

# Eisenhower Church of Christ

## How To Be Added To The Church

For many this article title may not have much of an appeal. You are not interested in being a part of any church, because you have been disappointed or discouraged by what you have seen in churches. This I can understand for at least two reasons. One, many churches do not truly represent the Lord. And two, those that do are still made up of people and none of us are always what we ought to be.

I hope that by reading this article you will not only come to learn how to be added to the church but that you will want to be added to the church. Paul's letter to the Ephesians emphasizes just how important the church really is (Ephesians 1:22-23; 2:14-16; 3:10-11, 20-21; 4:3-6; 5:23-25).

With this in mind let us consider how to be added to the church. The outline for this article comes from Acts 2:47 which reads, "***And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved.***"

**First, note that it is the Lord who does the adding.** Neither man nor any group of men can decide who will be or will not be a part of the church. Such a matter is not left to a vote or to some church policy; it is decided by the Lord.

**Second, note that it is those who are being saved that are added.** One cannot be added to the church without being saved and one cannot be saved without being added to the church. Therefore, in order to be added to the church you must be saved.

So, the question now is what must I do to be saved? This question was asked and answered in Acts 2:37-38; 9:6 and 22:16; and Acts 16:30-34. You might ask, "Why is a different answer given in each case?" If you will examine the context of each passage closely, you will see that the persons asking the question were in different places spiritually. In Acts 2, the Jews came to believe but still needed to repent and be baptized. In Acts 22, Saul believed and repented but still needed to be baptized. In Acts 16, the jailor did not yet believe but still needed to be taught, repent and be baptized. In order to be saved one must believe, repent and upon one's confession of faith be baptized (Acts 8:35-39). This is why we read in Acts 2:41, that those that were baptized were the ones who were added.

**Third, note that the ones who are added are added to the church.** First Corinthians 12:13 teaches us that we are all baptized into one body. There is only one body (Ephesians 4:4) and that body is the church of Christ (Ephesians 1:22-23). This is the body of which He is the Savior (Ephesians 5:23), the church of God which He purchased with His own blood (Acts 20:28). When one is baptized, he is not only baptized into Christ (Romans 6:3; Galatians 3:27) but also into the body of Christ, the church. The same baptism that puts us into Christ puts us into the church. You cannot separate Christ from His church any more than you can separate the head from the body.

The ones who are added are not added to manmade churches or denominations. Christ prayed that His disciples all be one (John 17:20-21). The church is to be united in Christ, not divided into parties of men (I Corinthians 1:10-13). Churches built or planted by men are not Christ's church

(Psalm 127:1; Matthew 15:7-14; 16:18). Christ's church comes from Christ's word (Luke 8:11).

Is the church you belong to the church of Christ you read about in the Bible? Where did your church begin (Acts 2)? When did your church begin (Acts 2)? Who founded your church (Matthew 16:18)? What is your church called (Romans 16:16)? How does one become a member of your church (Acts 2:37-47)? Who is the head of your church and where are the headquarters of your church located (Matthew 28:18; Ephesians 1:20-23)? Which church do you belong to? Have you been added to the Lord's church?

—Robert Dodson, Northwest Church of Christ

### ***Sympathy***

Our condolences go out to Terresia Weaver and her family in the loss of her father, **Art McFatter**. Art passed away Sunday, January 22nd at his home. His visitation was held on January 25th (6-8 pm) and his funeral services at 2:00 pm Thursday, January 26th at Hubbard Kelly with David Pool officiating. His burial was at Sunset Memorial

Also, our sympathy goes out to Jason Edwards and his family in the loss his grandmother, **Evelyn Edwards**, last week. Her services were conducted in San Antonio.

### ***Prayer Request***

Jurlean Warren has been fighting the flu for the past week.

### ***Concerns Update***

**James Stephens** (father of Shanna Edwards) was moved to a rehab facility in Midland last week.

Please keep **Bill Butler** in your prayers as he is being treated for his anemia.

### ***Prayer List***

David Alaniz; Lee Roy Bell, Betty Branson; Mary Brown; Bill Bundick; Mitchell Bundick; Sissy Bundick; Betty Burns; Crystal Card; Glynn Chandler; Sonny Coggins; John Cole; Barbara Crowder; Ruby Davis; Dayton Dennard; James & Joyce Drake; John Ford; Shane Ford; Marjorie Foster; Melida Frazier; Jenny Fuls; Jane Gibbons; Hattie Gilmore; Maria Guzman; Anna Groves; Lon Howard; Charles Jones; Janis Laminack; Jody Langford; Elder & Glenna McCarty; Jason Moore; Russ Montgomery; Juan & Estella Morolez; Carolyn Morrison; Rudy Ochoa; Trina Plyler; Ivan Rigsby; Lester Savoy; Cynthia Schulze; Andrew Schwarz; Janelle Shirley; Brenda Simmons; Charles Simmons; James Stephens; John Tessororf; Bill Tolbert; Marilyn Upshaw; James Weaver; Judy Wells; Lisa Wells; Ann Wilson; John Wood; Jack Wright; Paula Wyatt; Toya Zambelli.

### ***Eisenhower's Shut-ins***

Ruby Davis; Roberta Hamil; Janice Laminack; Dusty and Kathy Marshall; Maxine Newton; Janelle Shirley; and Lester Whisenant.

Remember to keep all of our sick, shut-ins, the bereaved, our military personnel and the spiritually weak in your daily prayers.

### ***Youth***

#### **Bible Quiz Question...**

Where did Jesus grow up?

#### **Last Week's Bible Quiz answer...**

The workers worked in a vineyard for different hours but all were paid one denarius.

## Events

Watch *“In Search of the Lord’s Way”* every Sunday morning at 7:00 am on KWES TV 9, (New West 9)

Also, tune in to hear a message from the Brown Trail Church of Christ on the *“Speaking the Truth in Love”* program every Sunday at 8:00 a.m. on ABC.

There will be a *“Deacon’s Meeting”* Wednesday, February 8th.

*“Friday Night Bible Study”* - Friday, January 27th at 6:30 pm. - Studying Chapter 6.

## Congratulations!

We are happy to announce that Jacob & Ashley Carson are proud parents of a baby girl. **Abigail Claire** arrived at 10:08 p.m. Sunday, January 22nd. She weighed 7 lbs. 13.9 oz. and was 21 inches long. Again, congratulations to the Carson family.

## Office News

The *“New Mexico Children’s Home”* will be back in Odessa March 7th, 2017. They are requesting **Apple Cider Vinegar and plain Vinegar**. Monetary donations also accepted.

## Food for thought...

Whether you believe you can do a thing or not, you are right.

### Who Are Christians?

*The descendants of Abraham were the chosen of God. God chose them because of His promise to Abraham and His love for them (Deut. 7:7-8). But because of long and determined disobedience, God gave them up. Now Christians are “a chosen generation.” They are Abraham’s spiritual seed, “And if you (are) Christ’s, then you are Abraham’s seed and heirs according to the promise” (Galatians 3:29).*

*Furthermore, Christians are a “royal priesthood,” a “holy nation,” God’s “own special people”. They are all of this because they have obeyed the gospel and have been called out of darkness into God’s marvelous light (1 Pet. 2:9). Though Christ was the Son of God (established by insurmountable proof), there was an evil element who without justifiable reason considered Him an imposter worthy of death. There is a similar evil element today who look with contempt on those who highly value godly conduct. It will turn out that “God’s special people,” are the ones who will stand in the final judgment. **“As I live says the Lord. Every knee shall bow to Me and every tongue shall confess to God. So then each of us shall give account to God.”** (Romans 14:11-12).*

Bulletin Digest

<b>January 29, 2017</b>	<b>A.M.</b>	<b>P.M.</b>
Announcements	Larry May	Larry May
Song Leader	Craig Wesson	John Wood
Sermon	Allen Weakland	Allen Weakland
Opening Prayer	Larry May	Larry May
Scripture	Trinidad Wood	Josh Wells
Second Prayer	Charles Wood	Jeff Wesson
Closing Prayer	Bill Tolbert	Jr. Munoz
Lord's Supper		
West...	Charles Wood Scot Straw Bill Ryan	Richard Siler Communion (In Library)

East...

Tony Marrs  
Rudy Ochoa  
Trinidad Wood

**Other Responsibilities:** *Elder:* Larry May 638-3990 *Deacon:* Don Easlon 288-5834 *Pulpit:* Richard Siler 362-1392 *Table:* Chris Butler 362-7486 *Song Leaders:* Denny Wilson 325-340-2291 *Recording Duties:* Tommy Garcia 638-2702 *Collections:* Tommy Garcia 638-2702

### **Sunday AM**

*The Tragedy of Rejecting God”  
(Romans 1:24-32)*

### **Sunday PM**

*“Watch Out for the Wolves”  
(Matthew 7:15-20)*

### **Our Records**

*Bible Class...* 78  
*Morning Worship...*131  
*Evening Worship...*60  
*Wednesday...*86  
*Contribution...*\$3,916.24