

IN THE SERVICES**December 16, 2007****Lord's Supper—**

L1Officiate: Jathen Garrett
 L2Helper: Brian English
 L3am(only): Eastwood Almazan
 L4am(only): Don Mouton
 R1Assistant: Ricky Scogin
 R2am(only): Paul Smith
 R3am(only): David Landrum
 R4am(only): Spencer Scogin

Morning Prayers—

Opening: Andrew Smith
 Closing: Stephen Savant

Evening Prayers—

Opening: Keith Gremillion
 Closing: Travis Gremillion

December 23, 2007**Lord's Supper—**

L1Officiate: John Templeton
 L2Helper: Aaron Crandall
 L3am(only): Mike Hebert
 L4am(only): Freddy Moak
 R1Assistant: Tad Smith
 R2am(only): Billy Guidry
 R3am(only): Stanton Hodge
 R4am(only): Les Pastorella

Morning Prayers—

Opening: Sam Holt
 Closing: Trey Crandall

Evening Prayers—

Opening: Doyle Osborne
 Closing: Larry Hodge

FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER

Announcements — Jerry Covington

Greeters — David Garrett, Jim Threadgill,
 Alex Wells, Jimmy Moss

Lockup — J. Threadgill / B. Bergman
 J. Arbuckle / M. Martin

EVANGELISTS

Steve Dewhirst 727-1568
 Home 722-1188 Cell 718-7708
 Email: sdewhirst@juno.com
Steven Cuffle 727-1568
 Home 767-8776 Cell 543-2589
 Email: stevencuffle@gmail.com
 Church Website: www.stonegatechurch.com

ELDERS

Blake Bergman
 Jerry Covington
 Andy Crandall
 H. G. "Buddy" Hamby
 Sam Holt
 Randy Robin

DEACONS

Jeff Baker	Jimmy Moss
Ken Barry	Doyle Osborne
Jeff DeLord	Stephen Savant
Jarren Garrett	Ricky Scogin
Jathen Garrett	Andrew Smith
Keith Gremillion	Jim Threadgill
Garry Hamby	Tony Vela
Greg Hamby	Edgar Wolf

TIMES OF SERVICES

Sunday Family Bible Study	9:00 a.m.
Sunday Morning Worship	10:00 a.m.
Sunday Evening Worship	6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Family Bible Study	7:00 p.m.



The Stonegate Standard

"Lift up a standard for the people..." (Isaiah 62:10)

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Issue 50



The following facts are shocking, but they are true. Nearly 50% of Christian men have fought in the past or are currently battling against pornography. 20% of Christian women are struggling right now. 47% of households in America have been adversely affected in some way by pornography (this number is probably higher in reality). This is pandemic. This problem is so widespread that, if you have a computer in your home connected to the Internet, chances are you have already looked at inappropriate material, purposefully or not. Images are placed on search engines so that innocent words produce polluted results. Websites place links or ads to sites that are risqué in nature. If you have never run across pornography on the Internet, you are certainly in the minority. While these percentages are shocking, it is really the following information that breaks my heart.

The first time that a child is exposed to pornography on the Internet is usually around 11 years of age. This is the age that children start to use the Internet as a tool; as that age continues to lower, so will the age at which children are first exposed to pornography. Usually, this

happens first by accident, and the initial reaction of most children is to close the window or hit the back button. Even though this initial encounter is typically brief, the child's life has been forever affected, and, many times, there are more serious results. Recent studies have shown that children (boys *and* girls) are becoming addicted to pornography on the Internet by the ages of 12 and 13 years old – **before** they've even entered high school! How can this be?

Explicit material may be looked at any time of the day, in anyplace, by anyone. Children, who typically pick up on technological advances quicker than their parents, are able to keep their Internet use and online activities a secret. Husbands – and wives – are able to keep their browsing activities hidden. We also tend to overlook the struggle half the population is engaged in; we have heard that women are not as visually oriented as men and therefore do not struggle with pornography – this is simply not true! Women are just as likely to struggle with pornography as men. This is something that affects everyone, so it is something that should be guarded against at costs.

We must do something, and we must decide to do something **now!**

In Job 31.1, the patriarch states that he made a “covenant with [his] eyes”. Job, a very intelligent man, realized that sexual temptations are serious and must be guarded against at all costs. Job couldn’t control others, but he could control his “gaze” (Job 31.1b); Job took charge where he was able and refused to sin against God.

This word “gaze” is a Hebrew word that means “to know with the mind”. Job’s covenant illustrates the refusal “to know” a woman through the use of his imagination. While Job may have seen many women throughout the course of his daily life, he halted his mental processes at that point. We must have the same commitment; anything less will lead to sin.

Job’s commitment to God is one to be admired and emulated; we must take his mindset as we try to function in this modern world. Before we do anything else, we must make a covenant with our eyes and our minds that we will not “gaze” on other people. After we have made a covenant with ourselves, we must make ourselves accountable to that covenant.

This is where the Covenant Eyes software suite comes into the picture (<http://www.covenanteyes.com>). Covenant Eyes does two things to help us all in our fight to remain pure before God. Firstly, it offers a filter that is constantly updated to keep inappropriate material from ever entering your home. A great way to keep our children safe from pornography is to prevent their ever seeing it. This is the goal of the filter.

However, someone looking for inappropriate material will find ways around any filter in a few weeks. With all the different, free proxy servers available on the Internet, it is no longer a difficult thing to do. So, there is an extra level of protec-



tion needed. This is where the second part of Covenant Eyes comes into play. When their software is installed on your computer, no one can use the Internet without first entering their unique username and password. Until you “sign in”, all access to the Internet is completely blocked. After someone has logged on, every place they go and everything they see will be monitored by Covenant Eyes. This is the power of the software.

There is no more sneaking around while no one is looking – you will be held accountable, by people of your own choosing, for the covenant that you have made with your eyes. Every site visited will have a content rating based on key words, server addresses and site names. Then, every site, every place one goes, will be made available, in list form, to accountability partners.

Accountability will help to keep us pure. If someone else knows exactly what I am looking at, when I looked at it, and for how long I looked at it, then I will be very careful where I go and what I do online. Whether we realize it or not, God knows and sees all of these things already; Covenant Eyes helps to make that reality tangible. We can be given strength through the encouragement of others to maintain our purity before God, and you will no longer have to guess where your children are going online.

Even though there is nothing that we can do to stop the spread of filth outside of our homes, we can certainly do our best to keep it from entering. Installing this software will not make the problem go away, but it certainly is something that helps. If you are interested, I would recommend checking out their website. Also, the company offers discounted rates when groups of people sign up, so, if we wanted to sign up together (you still get to individually choose your accountability partners), the cost for each family to implement this would be significantly reduced.

May God bless us all as we strive to live morally pure lives day by day in this wicked world.

- Steven Cuffle

Family Talk

We extend a sincere welcome to all of our visitors. It is an honor to have you with us today and you are welcome every time our doors are open. Please stay a few minutes after worship so that we can get to know you.

Continue In Prayer For—

Wanda Pruitt
 Rex Phillips
 Tammy Holt
 Wilma Beasley
 Iva Fernandez
 Barbara Moak
 Wanda Barrios
 Orvis Beard
 Latrice Slaughter, Medical Center, Room 428
 James Grushon (Matt Grushon’s nephew)
 Charles Fleniken, Senior Rehab, Room 709



Our Sympathy—is extended to **Jerry Gray** in the loss of his brother-in-law, **Ricky Gipson**; to **Billy Ellis** in the loss of his nephew; and to **Donna Landrum** in the loss of her step-father, **David McNeese**. Please remember all these in your prayers.

Elders & Deacons Meeting—this afternoon at 4:00.

5th Sunday Singing—Make plans to join us Sunday evening, December 30th after services at the Port Neches Senior Citizen’s Building (across from Port Neches Park). We will take this opportunity to wish Steve, Karen and Micah farewell. Please see Carol Hamby for additional details.

Please make note of the Dewhirst’s new address:

The Dewhirsts
 4498 Rock Creek Circle
 Trussville, AL 35173
 (205) 655-1209

We Bid A Fond Farewell—Sister **Betty Barclay** will be leaving us for Tyler on Saturday, December 22nd. We will certainly miss her and wish her Godspeed. As soon as she gets settled in she’ll send her address to us. Be sure and take this week to visit with her and tell her good-bye!

Billy and Julia Moore will be gone for the next ten days to San Antonio. Please keep them in prayer.

Today’s Sermons:

AM: Get Up, Get Going, Get Glory
 PM: To The Left Or To The Right
 Steven Cuffle