

# Eisenhower Church of Christ

## *Sober Thinking*

***“Be in agreement with one another. Do not be proud; instead, associate with the humble. Do not be wise in your own estimation” (Romans 12:16).***

It seems that sometimes we get caught in extremes. For example, there are those who think too little of themselves, who cannot see any value in their lives. This is an extreme because we all are created in the image of God with the talents and abilities He has given us. He loves each of us with the same love in Christ and provides each of us what we need for life today and life eternal. Satan knows, however, that thinking which belittles ourselves, offers an opportunity to give in to sin. So, he tries to take advantage of such. We must always remember, however, that “God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.” (Romans 5:8)

On the other hand, the above passage of Scripture reminds us it is also possible to think too much of ourselves. Scripture addresses this issue more than the other. Solomon said, “Do not consider yourself to be wise; fear the Lord and turn away from evil” (Proverbs 3:7). Paul encouraged the Philippians, “Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interest of others.” (Philippians 2:3-4. Paul knew this could be a problem even for him. He revealed, “To keep me from becoming conceited because of these surpassingly great revelations, there was given me a thorn in my flesh, a messenger of Satan, to torment me” (2 Corinthians 12:7).

When Paul exhorted the Corinthians to examine themselves to make sure they were in the faith (2 Corinthians 13:5), it was because of the deceptiveness of sin, as sometimes it is hard to see how self-centered one can become. Satan knows that exalting ourselves offers an opportunity to give in to sin, and so, he tries to take advantage of this as well. We must always remember, however, that “all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God” (Romans 3:23).

Each of us has a role to play in the kingdom of God and everyone doing one’s part is needed to fulfill the will of God, for one’s own life and for the local congregations where we serve. No one is too insignificant and no one is so important that others are not needed. We need each other working together to live for Christ and to make a difference for the sake of the Gospel. Paul pointed this out clearly to the church in Corinth, where some felt insignificant for having a lack of certain spiritual gifts and others felt overly important for having specific spiritual gifts (1 Corinthians 12:14-31). He also reminded the Christians in Rome, ***“For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned”*** (Romans 12:3).

Jesus reminded His disciples, ***“You know that those who are considered rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. But it shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant and whoever would be first among you must be slave of all. For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve and to give His life as a ransom for many”*** (Mark 10:42-45). If we can keep the perspective of God being Sovereign and that we are His servants, then our lives individually and collectively as His church will reflect His glory. Our service will accomplish more for Him in our unity together and the hope of Heaven will burn more brightly as we encourage each other as fellow workers in His Kingdom.

—Robert Johnson

### **Sympathy**

**Kenneth Wesson** (Jeff’s uncle) passed away last Saturday, January 7th in Brownwood, TX. His funeral service was held at the First Baptist Church there on January 14th. Kenneth was Jeff’s last uncle on his dad’s side. Keep the Wesson family in your prayers.

Also, our sympathy goes out to the family of **Marlene L. Berlanga**. Marlene lost her battle with cancer on Saturday, January 7th at her home. Her service was held here at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, January 12th.

### **Prayer Request**

**Betty Branson** is not feeling well at all. She is still experiencing extreme weakness all over. Please keep Betty in your prayers that she gets to feeling better soon.

**Carrie Loving** had a bladder and kidney stone procedure done on Tuesday, January 10th in Midland. Prayers were requested.

**Randy & Cherie Hodges** have been sick for the past two weeks.

Both **Naomi Bustillos** and **Adelynn** her (almost 2 years old) baby daughter have serious health issues. Naomi is fighting liver cancer. She had her 6th chemo treatment Friday, January 13th in Houston. Adelynn has just been diagnosed with Microcephaly (her skull is not growing proportionately to her body). She will undergo major surgery sometime in February at Cooks Children’s Hospital. Naomi & John are Devida’s next door neighbors. Prayers are badly needed.

**Janelle Shirley** has been having a problem with her equilibrium and it is getting much worse. She has requested prayers for this and other serious health issues.

### **Prayer List**

Wayne Anderson; Cesar Benavides; Betty Branson; Michael Brown; Mitchell Bundick; Glenna Callendar; LaDonna Chism; Cathy Eastwood; Mark Erwin; Hattie Gilmore; Paul Gunn; Doug Guynn; Lon & Lana Howard; Paula Jones; Chuck Keith; Charles Lewis; Jason Moore; Melissa Moore; Juan & Estella Morolez; Ken & Angie Orr, Bruce & Trina Plyler; Terresia Weaver; Carolyn Wilkerson; Ron Williams; Bill Wood; John Wood;

### **Eisenhower’s Shut-ins**

Glenna Callendar; LaVerne Couch, James & Joyce Drake; Ronda Lyne; Dusty and Kathy Marshall; Janelle Shirley and Marilyn Upshaw.

### **Events**

Watch ***“In Search of the Lord’s Way”*** Sunday mornings at 7:30 am on KWES TV 9.

## Office News

Our “**Fifth Sunday Service**” will be January 29th. We will have a “Potluck Luncheon” following our morning service followed by our evening service in the Auditorium. All our visitors are welcome.

### Teaching the Next Generation

The Psalmist has written, “*Now also when I am old and gray headed, O God do not forsake me, until I declare Your strength to this generation, your power to everyone who is to come.*” (Psalm 71:18.) We quickly note the concern that the inspired writer had for the generations that would follow him. He wanted to show God’s strength and power to “this generation” and “everyone who is to come.”

Our attitude should be the same. It was not so many years ago that I was young and the older generation was there to teach me the strength, power and ways of God. I will always be indebted to that “older” generation for doing so.

May we never forget that God’s truth must be taught and re-taught to each generation. The aged apostle Peter wrote to the young and old alike, “I will not be negligent to remind you always of these things, though you know and are established in the present truth. Yes, I think it is right, as long as I am in this tent, to stir you up by reminding you, knowing that shortly I must put off my tent, just as our Lord Jesus Christ showed me.” (2 Peter 1:12-14). In this passage, Peter strongly emphasizes the need to always remind people of divine truth, even though they may already know these things.

I belong to a generation that has witnessed a change in direction within the church. Beginning several decades ago, attitudes started to change. Less emphasis was given to what the Bible calls “first principles.” (Hebrews 5:12) The Hebrew writer lamented the fact that such “first principles” had to be taught over and over again to some in the church who should have been “teachers” themselves. This tells us that we do not need to teach only first principles—especially to those who know and honor such simple truths. But if first principles are not being followed and respected, it becomes necessary to teach and re-teach them.

We will always owe the next generation the knowledge of fundamental divine truths. Failure to do so today will bring nothing but trouble tomorrow.

—Milton Smith  
Tulsa, OK

*“And you, fathers, do not provoke your children to wrath, but bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord.” (Ephesians 6:4)*

<b>January 15<sup>th</sup> 2023</b>	<b>A.M.</b>	<b>P.M.</b>
Announcements	Allen Weakland	Allen Weakland
Song Leader	Oliver Hernandez	Jacob Carson
Sermon	Allen Weakland	Allen Weakland
Opening Prayer	Allen Weakland	Allen Weakland
Scripture	Caleb York	Gary Loving
Second Prayer	Jon Roemisch	Tommy Garcia
Closing Prayer	Jr. Munoz	Richard Siler
<b>Lords Supper</b>	<u>Jacob Carson</u>	Bill Ryan
	Don Easlon	Communion
	Jeff Wesson	(In Library)
	David Ryan	

**Other Responsibilities:** *Elder:* Allen Weakland 254-8209 *Deacon:* John Wood 413-7444 — *Pulpit:* Scot Straw 288-4533 — *Table:* Bill Ryan 352-4871 — *Song Leaders:* Cody Wesson 934-4646 — *Recording Sermons:* Cody Wesson 934-4646 — *Collections:* Cody Wesson

**Sunday AM**

*“An Empowering Force”*  
*(Psalm 119:49-56)*

**Sunday PM**

*“Immaturity Run Amok”*  
*(Judges 15:1-7)*

**Our Records**

*Bible Class... 67*

*Morning Worship...105*

*Evening Worship ... 64*

*Wednesday...72*

*Contribution...\$5,430.50*