he may have the opportunity to acknowledge his offense and offer an explanation of his conduct. Many would be glad for such an opportunity and welcome the show of love and concern that brethren are to have for each other. It may be that he does not realize what he has done or the ramifications thereof and will gladly adjust his conduct and repent of his wrong doing. It is the obligation of brethren to furnish such an opportunity to one another. In the event of a personal or private trespass, such is required to be done "alone." And, if the erring brother repents (Luke 17:3,4) then the case should be settled and should never be made known to anyone else.

To violate the words of our Lord in Matthew 18:15 has the potential to do great harm to the church of our Lord. The faults of the penitent brother should not be blazoned abroad. Why? It will do no good! It may, however, cause great harm by wounding the body of Christ. The enemies of the cross relish opportunities to maliciously spread the faults of the members of the church to instill doubt about its purity in others and thereby bring about disbelief. This cripples the work of the church in the saving of souls. Also, those brethren whom once had regard for the penitent brother, knowing of his past faults, may look at him in a different light. He may lose his reputation as a capable servant of the Lord thus making him ineffective in the work of the church. The shame involved with others knowing the nature of his sin may injure the penitent brother and cause him to suffer needlessly. He may feel unworthy to take part in the work of the church or any of its activities. By placing yourself in his situation you should fully appreciate the Lord's wisdom in one going to him "alone." The "Golden Rule" of Matthew 7:12 should be considered and heeded.

If the erring brother has the right attitude and a good heart, then he will hear the loving brother and be thankful for his diligence. And so, the Lord said, "If he hears you, you have gained your brother." By going to him alone the desired effect has been achieved. The erring brother has been preserved and the two have been reconciled. He has been gained as a Christian brother and restored to himself and to the body of Christ.

The wisdom of our Lord can be seen in His words, *"Moreover if thy brother shall trespass against thee, go and tell him his fault between thee and him alone: if he shall hear thee, thou hast gained thy brother."*

Sin is sin. But any sin for which repentance is made will be forgiven by our merciful and gracious God.

-BTH

By the Numbers

Weekly Attendance for 9/28 B.C.: 30 Daily Bible Readers: 12
Chapters Read: 255 Worship: 58 Wednesday: 31

Family News and Notes

John McDougle, Geraldine Harrington's uncle, is not doing well. **Carole Pearson**, Dave Carver's cousin is still recuperating from a stroke. **Margaret Langston** is in Carolina Inn. **Gwen Jennen** is having health problems. **Carlton Norris, Jeanette Freshley's** dad, is in hospice care and not doing well. **Barbara Norris** is also struggling with her health. **Ally** is in West Virginia with her grandparents to help out. **Linda Jenkins'** son, **Shannon**, is struggling with mental health issues. **Linda** is having a medical procedure later this week. **Kim Perkins'** parents need prayers. Her mom is doing much better though.

Also remember: **Linda Boston, Margaret Langston, Vicky Carver, Wade & Sandra Hedgepeth, Barry & Melany Hatcher, Frances Salaz, Linda Hernandez**, and the **Davis** family.

There is a sign-up sheet on the small table in the foyer for the Chronological Bible we will be using to read the Bible through in 2026. This is the **One Year Chronological Bible (NKJV)** by Tyndale Publishing. No e-version available, print only. Sign up for your copy today! \$15 each.

Bible Reading Plan

Oct 5	Oct 6	Oct 7	Oct 8	Oct 9	Oct 10	Oct 11
Is 57-58	Is 59-60	Is 61-62	Is 63-64	Is 65-66	Je 1-2	Je 3-4
Ps 104	Ps 105	Ps 106	Ps 107	Ps 108	Ps 109	Ps 110-111

Events

Gospel Meetings in the area: At Sheffield Drive October 5-8, weeknights at 7pm.
Fall Get-together: Sunday, October 26 5pm at the Hatchers. Bring chili, soups & desserts

