

## *Privileged To Serve In Public Worship*

Announcements: Robert Osborne

Scripture Reading: AM- Scott Samford          PM- Dennis Thomas

Song Leader: Jim Gammon

Opening Prayer:    AM- Ron Davis                  PM- John Dyer

Closing Prayer:    AM- Tom Trull                                  PM- Caleb Lowry

To Serve Communion:	Chris Lowry	Bo Graham
	Jess Leonard	Bob Patterson
	Adam Dyer	Kevin McCarley

Sermons: Anthony Scherffius

AM- "God's Purpose: The Christ" -Ruth Chapter 4

PM- Psalm 20

Sound Room: Tyler Thomas

Greet Visitors: Bob Ewing

Count Contribution:    Alan Haack                                  David Tapp

Attendance Cards:    Brody Lovelady                          Lucas Thomas

### **Wednesday, January 21, 2026**

Scripture Reading: Ethan Graham /1 Corinthians 15:35-49

Devotional: Landry Gammon

Bible Class: Tom Trull- "Jesus"

### **Records for week of January 11, 2026:**

<b>Attendance:</b>	Bible Class: 97	Worship PM: 73
	Worship AM: 105	Wed. 1/7: 99

**Contribution:** \$ 6687



**January 18, 2026**

# **Mabank Church of Christ**

306 W. Mt. Vernon

P. O. Box 1386

Mabank, Texas 75147

(903) 887-0311

[www.mabankchurchofchrist.org](http://www.mabankchurchofchrist.org)

Email: [churchofchristmabank@gmail.com](mailto:churchofchristmabank@gmail.com)

Elders: Doug Guinn, Chris Lowry, Robert Osborne

Deacons: Seth Bolstad, Jim Gammon, Terry Littlejohn, Charlie Thomas,  
Tyler Thomas, Tom Trull

Preacher: Anthony Scherffius

## **Bible Study & Worship**

<b>Sundays:</b>	Bible Class	9:00am
	Worship	10:00am
	Worship	5:00pm

**Wednesdays:** Bible Class 7:00

# WHY ARE THERE SO MANY CHURCHES?

By Anthony Scherffius

If you were to go onto the internet or pick up a phone book and search for “a church in my area” you may be surprised how many “churches” you find. There are hundreds, even thousands of denominations that profess to be the true church of Jesus the Christ. For those who are not familiar with the Scriptures, this could be both confusing and dangerous. The Bible is very clear on how many churches there actually are. Paul would say “there is one body and one Spirit, just as you also were called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all who is over all and through all and in all (Ephesians 4:4-6).” In his letter to the Corinthians, Paul also said “by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be made complete in the same mind and in the same judgment” (1 Corinthians 1:10). So if there is only one church and the one true church is supposed to speak the same thing and have all things in common, then why are there so many “churches?”

There are many reasons why so many people have started their own religion and put Christ’s name on it and call it the church, but we are going to look at three main reasons that encompass them all.

1.) **For The Sake Of Power** (Matthew 15:1-14) — When Jesus was approached by the Pharisees, they challenged His authority and tried to catch Him in a transgression. However, they did not try to catch Him transgressing God’s Law, but rather their own. Instead of upholding the power of God’s commandments, they

were more concerned about having power for themselves. If you look at the text, you will how (1) *some people prefer judicial control over Jesus’ commandments*(vs 1-9); (2) *some people pollute their hearts instead of practicing holiness* (vs 10-11);(3) *some people plant hopeless teaching instead of planting the heavenly truths* (vs 12-14). Unfortunately, there are people in this world who crave power and will even pervert the church to obtain that power, leading others astray.

2.) **For The Sake Of Possession** (1 Timothy 6:3-10) — The Apostle Paul, when writing to the young preacher Timothy, warns him of false teachers who will rise up and essentially start their own following (create their own church). Paul tells Timothy the reason some will do this for the sake of possessions and monetary gain. If you look in 2 Timothy 6:1-10, Paul shows what happens when false teachers preach another Gospel, another church, and another salvation for the purpose of sordid gain: (1) *lying for possessions causes one to preach incorrect doctrine and false teaching* (Vs 3-5); (2) *lusting after possessions causes one to plunge into destruction and fall into temptation* (Vs 6-9); (3) *longing for possessions causes one to be pierced and wander from the truth* (Vs 10). It is a dangerous game to pervert God’s Word and His church to get something out of it.

3.) **For The Sake Of Position** (Luke 9:46-56) — And finally, we see reason number three; some will try to change the church of Christ so that they may have position in the Kingdom. Although this context is dealing with Jesus’ own disciples who would actually help establish the church of Christ in Acts 2, they struggled with the concept of God’s Kingdom at one point. The apostles were so concerned about being the greatest in the Kingdom that they allowed themselves to have a misunderstanding of

the church. Rather than hungering and thirsting after righteousness, they were starving for glory for themselves. Luke records for us just exactly what prideful position does rather than having a humble posture: (1) *prideful position hungers for station and status* (Vs 46-48); (2) *prideful position hinders the Savior’s servants* (Vs 49-50); (3) *prideful position hastens to sentencing rather than saving* (Vs 51-56). Even great men of faith fall short, no one is perfect. That is why we cannot put our faith in a church established and bought by a man, but we can rest assured knowing our faith is unmoveable if it is built on the Son of Man and His church.

## Remember in Prayer

**Sharon McMillan** is feeling some better, and is waiting for a referral to a cardiologist.

**Loree Mixon** has a broken bone in her foot. She will be in a boot for six weeks.

### Remember also:

Melva McManus, Archie & Nancy Underwood, Joy Tull, Judy Mitchell, Samuel & Diana Ramirez, Steven Coats

### IMPORTANT DATES

January 18- Elders/Deacon Mtg./4:00

January 22- NH Birthday Party/2:00

January 25- Pot Luck Luncheon

## NEW TO THE INFORMATION ROOM

Seek the Old Paths  
February calendars



### HOUSEWARMING

For

**Anthony & Hailey Scherffius**

**January 18<sup>th</sup>**

**2:00-4:00**

107 Clover Dr.

Gun Barrel City, TX 75156

### In Sympathy

*Hunter Endsley, son of Amanda Covey, and grandson of Kerry & Terri Clark passed away on January 9<sup>th</sup>. Services will be held in Jacksonville, TX.*

*Visitation: Jan. 15<sup>th</sup> from 6:00-8:00/Autry Funeral Home  
Funeral: Jan. 16<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 at Central Baptist Church.*

Kerry & Terri Clark

6705 CR 4328

LaRue, TX 75770



Nursing Home Items Needed:

Small blankets

Women’s socks

**Contribution Tax Statements**

If you would like a contribution statement for 2025, please sign up in the information room.