

Eisenhower Church of Christ

The Flesh is Weak

On the night of His betrayal our Lord took the twelve, minus Judas, into the Garden of Gethsemane so He could pray. He left all but Peter, James and John near the entrance of the garden and went a little farther into it. Then the Lord instructed Peter, James and John to *“keep watch with Me”* (Matthew 26:38). He went a short distance beyond them and fell on His face and prayed (v. 39). After praying for about an hour, the Lord returned to find Peter, James and John asleep. In verse 40-41 the Lord said, *“So, you men could not keep watch with Me for one hour? Keep watching and praying that you may not enter into temptation; the spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak”*.

This last statement acknowledged that the Lord knew the disciples wanted to keep watch with Him, but their desire to do so was hindered by their physical limitations. They had tried their best, but the weakness of their bodies undermined their efforts. The Lord’s exhortation to keep watching and praying lest they fall into temptation was not simply a mild rebuke, but was also an encouragement to not give up the struggle. The fact that they kept falling asleep as the Lord continued His prayers shows us that this exhortation is timeless.

The struggle to do what is right, versus our natural inclination to do what is wrong, is summarized by Paul in Romans 7 & 8. Using himself as an example, Paul gave voice to the inner struggle that every Christian has. In Romans 7:14-25 Paul spoke of the spiritual nature of the Law and our fleshly bondage to sin. He said that the good things he wanted to do, he did not do, and the bad things he did not want to do were the very things he did.

Every one of us has likely had this same experience at some point in our lives. We set out to do the right thing, but stumble and fall, either by leaving the right thing undone, or by actually doing some bad thing instead. Whenever this happens we are overwhelmed by remorse at our failure.

We may even be discouraged that despite our best efforts we have not lived up to the high calling of Christ our Lord. In Romans 7:24 Paul put into words how we feel when this happens. He said, *“Wretched man that I am! Who will set me free from the body of this death?”*

He gave us the answer to this anguished question in Romans 8:1-2. He said, *“Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death.”* In context, Paul was showing that the Law of Moses could not resolve the issue of sin because it depended solely on our ability to live by it. In Christ, however, sin is overcome by the power of His blood.

When we obey the gospel our sins are washed away (Acts 22:16), our old body of sin is done away with and we rise to walk in newness of life (Romans 8:3-11). We are still capable of sinning, and will still sin. This reality leads us to cry out in anguish because of the weakness of our flesh, but we can overcome this weakness if we set our minds on the Spirit of life in Christ (Rom. 8:3-11).

Our desire is to not sin, but we know we will. The Lord has provided for this dilemma by the continual cleansing of His blood if we confess our sins (I John 1:5-10). Therefore, we must not give up the struggle to do what is right, even though the flesh is weak. The Lord will see us through this weakness if we rely on Him.

Prayer Request

Amber Couch, LaVern Couch's granddaughter, who was diagnosed with cancer some time ago, has gone into kidney failure. Her kidneys have completely shut down. Amber was taken to a hospital in Lubbock Monday, March 23rd. Keep her in your prayers.

Velma Bettes, sister-in-law to Ora McAfee, is scheduled for heart surgery April 2nd in Amarillo. She will have a double bypass and her mitral valve repaired.

Timmy Joe Wright (youngest brother of Jack Wright) has been diagnosed with cancer in his liver, lungs and other organs. The doctors do not give him much hope. T. J. as started chemo.

Concerns Update

Burt Groves was transferred to room #434 at Medical Center Hospital.

Prayer List

Elaine Armentrout; Cody & Kala Ausbrook; Bill Bayless; Paxton Basaldua; Velma Bettes; Susan Bosse; Neva Carrigan; Don & Hazel Cavanaugh; Amber Couch; Ruby Davis; Dayton Dennard; Jewell Bettes-Dennard; Doug Dowell; James Drake; Jake & Summer Finley; John Ford; Hattie Gilmore; Burt & Anna Groves; Winford & Jean Hambright; Linda Horton; Bobby Hunt; Lon Howard; Susan Lee; Kathy Marshall; Shannon McAfee; Elder & Glenna McCarty; Caleista Millican; Loy Mitchell; Juan & Estella Morolez; Allison & Nathan Moyers; Judy Phillips; Evan Rector; Elvia Ruckman; Carmen Settle; Brenda Simmons; Charles Simmons; Nancy Slife; Marilyn Upshaw; Bré elle Watts; Lisa Wells; Bill Wood; Wilene Wright

Shut-Ins

Mildred Bell; Roberta Hamil; Janice Laminack; Kathy Marshall, Janelle Shirley, Lester Whisenant.

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

Events

Today is our **"Fifth Sunday Services"**. We will have a potluck luncheon after our a.m. service followed by the p.m. service. Our visitors are welcomed.

The next **New Mexico Children's Home** food drive will be Tuesday, June 2nd, 2015. They are requesting Cinnamon and Cream of Wheat. There are still coin cans available if you would like to collect change for them to be picked up in June.

Youth

Bible Quiz Question...

Who was Methuselah's grandson?

Last Week's Bible Quiz answer...

Exodus 2—Birth of Moses

FYI

Denny Wilson is hosting a weekly radio program called **"Take Aim"** at 6:30 each Tuesday night. Tune your radio program to the gospelradionetwork.org. Feel free to please pick up a business card on the youth table in the foyer.

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.

Upcoming Wednesday Night

Devotional Speakers

Song Leaders

April 1st—Craig Wesson

Jacob Carson

April 8th - Scot Straw

Cody Wesson

April 15th- Don Easlon

Dex Dennard

Thank You

Dear Eisenhower Church Family,

Thank you a million times over for all you did to help us during Ben's long illness and his passing, especially the many prayers offered in our behalf. Every kind act was appreciated so much.

Love, Ann, Steve and Family

A great big "Thanks" goes out to all of those who helped with the "Noah's Ark Seminar" on Saturday, March 21st.

Office News

Congratulations....

We are happy to announce the arrival of Stacy and Devin Register's baby girl, Emilyn Faith. Emilyn was born at 8:00 a.m. Friday, March 20th at Medical Center Hospital. Mother and baby are doing fine. Again congratulations to her proud parents and very proud grandparents, Richard and Carolyn Siler.

Wedding Shower...

There will be a co-ed "**Wedding Shower**" honoring Craig Wesson and Kallie Culp Sunday, April 12th from 2-4 pm at Bonnie Sorenson's home. This is to help celebrate this couple's upcoming marriage Saturday, May 16th. Selections: Target, Dillard's & Bed, Bath and Beyond.

"**Strengthening the Family**" Group #1 will meet in the Annex for a potluck luncheon following this morning's service. All the visitors are invited to join them.

Our "**2015 Summer Series**" is scheduled for Wednesday, June 3rd – August 26th – Time is 7:00 p.m. The theme for this year is entitled "Abundance in Christ". Please invite your family, friends and neighbors.

Thought to Remember...

Have a heart and save a soul.

March 29, 2015

Announcements

Song Leader

Sermon

Opening Prayer

Scripture

Second Prayer

Closing Prayer

Lord's Supper

A.M.

Charles Wood

Clint Titlow

Allen Weakland

Charles Wood

Trinidad Wood

Larry May

Bill Butler

P.M.

Charles Wood

Jacob Carson

Allen Weakland

Charles Wood

Josh Weakland

Jack Wright

Scot Straw

West...

Tony Marrs

Bill Tolbert

John Carroll

East...

Jacob Carson

Josh Wells

Dex Dennard

Ed Fisher

Communion

(In Library)

Other Responsibilities: *Elder* Charles Wood 528-1565 *Deacon:* John Wood—230-0689 *Pulpit:* Chris Butler 362-7486 *Table:* Ed Fisher 563-0349 *Song Leaders:* Denny Wilson 325-340-2291 *Recording Duties:* Rudy Ochoa—214-0398 *Contributions:* Rudy Ochoa—214-0398

Sunday AM”

“Evidences for Jesus”
(1 John 5:6-10)

Sunday PM

“Who was Afraid of Jesus?”
(Mark 5:1-20)

Our Records

*Bible Class...*100
*Morning Worship...*135
*Evening Worship...*75
*Wednesday...*91
Contribution...\$5,013.00

