

Eisenhower Church of Christ

What's Lacking When We Fail to Assemble With the Saints?

The Bible clearly sets for the responsibility of every Christian to assemble with the saints (Hebrews 10:25); to gather together on the first day of the week to worship God (Acts 20:7; I Corinthians 16:1-2) in spirit and in truth (John 4:24). The oft debated question has been, "But do I have to 'go to church' on Sunday night and Wednesday night? Such begs the question..." "Is thy heart right with God?" What could be more desirable to a Christian than to gather with the saints to worship God, be edified by those of like precious faith, study the Bible, and to grow spiritually? Another question that arises when one fails to assemble with the saints because they choose to be somewhere and/or do something else is, "What is lacking in our spiritual lives?"

Failing to assemble with the saints demonstrates a lack of love for God and Jesus Christ. Love is the great motivating factor: "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son" (John 3:16); "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends" (John 15:13); "But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us" (Romans 5:8). Jesus admonished His disciples, "If ye love me, keep my commandments" (John 14:15), thus our very actions demonstrate our love (or the lack thereof) for God and for Christ! Jesus healed ten lepers but only one, "turned back and with a loud voice glorified God, and fell down on his face at his feet, giving him thanks" (Luke 17:15-16). This man's love was demonstrated in his gratitude and worship. How much more have we received from Jesus and yet how much is lacking in our love for Him when we fail to assemble with the saints and show our gratitude for His great sacrifice.

Failing to assemble with the saints demonstrates a lack of spiritual development. Peter admonished, "But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ" (2 Peter 3:18). He earlier instructed, "add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge; And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness; And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness love" (2 Peter 1:5-7) and "be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope" that we have in Christ (I Peter 3:15). The Hebrews were rebuked for their lack of spiritual development: "For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which be the first principles of the oracles of God; and are become such as have need of milk and not of strong meat. For every one that useth milk is unskillful in the word of righteousness: for he is a babe. But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil." (Hebrews 6:12-14) Faithfully gathering with the saints greatly contributes to our spiritual development and gives us the tools to stand against the adversary (Ephesians 6:10-12), defend the Gospel of Christ (Philippians 1:17), and teach others the truths that have been committed to us (2 Timothy 2:2).

Failing to assemble with the saints demonstrates a lack of will to edify others. Paul wrote, "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs (Colossians 3:16). The Hebrews were admonished to "provoke one another unto love and to good works" and to "exhort one another," and these are to be done especially when we are assembled together with the saints we show a lack of will and desire to encourage our brethren as they, like us, daily face difficulties of this life that challenge their faith and which places temptations before them continually! How beautiful it is to see Christian brethren who can be depended upon for strength and edification!

Failing to assemble with the saints demonstrates a lack in spiritual priorities. Our priorities should be in those things that bring glory, honor, and praise to God, and that bring us closer to Him and His body. "But seek ye first the kingdom of God" (Matthew 6:33); "If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. Set your affection on things above,

not on things on the earth” (Colossians 3:1-2). Perhaps the greatest example of right spiritual priorities is seen in the parable of the Pearl of Great Price: “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto a merchant man, seeking goodly pearls: Who, when he had found one pearl of great price went and sold all that he had, and bought it” (Matthew 13:45-46). Here is a man who not only put the kingdom above other things but made the kingdom the only thing in his life! How telling it is when member of the body of Christ choose to put things of this world ahead of the church of Christ!

Ronnie Scherffius

Prayer Requests

Bill Brown has undergone two surgeries for cancer on his ears. The first ear was operated on a couple of weeks ago and the second ear Monday, February 12th and at that time they removed the stitches from the first ear. Each surgery went well.

Ora McAfee has requested prayers for her son-in-law, **Richard Holiday**. Richard has been struggling with blood clots in both legs. He underwent surgery on his left leg February 13th. He was scheduled to have more surgery on the 14th also. Richard is in MCH.

Concerns Update

Bill Butler was taken to CCU - #9 for low BP and Oxygen levels last Wednesday. Both were stabilized. He also has double pneumonia. Continue to keep Bill in your prayers.

Prayer List

Mary Anchondo; Tom Bauer; Elsie Bradford; Bill & Mary Brown; Bill Butler; Glenna McCarty-Callendar; Harold Carrigan; David Castor; Sue Dahlen; Dayton Dennard; James & Joyce Drake; Glenda Driver; Dana Erwin; John Ford; Jennie Fuls; Hattie Gilmore; David Guynn; Maria Guzman; Anna Groves; Opal Hager; Winford Hambricht; Glenda Hillis; Janis Laminack; Betty Leeth; Kristen Limb; Eliseo Lopez; Russ Montgomery; Tanya Nichols; Curtis Parum; Trina Plyler; Jackie Rex; Russel Rosser; Elvia Ruckman; Montrella Ruffner; Brenda Simmons; Charles Simmons; Matthew Simmons; Jonathan & Monica Sively; Velma Tolbert; Lauria Troutz; Marilyn Upshaw; Laura Vasquez; Jurlean Warren; Doris Weakland; Jimmy Weaver; Lisa Wells; Janet Wesson; Wanda Wheeler; Ann Wilson; Glenda Winkley; Charles Wood; John Wood; Jack Wright.

Eisenhower's Shut-ins

Jennie Fuls; Roberta Hamil; Janis 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...

According to Genesis 14:18 the priest, who was also king of Salem, came out to meet Abraham and his servants. Upon their return from battle, he brought bread and wine. Who was this priest of the Most High God?

Last Week's Bible Quiz Answer...

Herodias was the wife of Philip, King Herod's brother. John the Baptist pointed out their sin. (Matthew 14:3)

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.

Thank You

Dear Eisenhower Family,

Thank you so much for the cards you send to cheer me. Most of all thank you for the prayers that are greatly needed. It’s a long uphill battle to get well enough to go home. Keep praying for me and my family.
Yours in Christ, Opal Hager

Office News

The *“New Mexico Children’s Home”* will be in Odessa for a food drive pickup on February 27th, 2018. They are requesting **(Juices (all kinds))**. Monetary donations are also accepted.

The *“Tipton Children’s Home”* from Oklahoma will be in Odessa for a Food Drive on April 10th-12th. They have requested the following items: **(Food)** Assorted Cereal, Assorted Soup, Assorted Spices, Miracle Whip, Canned Salmon, Diced Tomatoes, Crushed Pineapple, Sliced Pineapple, Jello Gelatin, Nestles Quick, Spaghetti Noodles and Tea Bags. **(Supplies)** Bleach, Paper Towels, Toilet Tissue, Liquid Laundry Detergent. If you can help out with any of these items, it will be greatly appreciated.

The Tomato

Have you ever bought a tomato in January? I have. They are okay, better than nothing. For years I have planted a few tomato plants in the Spring. The tomatoes get ripe in July. They taste so much better than those greenhouse tomatoes. Have you ever thought, “Why?” It is because man cannot improve or even equal what God can do. His sunshine and rain are perfect just like everything else He does. We can see this in nature, but men keep trying to improve, change, add to, or subtract from what God did in religion. Man can never improve on what God has done in His church, His doctrine, His salvation, His sacrifice or His love.

If we are wise, we will go back to the bible, God’s will for us and accept His perfection.
-via Fredericksburg church of Christ

February 18th, 2018	A.M.	P.M.
Announcements	Larry May	Larry May
Song Leader	Cody Wesson	Jacob Carson
Sermon	Allen Weakland	Allen Weakland
Opening Prayer	Larry May	Larry May
Scripture	Mike Roemisch	Jr. Munoz
Second Prayer	Jacob Carson	Charles Wood
Closing Prayer	Don Eason	Bill Brown
Lord's Supper West...	Trinidad Wood Scot Straw Bill Ryan	John Wood Communion (In Library)
East...	George Warren Richard Siler Craig Wesson	

Other Responsibilities: *Elder* : Larry May 638-3990 *Deacon:* Don Easlon 288-5834 *Pulpit:* Tom Sorenson 631-2518 *Table:* John Wood 413-7444; *Song Leaders:* Larry May 638-3990 *Recording Duties:* Chris Butler 362-7486; *Collections:* Chris Butler 362-7486

Sunday AM

"Lessons from Jonah's Life"
(Jonah 1:1-3)

Sunday PM

"Capture of Jericho"
(Joshua 6:1-5)

Our Records

Bible Class... 58
*Morning Worship...*121
*Evening Worship...*NC
*Wednesday...*58
Contribution...\$4,152.25