

Eisenhower Church of Christ

The Implanted Word

The scriptures make a powerful case for the importance of God's word. The phrase "Thus says the Lord," for example, appears more than 400 times in the Old Testament. It is a signature phrase used by the prophets when introducing a message from God. It signifies the authority for the statement that follows and certifies that the statement is not of the prophet's own devising, but is indeed from God Himself.

Time after time Moses reminded the people of Israel to keep the word of God in every aspect of their lives. They had to know God's word and obey it in order to receive His blessings in the Promised Land. If they did not know and obey God's word, they would suffer His wrath. Moses often punctuated these reminders by telling Israel not to stray from God's word either to the right hand or to the left. One cannot read the Old Testament without seeing the necessity of knowing God's word and obeying it.

Some professed believers today act as though somehow God's word is not as important as it once was. They speak of "knowing Jesus" as if it is some mystical thing that envelopes them like a foggy night. They often look down upon those who stress the importance of reading and knowing scripture, as though reliance upon the written word somehow separates one from the Savior. When pressed, they will attest that they believe in God's word, but their attitudes toward it and their actions suggest that their feelings are more important to them.

When we honestly read the New Testament, we discover that God has not changed His attitude about His word. He still requires that we know and obey His word in order to receive His blessings. One of the places where this truth is powerfully proclaimed in the New Testament is James 1:21. Here James said, "*Therefore, putting aside all filthiness and all that remains of wickedness, in humility receive the word implanted, which is able to save your souls.*"

James' choice of words in this verse is interesting and very meaningful. He said it is the "implanted" word that is able to save one's soul. This means that the word of God must abide within one's heart in order to bear the "fruit" of salvation. The most obvious illustration of this is a farmer and the seed from which he wishes to harvest a crop. So long as the seed sits in a bag in his barn, it cannot produce a crop, and he is foolish to expect it to do so. Only when the farmer has planted the seed in the ground and watered and nurtured it, will a crop grown and fruit be produced.

In the same way, as long as our Bibles sit on the shelf unopened and unread, the word of God will not produce salvation for us. Only when we open God's word, plant it in our hearts, and nurture it there will we know God's will and obey it. Only then will we receive the salvation for which God sent His only Son, Jesus Christ, to die on the cross.

We cannot implant the word of God in our hearts unless we devote ourselves to it and to doing what it commands us. Systematic study is essential to knowing God's will, but until we do what the scriptures command us to do, the word will not bear fruit in our lives. In James 1:22 James said, "*...But prove yourselves doers of the*

word, and not merely hearers who delude themselves. ” This is the rest of the story. One who hears (or reads) God’s word and does it, has implanted the word in his heart. The implanted word will bear the fruit of salvation in that person’s life. That person will have a home in Heaven at the end of time.

—Fred Dominguez

Sympathy

Our condolences go out to **Mercedes**, a member of the church in the Philippines. Her two daughters, ages 8 & 13, were murdered by a burglar last week. The 13 year old had been baptized into the Lord’s church. Keep Mercedes in your prayers.

Prayer Request

Charles Browning, a friend of John Wood, was shot Saturday night, April 4th. They were expecting to do surgery on him.

Toya Zambelli, sister of Mark Basaldua, received word Thursday, April 2nd that she has colon cancer which has metastasized to other organs. Toya is 50 years old and lives in Corpus Christi. Mark is Devida’s son-in-law.

Yamile Moreno has just been diagnosed with aggressive lupus. She is the 24 year old niece of Sylvia Campos who lives in Katy, TX. Yamile is in her third year of nursing.

Also, Sylvia’s mother, **Petra Baca**, is dealing with several health problems; double vision, inability to walk and a heart condition. She got results back from a MRI which showed that her knees are bad which is affecting her ability to walk.

Velma Betts, Ora McAfee’s sister-in-law, had a double bypass and a mitral valve repair on her heart Thursday, April 2nd in Amarillo. She came through the surgery okay. Velma was moved into a room.

Marci Poindexter, a former member, has requested prayers for her dad who was taken to a hospital due to a seizure Sunday evening, April 5th. He was later taken to a VA Hospital in New Mexico.

Concerns Update

Connie Lowe went to MD Anderson Monday, April 6th for a biopsy on her lower disc. She was to return to Odessa Wednesday, April 8th. Keep her in your prayers that she will get a good report.

Caleista Millican was taken to the Midland Memorial Hospital Thursday, April 2nd due to a virus in her intestines which was causing a lot of pain. They were administering her medication in small doses at a time. Caleista is in room #738.

Loy Mitchell had his third chemo treatment. He has a blood clot in his thigh which has caused his ankle to swell. He was treated with blood thinner shots and pills. Loy’s blood is monitored for thickness twice a week. No more shots for now, but he continues to take Coumadin. On March 10th Loy had another MRI done on his brain. He has two new lesions, so he underwent another gamma knife procedure on March 16th. Keep Loy in your daily prayers.

T. J. Wright had his fifth chemo treatment.

Prayer List

Elaine Armentrout; Cody & Kala Ausbrook; Petra Baca; Bill Bayless; Paxton Basaldua; Velma Bettes; Susan Bosse; Neva Carrigan; Don & Hazel Cavanaugh; Amber Couch; Iola Cunningham; 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; Yamile Moreno; 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; Timmy Joe Wright; Wilene Wright; Toya Zambelli

Shut-Ins

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

Events

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 coin cans available if you would like to collect change for them to be picked up in June.

Youth

Bible Quiz Question...

What did Samson do with the city gates of Gaza?

Last Week's Bible Quiz answer...

Two thousand swine drowned in the Sea of Galilee. (Matthew chapter 8)

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

April 15th- Don Easlon
April 22nd-Cody Wesson
April 29th-Dex Dennard

Song Leaders

Dex Dennard
Allen Weakland
Trinidad Wood

Office News

Graduation Shower...

Hannah Weakland's "**Graduation Shower**" has been changed to Sunday, May 3rd from 2:00-4:00 p.m. in the Annex. She will be graduating from OHS Friday, June 5th. Hostesses are: Debbie Marrs, June Smith, Patsy Mitchell, Lariat McGhee and Shona Wood. You are invited to come help Hannah celebrate this milestone in her life.

April 12th, 2015

Announcements
Song Leader
Sermon
Opening Prayer
Scripture
Second Prayer
Closing Prayer
Lord's Supper

A.M.

Larry May
Rudy Ochoa
Allen Weakland
Larry May
Dex Dennard
Bill Brown
Cody Wesson

P.M.

Larry May
Doug Guynn
Allen Weakland
Larry May
Isaiah Armendarez
Rudy Ochoa
Scot Straw

West...

John Carroll
Josh Wells
Josh Weakland

Tony Marrs
Communion
(In Library)

East...

Trinidad Wood
Charles Wood
Clint Titlow

Other Responsibilities: *Elder* Larry May 638-3990 *Deacon:* Don Easlon 363-0350 *Pulpit:* Chris Butler 362-7486
Table: Tony Marrs 553-7349 *Song Leaders:* Denny Wilson 325-340-2291 *Recording Duties:* George Warren 550-0805
Contributions: George Warren 550-0805

Sunday AM”

“Pray with Confidence and Compassion”
(1 John 5:14-17)

Sunday PM

“When Familiarity Breeds Contempt”
(Mark 6:1-6)

Our Records

*Bible Class...*81
*Morning Worship...*145
*Evening Worship...*66
*Wednesday...*78
Contribution...\$3,942.00

