

# Eisenhower Church of Christ

## “And Be Not Conformed to This World”

This familiar affirmation of the apostle (Romans 12:2) was designed to guard the Lord’s people from the corrupting influences of an evil environment and from the powerful appeals of mob psychology to which so many in every generation succumb. This prompted the divine edict of Moses, “Thou shalt not follow a multitude to do evil” (Exodus 23:2).

Man, by nature, is a social and gregarious being, tending to flock or gather with others of his kind. Thus, early in the history of the race, great cities sprang up, rivaling in size and wickedness many world’s metropolises today. This disposition of man to desire the companionship and association of others have many advantages. It enables him to enjoy the accrued advantages of the many and to have legally and properly the fruits of the labors of others and those of his own. But there are grave dangers attending the privilege. Man, may, and often does, imbibe the evil characteristics of those about him as readily, and often more so, than the good ones.

All history, as well as the testimony of our hearts, bears witness to the fact that custom, fashion, and example often wield a more powerful influence on people than reason, reflection and good judgment; to multitudes of people today, the habits and practices of those around them exercise an almost irresistible appeal. The world is said to lie in wickedness (1 John 5:19), and its vices are so common that they have long since lost for many their sinful appearance.

Vice is a monster of such frightful mien  
That to be hated needs but to be seen  
Yet seen too oft, familiar with her face,  
We first endure, then pity, then embrace.

It is for this reason that worldly practices frowned on by all people of moral principle a few years ago are now by many regarded as entirely acceptable. It is not that the passing years have produced some moral change in the nature of such things; the change is in the people and not in the acts they now tolerate or embrace, Paul’s injunction, “And be not conformed to this world,” was penned to forewarn the dangers of just such worldly conformity.

Popular indulgence in vice tends not only to destroy the inhibition that modesty and shame provide; it employs them in leading others to participate therein. Timid souls are often prompted to do that which violates their concepts of right and wrong for fear of being regarded as old-fashioned, outmoded, or out of step with the times. The cliché, “Everybody’s doing it.” has lulled countless thousands into a false sense of security from which they will never awake and has caused them to live a life that otherwise the never would.

It is dangerous to follow the multitude because the majority is almost always on the wrong side. It was so in the days when righteous Noah labored faithfully in the building of the ark, when Elijah sought to stem the tide to Baal, when Christ was rejected by His contemporaries, and when Paul fought almost alone in his battle for the cause he loved. Those who contend for pure faith and total conformity to the New Testament Way often must do so while in conflict not only with the world but also with their own brethren who, for one excuse or another, deliberately compromise with the world and betray the cause of Christ into the hands of His enemies.

The shouting, milling throngs who welcomed the Lord into Jerusalem on His triumphant entry changed in four days to a seething, menacing mob who demanded His death and surged in cold fury at His feet as He died. Shrewd political leaders, aware of this weakness of humanity,

often use it to achieve their perverted ends.

The Lord has always sought to protect His people from the evil influences of this world (I Corinthians 15:33; 2 Cor. 6:17; 7:1; Eph. 5:11; 1 John 2:15; Jas. 4:4). Abraham was called out to become the father of a special people to preserve the bloodline from heathen admixture so our Lord might be born. Nehemiah refused to suspend the work of Jehovah to engage in useless fruitless controversy with Sanballat and Tobiah. Jesus warned of the corruption of His contemporaries, and Paul taught total, complete separation from the world's evil ways as the only effective means of avoiding its moral contamination.

It must never be forgotten that the broad way is the way of the world. Those who go in thereat do so to their own destruction.

--Guy N. Woods

### ***Sympathy***

Our sympathy and prayers go out to the family of **Nancy Fisher**. Nancy passed from this life to her eternal home last Sunday morning, March 26th at 10:16 a.m., in ICU at Medical Center Hospital. Her funeral service was held here at Eisenhower Church of Christ yesterday at 2:00 p.m. Allen Weakland conducted her service. Nancy was laid to rest at the Sunset Memorial Gardens.

### ***Prayer Request***

**Sylvia Campos** is struggling with vertigo and wasn't able to be at services last Sunday. She was feeling better on Tuesday. Keep Sylvia in your prayers that she can get a solution and cure for her dizziness.

We need to keep **Betty Branson** in our prayers. She is very weak and having a real rough time with her breathing. Also, her back has been hurting to the point that it is hard for her to walk without the fear of falling.

**Mark Erwin** (Linda Tate's brother) was taken to ORMC last Sunday with breathing problems. He was put in the CCU. Since they could not get his oxygen level elevated, he was put on a C-Pap for a short period of time then switched to oxygen. Prayers are requested for Mark at this time.

**Luke McGhee** was sick last Sunday with a stomach bug and unable to be at services, but he was getting somewhat better. Keep little Luke in your prayers that he gets to feeling a whole lot better.

### ***Prayer List***

Wayne Anderson; Maria Baeza; Betty Branson; Naomi and Adelynn Bustillos; Glenna Callendar; Mary Clark; LaDonna Chism; Makenna Conner; Cathy Eastwood; Ann Ellison; Mark Erwin; Paul Gunn; Doug Guynn; Lon & Lana Howard; Jakob Jenkins; Shane Lester; Charles Lewis; Melissa Moore; Juan & Estella Morolez; Joe Morrison; Rudy Ochoa; Bruce & Trina Plyler; Colton and Corben Sorenson; Alisha Smith; Janice Smith; Terresia Weaver; Carolyn Wilkerson; Ron Williams; John Wood,

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

Glenna Callendar; LaVerne Couch, James & Joyce Drake; Ronda Lyne; Dusty and Kathy Marshall; Janelle Shirley & Marilyn Upshaw.

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

### ***Events***

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

## Office News

Keep in mind our **“Teacher’s Appreciation Banquet”** at 6:00 p.m. on Saturday, April 22nd in the Annex. Adam Orr will be the guest speaker. Please put your name on a **“Sign Up Sheet”** that’s posted in the foyers if you plan to attend.

Our **“Vacation Bible School”** has been scheduled for July 24th-26th. The theme is: “The Flood”.

The items requested for our “Food Pantry” for this week are: **canned tomatoes** and **tomato sauce**.

### “God Heareth Not Sinners”

“God heareth not sinners” (John 9:31). An omniscient God certainly is aware of what the sinner is praying. The point of the phrase is that God will not “answer” the prayers of sinners (this includes those who have left the faith).

Since the beginning of the Christian Dispensation all who are not God’s children have “No” access to God the Father, via prayer or any other way—except through becoming a Christian by obeying the Gospel of Christ. Borrowing Paul’s wording, they are “without Christ...having no hope and without God in the world” (Eph. 2:12). Jesus said: “No man cometh unto the Father, but by me” (John 14:6).

The only means of access the faithful Christian’s prayer has to God is through Christ. That is why Jesus taught that we are to pray to the Father (Luke 11:2), but, even then that we are to do so in His (Christ’s) name (John 15:16; 16:23-26). This is because Jesus is the mediator (1 Timothy 2:5) for the child of God. When the Christian prays to God, he must pray through Christ, his mediator. The sinner does not have Christ to mediate for him. If God could answer a sinner’s prayers, it would mean that the sinner would have a “direct line” to God, but the child of God would have no such access for he must depend upon Christ (a go-between) to deliver his prayers to God.

“All spiritual blessings” are “in Christ” (Eph. 1:3). To have Christ as one’s mediator is a “spiritual blessing.” Prayer is a ‘spiritual blessing.” In order for one to have the benefit of these and all other “spiritual blessings,” one must be “in Christ” where those blessings are located.

The only way one can enter “into” Christ is by being baptized into Christ (Gal. 3:27; Rom. 6:3). When a sinner does that, he is “born again” (John 3:3-5) and therefore becomes a child of God (Gal. 3:26-27). Until, a sinner does that, God cannot answer his prayers because neither he nor his prayers have access to God—he has no mediator and he is not in Christ where the privilege of prayer is located.

—Tommy J. Hicks

#### April 2, 2023

Announcements  
Song Leader  
Sermon  
Opening Prayer  
Scripture  
Second Prayer  
Closing Prayer

#### Lords Supper

#### A.M.

Larry May  
Steve Easlon  
Allen Weakland  
Larry May  
David Ryan  
Don Easlon  
Oliver Hernandez  
Craig Wesson  
Scot Straw  
Caleb York  
Jackie Perkins

#### P.M.

Larry May  
Craig Wesson  
Allen Weakland  
Larry May  
Cody Wesson  
Gary Loving  
Bill Ryan  
Tommy Garcia  
Communion  
(In Library)

**Other Responsibilities:** *Elder:* Larry May 638-3990 *Deacon:* Jr. Munoz 212-2231—*Pulpit:* Cody Wesson 934-4646 —*Table:* Tommy Garcia 312-5332— *Song Leaders:* Cody Wesson 934-4646 —  
*Recording Sermons:* Rudy Ochoa 214-0398 — *Collections:* Tommy Garcia

**Sunday AM**

*“What Happens Due to Faith”*  
*(Hebrews 11:32-35)*

**Sunday PM**

*“Valiant Christianity”*  
*(Luke 6:32-24)*

**Our Records**

*Bible Class... 88*

*Morning Worship...125*

*Evening Worship ... 70*

*Wednesday...NC*

*Contribution...\$5,017.25*