

Eisenhower Church of Christ

Never a Denomination

Jesus said, ***“Upon this rock I will build my church”*** (Matthew 16:18). He used the word “church,” [singular], not “churches,” [plural]. Paul said God gave Christ ***“to be the head over all things to the church*** [singular], which is his body [singular]” (Ephesians 1:22-23). Likewise, Colossians 1:18, identifies the “body,” [singular] and “the church,” [singular], as being one and the same, saying, ***“And He is the head of the body, the church.”*** Clinching the singularity/oneness/unity of the matter, Paul stressed, ***“There is one body”*** (Ephesians 4:4). If there is “one body,” and if that “one body” is “the church,” then, there is “one church.” Christ established “one” and “only one” church.

Making the “church”/“body” connection, Paul declares, ***“Christ is the head of the church: and he is the savior of the body”*** (Ephesians 5:23). If He is the “savior of the body,” and if the “one body” is “the church,” it must be understood that Christ is the Savior of the “one church” He built. All the saved are in that “one church” because that “one church” is the saved. Luke said, ***“The Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved”*** (Acts 2:47).

Those in the “one church” built by Christ are saved because Christ purchased them with His own soul-saving blood. The Ephesian elders were specifically told by Paul. ***“Take heed therefore unto yourselves and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Spirit hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood”*** (Acts 20:28). Furthermore, Paul declares, ***“Christ also loved the church and gave himself for it; That He might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, that he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish”*** (Ephesians 5:25-27).

Does the Bible teach that the church Jesus established, His ‘one body’ is to be divided into denominational churches? Or, “Does the Bible teach that the one body, the one church established by Jesus Christ, is to be undivided, possessing and manifesting true unity so that an unbelieving world may believe that God has sent Him?” Jesus Himself answered this question for us when He prayed. ***“Neither pray I for these [apostles] alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word; That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me. And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one: I in them and thou in me, that they may be perfect in one; and that the world may know that thou hast sent me and hast loved them as thou hast loved me”*** (John 17:20-23).

This unity for which Christ prayed is not “ecumenical unity,” i.e., “agreeing to disagree.” It involves the total agreement/unity of Jesus, His Father and all of Christ’s disciples in matters of faith (Romans 10:17). Jesus gave the key to achieving this unity in His phrase, “which shall believe on me through their word.” The unity for which Jesus prayed can only result in one church and can be achieved only by His disciples speaking the same thing—i.e., His Word is delivered and preached through His apostles. Christ promised His apostles help from the Holy Spirit in remembering His Word (Jn. 14:25-26; 16:12-13).

Fulfilling that promise, the Holy Spirit by inspiration, inerrantly, conveyed Christ’s Word to the apostles and then, by inspiration from the apostles to those who preached and produced the complete written New Testament (2 Tim. 3:16-17). “True discipleship” depends on having and keeping Christ’s Word. Jesus Himself stipulated, ***“If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; And ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free”*** (John 8:31-32).

John succinctly shows that in order to have God and to be saved, one must abide in the doctrine of Christ (2 John 9-10).

God's Word is the "rule" by which all men are "measured" (John 12:48-50). In the "one" church established by Christ, His disciples walk by "the same rule" and "mind the same thing" (Philippians 3:16). There are "no divisions" among them. They "speak the same thing," they are "perfectly joined together...in the same judgment" (I Corinthians 1:10). That equals "one" church and it never has been a denomination.

—Tommy J. Hicks

Sympathy

Sylvia Campos is requesting prayers for the family of **Marina Machuca** (her daughter's mother-in-law). Marina passed away last Wednesday night, April 17th, at Medical Center Hospital. She lived in Pecos, TX.

Harshad Bhavsar (Atasi's father) is having serious health problems at this time and had to be hospitalized. Also the unexpected loss of her uncle last week was very hard on her dad. Harshad lives in Houston. Please keep this family in your daily prayers.

Bessie Diaz (Erica's mom) found out that she has diabetes. Erica is asking prayers for her.

Concerns Update

Sylvia Campos will meet with the surgeon on May 14th for a consultation and a date when her eye surgery can be done.

Cathy Mooney was able to go back to work last week after being sick for about two weeks.

Prayer List

Crissy Arroyo; Brian Basaldua; Harshad Bhavsar; Betty Branson; Bill Brown; Brad Bundick; Bill Butler; Sylvia Campos; Eddie Chavez; Jon Cooper; Dana Erwin; Hattie Gilmore; Anna Groves; Winford Hambright; Letha Hooper; Jennifer Jones; Ora McAfee; Glenna McCarty; Patsy Mitchell; Melissa Moore; Juan & Estella Morolez; Caydon Parker; Bonnie Pursley; Laisha Ramirez; Jackie Rex; Paisleigh Grace Shepherd; Susan Simmons; Reda Sowell; Jack Straw; Velma Tolbert; Marilyn Upshaw; Lupe Valeriano; Robert Vargas; Beth Ann Warren; Lisa Wells; James & Janet Wesson; Sondie Williamson; John Wood.

Eisenhower's Shut-ins

Roberta Hamil; Dusty and Kathy Marshall; 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...

True or False?

There were more leftovers from the feeding of the four thousand than from the feeding of the five thousand.

Last Week's Bible Quiz Answer...

Titus was in Crete when Paul wrote the letter bearing his name (Titus 1:5).

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.

Office News

The *“New Mexico Children’s Home”* will be back the 1st week in June for a food pick up. **All items are appreciated.** No specific items were given at this time. Monetary donations are also accepted.

STF Group #4 will meet for their group meeting in the Annex this morning following the service. Our visitors are welcome.

A Combined *“Graduation Shower”* is planned for William Wood and Brenna Wilson on Sunday, May 5th from 2:00-4:00 pm in the Annex. Everyone is invited.

We Are Committed

Membership in the church and being saved are one in the same. This is true because God adds the saved to the church (Acts 2:47). The bible uses several terms used to describe members of the church. Many of those words describing followers of Christ are very familiar. Christian or Disciples of Christ are examples.

But there are other terms we do not use as much today. These terms are full of meaning and help explain why Christians are so committed to Christ. Ever Christian, for example, is a “saint”. This word is not a title given to a select few, but used of every Christian (1 Corinthians 1:2). It means to be set apart from the world and consecrated to the Lord. Understanding who we are and what happened when we became Christians (separated from the world) and consecrated to the Lord naturally leads to commitment.

We are saints – “devoted to a purpose with deep dedication”. And that is just another way of saying committed. We are devoted to the purpose of Christ with deep dedication and we refuse to be like the world from which we have been separated. What a word! What a concept! What a joy and privilege it is to be a saint! No wonder the early Christians were so committed to Christ! See yourself as a saint and you will become more committed to Christ.

–Alton Norman

Owingsville church of Christ
Owingsville, KY

April 28th, 2019

A.M.

P.M.

Announcements	Jeff Wesson	Jeff Wesson
Song Leader	Rudy Ochoa	Craig Wesson
Sermon	Allen Weakland	Allen Weakland
Opening Prayer	Jeff Wesson	Jeff Wesson
Scripture	Trinidad Wood	Rudy Ochoa
Second Prayer	Kevin Wilcox	Cody Wesson
Closing Prayer	Josh Weakland	Bill Ryan

Lord's Supper

(Scripture Reading)

West...

Richard Siler

Dex Dennard

Jackie Perkins

Jr. Munoz

Larry May

Communion

(In Library)

East

Larry May
Jacob Carson
Gary Loving

Other Responsibilities: *Elder* : Jeff Wesson 556-5547 *Deacon*; Don Easlon 288-5834 *Pulpit*; Josh Wells 770-6753 *Table*; Larry May 638-3990— *Song Leaders*: Larry May 638-3990 *Recording Sermons*; Doug Guynn 260-00440 *Collections*: Doug Guynn 260-0440

Sunday AM

“Caleb Followed the Lord Fully”
(Numbers 14:24)

Sunday PM

“Angry Words, O Let Them Never”
(Proverbs 18:21)”

Our Records

Bible Class... 78
*Morning Worship...*136
*Evening Worship...*57
*Wednesday...*73
Contribution...\$4,683.03