

Eisenhower Church of Christ

I Will Not Be Enslaved

In his first Corinthian epistle, Paul responds to questions the church asked. (7:1) Context indicates that Paul quotes sentences from their letters and responds, usually with something like, “Yes, but,” ESV and other translations indicate when Paul is quoting by putting quotation marks around such sentences. For example: *“All things are lawful for me,” but not all things are helpful. “All Things are lawful for me,” but I will not be enslaved by anything. (6:12).*

While Christ teaches that all foods are clean and, therefore, lawful (Luke 11:41; Acts 10:10-15), Paul notes that in addition to being lawful, things to be engaged in need to be “helpful” and “not enslaving.”

One who continually practices sin, whatever the sin, becomes enslaved by it. (Romans 6:16) The modern phrase is “addiction.” We are familiar with drug and alcohol addiction. There is also sex addiction, power addiction, even money addiction. News stories abound of multi-billionaires, with more money than they could ever use, committing crimes to get more, getting caught and going to jail. No amount is ever enough!

Last winter during a bitter cold spell, I was sitting in a warm restaurant enjoying a hot meal and a steaming cup of coffee. Through a nearby window, close enough to touch him if the glass had not been between us, was a tall young man in a short-sleeve shirt. He was probably in his forties. He was shivering. He was smoking a cigarette, taking puffs between shivers. How addictive! How enslaving nicotine must be to compel an otherwise sensible, healthy young person to leave the inside warmth and stand freezing to inhale some cigarette smoke! “I will not be enslaved to anything.”

Smart phones, texting, Facebook, Instagram, the internet: all can be effective tools for accomplishing good ends. Like others, I find myself saying, “I don’t know how we got along without them.” However, they too can be addictive, enslaving. A mother told me she sat across the table from her teenage son as he sat with earbuds, texting. She tried to talk to him, but he was oblivious. She finally took out her phone and texted him! If social media interferes with family time, if you cannot talk intelligibly with friends for tweeting or texting, if you cannot bear to be separated from your phone for even a few minutes, you might ask yourself, “Am I addicted?” We should say with Paul, “I will not be enslaved by anything.”

During football season I follow my favorite college teams and a few adopted pro teams. However, for some, it seems sport’s is their religion and their team is their god. Their conversation year around is about their team and the teams their team will play. They spend thousands of dollars a weekend to go to games. Their joy or deep grief is wrapped up in whether their team wins or loses. Are we teaching our children that Bible study and

worship assemblies are more important than ball practice or ball games? Compare the time, interest, money and intensity of involvement in sports with the time, interest, money and conversation about Christ, worship and help for the needy! “All things are lawful,” but I will not be enslaved by anything.”

—Cecil May, Jr.

Sympathy

Our sympathy goes out to the family of **Montrella Ruffner**. Montrell passed from this life early Thursday morning, April 5th at Madison Medical Resort. Her graveside service was held last week in Midland.

Prayer Requests

James Drake is taking radiation, in pill form, for his thyroid cancer which was removed.

Opal Hager (Christy Weakland’s grandmother) was taken to a hospital in Weatherford on Monday, April 9th. She is struggling with serious health issues.

Concerns Update

Maxine Newton was released from Madison on Wednesday, April 11th. Linda (her ex-daughter-in-law) has made arrangements for Maxine’s care. Keep her in your daily prayers.

Winford Hambright is back at Parks after a short stay in the hospital undergoing tests. He is doing well. Keep him in your prayers.

Russ Montgomery (Devida’s brother) underwent a special test on Wednesday, April 11th concerning his lung’s activity which did not turn out well. His diagnosis is Pulmonary Hypertension. He needs prayers.

Prayer List

Tom Bauer; Elsie Bradford; Bill & Mary Brown; Bill Butler; Glenna McCarty-Callendar; David Castor; Beth Clay; Dayton Dennard; James & Joyce Drake; Glenda Driver; Verona Dykes; Dana Erwin; John Ford; Jennie Fuls; Hattie Gilmore; David Guynn; Maria Guzman; Anna Groves; Opal Hager; Winford Hambright; Glenda Hillis; Janis Laminack; Betty Leeth; Eliseo Lopez; Russ Montgomery; Tanya Nichols; Curtis Parum; Trina Plyler; Jackie Rex; Elvia Ruckman; Brenda Simmons; Charles Simmons; Matthew Simmons; Verlie Snyder; Velma Tolbert; Marilyn Upshaw; Laura Vasquez; Jurlean Warren; Doris Weakland; Jimmy Weaver; Lisa Wells; Janet Wesson; Wanda Wheeler; Ann Wilson; Glenda Winkley; 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...

When Paul came to Ephesus, he found certain disciples and said unto them, “Have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye believed?” What was their reply? (1) Yes, we have received the Holy Ghost; (2) No, we have not received the Holy Ghost; (3) We have not so much as heard whether there be any Holy Ghost.

Last Week’s Bible Quiz Answer...

Abraham lied to Abimelech about his relationship to his wife because he doubted God’s ability to protect him. (Genesis 12:11)

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.

The *“Andrews Church of Christ Gospel Meeting”* is April 22nd-25th with Mike Bonner as guest speaker. Their flyer is on our BB.

Office News

The *“New Mexico Children’s Home”* will be back in Odessa June 5th, 2018. They are requesting **55 Gallon Trash Bags**. Monetary donations also accepted.

Note:

John and Sonia Wood will host a *“Family Devotional”* April 29th following our evening service. It will be held in Room C-5. Please check with Sonia for food items requested.

Got Patience?

“The man’s wisdom gives him patience; it is to his glory to overlook an offense” (Proverbs 19:11).

According to the world, if insulted, the bigger man is the one who can give it back in the wittiest and weightiest way. But God says it is to a man’s glory to overlook an offense! That takes patience, which is a product of wisdom, which God tells us He will give us if we ask without finding fault. But most of us don’t want to pray for patience because we know that God often gives us situations in which the fruit of patience will have opportunity to grow. That’s just it; patience is a fruit of the Spirit that must grow in us, but one we’d rather not cultivate. We hope that life will go along so smoothly that we won’t have any reason to show patience. Then, when offended, we lash out as impatiently as the world and the world would never be able to tell that we follow Christ.

Don’t have wisdom enough to pray for patience to grow in your life? Ask so you may receive so it can be to your glory to overlook an offense! Then the world will glorify God as well. Got patience?

–Doug Kashorek

April 15th, 2018	A.M.	P.M.
Announcements	Jeff Wesson	Jeff Wesson
Song Leader	Craig Wesson	Jacob Carson
Sermon	Allen Weakland	Allen Weakland
Opening Prayer	Jeff Wesson	Jeff Wesson
Scripture	Josh Weakland	John Wood
Second Prayer	Scot Straw	Cody Wesson
Closing Prayer	Cody Wesson	Richard Siler
Lord's Supper		
West...	Bill Tolbert	Chris Butler
	Dex Dennard	Communion
	Richard Siler	(In Library)
East...	Jacob Carson	
	Cody Wesson	
	Tom Sorenson	

Other Responsibilities: *Elder* : Jeff Wesson–561-5302 *Deacon*: Rudy Ochoa 214-0398 *Pulpit*: Bill Brown 703-6225 *Table*: Chris Butler 362-7486 *Song Leaders*: Larry May 638-3990 *Recording Duties*: Don Easlon 288-5834 *Collections*: Don Easlon

Sunday AM

"Word for the Persecuted"

(1 Samuel 20:10)

Sunday PM

"Lostness of the Lost"

(Luke 19:10)

Our Records

Bible Class... 78

Morning Worship...113

Evening Worship...75

Wednesday...73

Contribution...\$5,417.00