

# Eisenhower Church of Christ

## *Does God Care How We Worship?*

Look at the churches around you. Everywhere you look you see churches that claim to be of the one body, yet they all have fundamental differences at their core. This can be seen by walking into their worship services. Everywhere the worship consists of something different than the last place you went.

Is this just an expression of the variety of God's creation, meaning we are all different and the fact that we all worship differently is simply celebrating this fact? Are we as the members of the church that Jesus bled and died for authorized to decide what we do and do not do in our worship service?

The claim is made that as long as we are worshipping God, He doesn't care how we do it! Does God not care about the method of our worship as long as the object of our worship is Him and Him alone?

### **God's Desire for True Worship**

The question is asked; Is there a right and wrong way to worship? John 4:23-24 tells us that God is looking for true worshipers who are devoted to worship Him in spirit and in truth. God wants worshipers who have the right heart when they come before His throne in worship. He wants those who are authentic and real. Those who worship in spirit are those who desire to please and to glorify God. The authentic heart of a worshiper and follower of Jesus says, "Lord, I want to follow you wherever you go" (cf. Luke 9:57). This is a heart that is so in awe of the love of God, that they desire to do whatever it takes to please Him.

When someone has the right heart concerning worship, this leads them to desire to please God and do things His way. This is where the discussion of truth enters. He is the truth. Jesus said, "I am the Way, the Truth and the Life" (John 14:6). The human side of us wants to think that as long as we love God and make Him the object of our worship, then there is no right or wrong way to do it. This is not true.

In Mark 7:6-7, Jesus talks about those who claim to love God and honor Him, but their heart does not desire to truly seek Him. They teach the commandments of men. Jesus calls this vain or false worship. This is worship we do our way rather than God's way. True worshipers seek to please God.

### **God's Definition of True Worship**

How can we please God with our worship? We do it His way and with all of our heart. We need to offer Him worship that is holy and acceptable (Romans 12:1). This point is made clear in Hebrews 12:28, "Therefore let us be grateful for a kingdom that cannot be shaken and thus let us offer to God acceptable worship, with reverence and awe."

We need to offer God holy and acceptable worship. Under the new and better covenant, given grace through the cross, how much more should we want to be holy and acceptable in the eyes of God. This leaves us wondering how we know what true worship really is. God's Word is given for instruction in righteousness (2 Timothy 3:16-17). If we simply stop and open up our hearts to what God has to say we can see how He desires us to worship Him. That being said, it is also important that God is not looking for mechanical obedience, meaning we do what He says just for the sake of doing. We need to remember to obey out of our hearts' and out of awe.

### **Our Motivation for True Worship**

Here is what it comes down to. Ask yourself this question; Who is reigning on the throne of your heart? Is it you or God? Do you make decisions based on pleasing yourself or pleasing

God? The writer of Hebrews gives the reason for offering to God acceptable worship, with reference and awe. He says, "God is a consuming fire." When we come before the throne of God it should be because we feel we cannot respond to His love in any other way. Worship should not be something that we feel obligated to do. It is the only adequate response to a relationship with a God who has loved us so much that He would take our place on the cross. Our motivation for worship should be love.

### **Conclusion**

Can you say that you want nothing more than to please God? Do you want nothing more than to worship Him in spirit and in truth? Search your Bible. Dive into God's Word. Search for what He has revealed is holy and acceptable.

—Noah Icenhour

### **Sympathy**

Our sympathy goes out to Wilene Wright and her family in the loss of **Lee Wright** (brother of her husband, the late Jack Wright). Lee passed away on Tuesday, February 16th in Byhalia, MS. He was 84 yrs. old.

### **Prayer Requests**

Terresia Weaver and her mother, **Charlene McFatter**, were involved in an automobile accident last Sunday night. Her mother ended up with a few broken ribs and a fracture and was sent on to a hospital in Lubbock Monday morning due to an aneurysm they found from doing a cat scan on her injuries. A Cerebral Angiogram was done Tuesday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>. Charlene is in need of prayers.

### **Concerns Update**

**Doug Guynn** showed signs of improvement in his strength last week. He is scheduled to meet with a doctor on Tuesday, March 2nd who is coming from Ft. Worth to Odessa. After this initial visit, it will be decided what will be the best treatment for Doug. Continue to keep him in your prayers that everything goes well.

**Opal Hager** is not eating and continues to get worse. She is in need of prayers at this time.

**Diane Salinas** is not doing well at this time and is in need of continual prayers.

### **Prayer List**

Wayne Anderson; Betty Brooks; Bill & Mary Brown; Abessa Chavez; Jon Cooper; June Deavers; Doug Dowell; Kim Drake; Andrew Durfee; Jazmine Duron; Dana Erwin; Tim Garvin; Hattie Gilmore; Irma Gomez; Paul Gunn; Doug Guynn; Opal Hager; Phil Halbert; Liz Leach; Mildred Lee; Betty Leeth; Miguel Lozano; Vanessa Machuca; Ora McAfee; Glenna McCarty; Melissa Moore; Juan & Estella Morolez; Rudy Ochoa; Bruce & Trina Plyler; Jackie Rex; Corina Rodriguez; David Ryan; Diane Salinas; Gary Schwulst; Bill Tate; Velma Tolbert; Marilyn Upshaw; Luke Wells; Janet Wesson; Carolyn Wilkerson; Charles Wood; John Wood.

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

Roberta Hamil; Dusty and Kathy Marshall; Janelle Shirley and Marilyn Upshaw.

### **Youth**

Bible Quiz Question ... True or False

Mary and Martha sent word to Jesus that Lazarus was dead.

## Last Week's Bible Quiz Answer ...

"False" Job lived 140 years after his trials (Job 42:16). His time was near Abraham's.

**Events** Watch "*In Search of the Lord's Way*" Sunday mornings at 7:30 am on KWES TV 9.

## Office News

The New Mexico Christian Children's Home will be here March 2nd. They are requesting **Chicken Bouillon Cubes**. They also accept monetary donations.

Our second "**Singing Workshop**" with Myron Bruce is scheduled for April 24-25. Please set aside time to attend this workshop which will benefit us all.

## Some Things the "Tolerant" Cannot Seem to Tolerate

Many in the Mainstream media (especially those of "celebrity" status) are becoming more and more vocal in their condemnation of Christians as being an "intolerant" people. They just cannot seem to tolerate what they view as our intolerance. Do you find that somehow ironic?

We (Christians) should be tolerant they tell us, of those who choose and commit to others a homosexual lifestyle and "same-sex marriage," as opposed to marriage as ordained by God in the Bible. We should be more tolerant of Islam by viewing it only as "a religion of peace," regardless of what the Koran teaches and what the evidence clearly shows. We should be tolerant of those who choose death, rather than life, for defenseless infants in their mother's wombs. We should be tolerant of sexual promiscuity rather than advocating the "narrow" view that only husband and wife should become "one flesh."

Am I reading things all wrong? Or, is the case that the "tolerant" are becoming increasingly intolerant of:

- our unapologetic conviction that truth is absolute (John 8:32)
- our unapologetic conviction that truth is attainable (2 Timothy 2:24-26).
- unapologetic conviction that truth is revealed through the infallible, inerrant words of the Bible (2 Timothy 3:16-17).
- our conviction that truth is non-negotiable, even when some find the truth offensive (Galatians 4:16).
- our conviction that Jesus is the only way to God (Acts 4:12; John 14:6).

Truth is, by its very nature, intolerant of that which is false (1 John 2:21). If the choice is between being tolerant of falsehoods and being true to the Word of God, then may we have the courage to stand firm and bear the reproach of those who choose not to tolerate us!

— Johnny Hester  
Oklahoma City, OK

## February 28, 2021

Announcements  
Song Leader  
Sermon  
Opening Prayer  
Scripture  
Second Prayer  
Closing Prayer

## A.M.

Larry May  
Cody Wesson  
Allen Weakland  
Larry May  
Doug Guynn  
Tom Sorenson  
Jr. Munoz

## P.M.

Larry May  
Jaxon Straw  
Allen Weakland  
Larry May  
Craig Wesson  
Bill Ryan  
Oliver Hernandez

Lords Supper

Scripture Reading:

Scot Straw

Richard Siler

Communion

(In Library)

**Other Responsibilities:** *Elder:* Larry May 638-3990 – *Deacon:* Tommy Garcia 312-5332 – *Pulpit:* John Wood 413-7444– *Table:* Richard Siler 556-2151– *Song Leaders:* Larry May 638-3990–  
*Recording Sermons:* Trinidad Wood 413-8508 – *Collections:* Trinidad Wood

### **Sunday AM**

“A Good Example”

(III John 11-12)

### **Sunday PM**

“Attitude of Faithfulness”

(2 Thessalonians 3:1-5)

### **Our Records**

Bible Class – 53

Morning Worship NC

Evening Worship NC

Wednesday... (No Services)

Contribution... \$6,820.00