

# Eisenhower Church of Christ

## Questions for God

A recent edition of **USA Today** contained an interesting survey that is worthy of some reflection. The following question was posed to adults across the nation: “If you could get in contact with God directly, ask a question, and get an immediate reply—what would you ask? Here are the results:

The highest percentage (34%) wants to know: “What is my purpose here?” The Lord has answered that question already. Our purpose is to *glorify* God. That is the reason for which we were made (Isaiah 43:7). “*The whole duty of man is to fear (reverence) God and obey His commandments*” (Ecclesiastes 12:13). There is no reason for human existence apart from serving the Creator, and in this we find our greatest contentment.

The next group (19%) is anxious to inquire: “Will I have life after death?” That is the very question Job asked: “*If a man die, shall he live again?*” (14:14). He subsequently expressed a confident, positive affirmation of future existence (19:25ff). God, through His word, has provided the answer. Yes, there is life after death, and it will be either with the Lord in heaven or with Satan in hell (Matthew 25:46) - depending upon whether or not one is prepared (Matthew 25:1-13).

Another segment (16%) wants to know: “Why do bad things happen?” Again, Scripture addresses this query. Sometimes difficulty comes because of our personal sins (I Peter 4:15). Hardships also result from the kind of world in which we live. It is an environment of natural law. Nature’s laws are quite beneficial, but we can suffer harm when they are broken. We can be in the wrong place at the right time (Luke 13:4-5). Some bad things happen as a result of the sin that was unleashed in this world by our ancestors (Romans 5:12) or by the wickedness of others. The important question is not: *why do these things happen?* They will continue to happen whether or not we understand their purpose. The question should be *how are we to act in response to life’s hardships?*

Significantly, (12%) of those surveyed had no idea what they would ask God if they could expect a personal answer from Him. Doesn’t that say something about the shallowness of society? It’s one thing not to know the answers; it is an entirely different matter to not even know enough to ask a sensible question. Truly, vast multitudes are like sheep, wandering aimlessly about with no sense of direction and no concept of eternity.

A few (7%) would like to know if there is intelligent life elsewhere. A cynic might wonder whether there’s much “intelligent” life *here on earth!* But yes, there is intelligent life... (1) In heaven—God the Father, Christ, the Holy Spirit and the angels. (2) Moreover, there are the conscious souls of the dead in *Hades* (the intermediate state) - either in Paradise (Luke 23:43), or in the place of torment (Luke 16:23).

Finally, (6%) would like to know exactly how long they will live. Would you *really* want to know that? Such would be like being on death row—counting off the days until the

time of execution. Moreover, many would live unrestrained, wicked lives—saving the day before their death as a time of obedience. What glory would there be in that for God? Indeed, what honor for man?

The truth of the matter is this. The Bible contains the answers to all the appropriate questions we have in this lifetime. We need to pour over its sacred pages and seek the counsel of Him who made us.

Perhaps the greatest question that many of us need to contemplate is the one that God Himself might ask: “Are you serious about doing *My* will?”

—Wayne Jackson  
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### **Response**

**Kimberly Fishback-Stepp** responded to the invitation Wednesday night, January 27th requesting prayers of the church as she will be moving back into her own home and starting anew. Keep Kimberly in your prayers that all will go well for her.

### **Prayer Request**

**Helen Jones**, a former member of Eisenhower, has been diagnosed with cancer in her sinuses. Helen was being treated for a severe sinus infection until a CAT scan done on her head revealed the cancer. Helen is taking radiation every day. Keep both her and Charles in your daily prayers.

Denny Wilson’s mother, **Ann Wilson**, is in a hospital in Vernon, TX fighting several complications; sepsis, staph infection and pneumonia. If she does not make any improvement, she will be transferred to a hospital in Dallas. Keep Ann in your prayers.

**Anna McGlothlin** had barely gotten home from the hospital last Wednesday, January 27th when she had to be taken back due to congestive heart failure. Anna is the mother of Anita Smith. She is at MCH - room #939. Please keep Anna in your prayers.

### **Prayer List**

Lee Roy Bell; Susan Bosse; Betty Branson; Bobbie Braun; Neva Carrigan; Steve Chavez; Dayton Dennard; James & Joyce Drake; Todd Drake; John Ford; Hattie Gilmore; Anna Groves; Linda Horton; Bobby Hunt; Bryan Jernigan; Susan Lee; Tracy Leeth; Connie Lowe; Jill McAfee; Elder McCarty; Jack McCarty; Anna McGlothlin; Patty Montgomery; Juan & Estella Morolez; Julie Munoz; Laura Olivas; Connie Phelps; Earlene Poses; Elvia Ruckman; Andrew Schwarz; Christa Bella Sellers; Brenda Simmons; Charles Simmons; Lisa Wells; Toya Zambelli

### **Eisenhower’s Shut-ins**

Mildred Bell; Neva Carrigan; Anna Groves; Roberta Hamil; Winford Hambright; Janice Laminack; Dusty and Kathy Marshall, Janelle Shirley, Wilma Squire and Lester Whisenant.

### **Events**

The next “**Family Devotional**” is planned for Sunday, February 21st following our evening service. Everyone is invited

Odessa Christian School is hosting a “Valentine Spaghetti Luncheon” from 1:00–2:00 Sunday, February 14th at the school...\$6 (meal tickets); \$5 (photos) and \$30 (canvas and cookies). Please bring your valentine, friends, mom and child. Purchase tickets by Friday, February 12th or call office to hold tickets at the door.

### **Youth**

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

Which of the Gospels traces Jesus’s family all the way back to Adam?

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

The prophet Isaiah wrote the words, “All we like sheep have gone astray.”

### **FYI**

Watch “*In Search of the Lord’s Way*” every Sunday morning at 7:30 am on CBS, channel 7.

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.

### **Office News**

The “**New Mexico Children’s Home**” will be back in Odessa Tuesday, March 1st, 2016 for a food pick up. They are requesting **tomato sauce and tomato paste**. If you can help out with this request it is greatly appreciated. Monetary donations also accepted.

The **Tipton Children’s Home** will be here March 8th-10th for their food drive. They are requesting: **Assorted Cereal, Assorted Soup, Ritz Crackers, Assorted Spices, Tomato Sauce, Vegetable Oil, Microwave Popcorn, Enchilada Sauce, Cough Drops, Toilet Bowl Cleaner and Disinfectant Spray.**

### Remind Them!

Peter wrote, “*Therefore, I will always be ready to remind you of these things even though you already know them, and have been established in the truth which is present with you. I consider it right, as long as I am in this earthly dwelling to stir you up by way of reminder*” (2 Peter 12-13).

>Preachers and teachers know that their listeners are aware of many spiritual truths, but we need to keep reminding them of those truths. Why? Because...

1. People forget (Heb. 12:5, James 1:24, 2 Peter 1:9)
2. We need to rekindle the flame (2 Timothy 1:6)
3. We often stop doing what is right (2 Tim 2:14)
4. We need to rethink some subjects (Rom 6:1-7)

>Reminding stirs up the heart, steers us back to God’s principles and sends us back to work for God. Preachers and teachers may repeat facts and commands you have heard for years, but they are doing their job—reminding you!

-Bulletin Digest

### **February 7, 2016**

Announcements  
Song Leader  
Sermon  
Opening Prayer  
Scripture  
Second Prayer  
Closing Prayer

### **A.M.**

Allen Weakland  
Craig Wesson  
Logan Summers  
Allen Weakland  
Dex Dennard  
Bill Tolbert  
Jacob Carson

### **P.M.**

Allen Weakland  
Jacob Carson  
Logan Summers  
Allen Weakland  
Isaiah Armendarez  
Josh Wells  
Trinidad Wood

Lord's Supper

West...

Larry May

Bill Ryan

Richard Siler

Chris Butler

Communion

(In Library)

East...

Tom Sorenson

John Carroll

Don Easlon

**Other Responsibilities:** *Elder* : Larry May 638-3990; *Deacon*: Rudy Ochoa 381-0759; *Pulpit*: Chris Butler 362-7486;  
*Table*: Bill Brown 272-50459; *Song Leaders*: Denny Wilson 325-340-2291; *Recording Duties*: Tony Marrs 553-7349  
*Collections*: Tony Marrs 553-7349

### **Sunday AM**

"TBA"

### **Sunday PM**

"TBA"

### **Our Records**

*Bible Class...* 91

*Bible Class...* 78

*Morning Worship...*133

*Evening Worship...*NC

*Wednesday...*83

*Contribution...*\$4,684.00



