

# Eisenhower Church of Christ

## Lead Me Gently Home, Father

Those who live most of their lives in the fellowship of the Lord's church are blessed with a plethora of sweet memories associated with the worship of our Father in heaven. Certain songs may remind them of when they were immersed into Christ. Others may remind them of family members, now passed. One such song is *Lead Me Gently Home, Father*, which captures the earnest desire of godly people to reach the heavenly goal.

One of the most basic teachings of the Lord is that being His disciple is a journey. In Matthew 7:13-14 the Lord said, ***“Enter through the narrow gate; for the gate is wide and the way is broad that leads to destruction, and there are many who enter through it. For the gate is small and the way is narrow that leads to life, and there are few who find it.”*** The implications are simple to understand. We all enter one of the two gates as we go through life. Each gate leads to a certain destination. As we live our lives we are making progress to one or the other of those destinations. One destination is destruction, which is a term used here to describe eternal condemnation. The other destination is life, which is used here to describe entrance into the heavenly abode.

It is up to each one of us to choose the path his life will follow. We are called by the gospel to choose the path that leads to life (2 Thessalonians 2:14). We are called by the world to follow the crowd that is rushing, headlong, toward the abyss of hell. We are free to choose either course, but the wise will choose the path that leads to life.

Just making the choice to enter through the gate that opens onto the way that leads to life is not enough, however. We do not secure eternal life by entering the gate and then sitting by the side of the road. Once one becomes a Christian, he must move down the path toward his heavenly reward until he reaches it. There is much in the New Testament to indicate that this is the case, but Paul the apostle demonstrated it for us in his own life. In 2 Timothy 4:7-8 he said, ***“I have fought the good fight, I have finished the course, I have kept the faith; in the future there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day; and not only to me, but also to all who have loved His appearing.”***

We enter though the small gate that opens onto the narrow way for one purpose only. That is to make the journey, step by step, until we reach the final goal. We do not have to go as fast as others, but we do have to move down the path. There is no reward for sitting on the sidelines. This is where the words of this beautiful song teach and admonish us.

As we sing this song we are asking the Father to lead us home. The most important aspect of this sentiment is that it is the Father who does the leading. He does so by means of His inspired word. Our Lord Jesus said that He spoke only what the Father commanded Him (John 12:49-50). He, in turn, gave this word to His apostles and to the inspired writers of the New Testament through the power of the Holy Spirit (John 16:13; 2 Peter 1:20-21). Therefore, when we follow the New Testament, the Father is leading us.

Secondly, in order for the Father to lead us home, we must be willing to follow Him. This means that we must place our will under the control of His will. It means that we must be ready to do everything that the Word of God requires of us in order to be obedient to our Father in

heaven. In Matthew 7:21-23 Jesus said that only those who do the will of the Father who is in heaven will enter there. Therefore, let us resolve that we will let the Father lead us gently home by believing and obeying His inspired word.

—Fred Dominguez

### ***Prayer Requests***

**John Wood** was taken to the ER last week due to severe pain. Tests showed that he has a kidney stone. Keep John in your prayers that this problem is resolved soon.

**Harold Carrigan** was released from the hospital last Monday and was taken to Madison Medical Resort for treatment and physical therapy. He is in Room 115-B.

**Marilyn Upshaw** has been diagnosed with congestive heart failure. She has gone through two heart attacks in recent years. Marilyn is requesting our prayers.

### ***Concerns Update***

**Jurlean Warren** is home from the hospital after having a pacemaker put in on Thursday, April 20th. She has requested no visitors during the time of her recuperation.

It was reported that **Velma Tolbert** (Bill's wife) is improving and they appreciate all the prayers offered on her behalf.

### ***Prayer List***

David Alaniz; Lee Roy Bell, Betty Branson; Mary Brown; Bill Bundick; Marie Bundick; Mitchell Bundick; Sissy Bundick; Betty Burns; Chris Butler; Glynn Chandler; Linda and Sonny Coggins; John Cole; LaVern Couch; Dayton Dennard; James & Joyce Drake; Urisonya Flunder; John Ford; Shane Ford; Marjorie Foster; Jennie Fuls; Bill Gibbons; Hattie Gilmore; Irma Gomez; Maria Guzman; Anna Groves; Kenny & Lynn Howard; Lon Howard; Janis Laminack; Jody Langford; Elder & Glenna McCarty; Jason Moore; Juan & Estella Morolez; Gina Munoz; Tanya Nichols; Trina Plyler; Ivan Rigsby; Cynthia Schulze; Andrew Schwarz; Brenda Simmons; Charles Simmons; James Stephens; Velma Tolbert; Marilyn Upshaw; James Weaver; Judy Wells; Lisa Wells; Ann Wilson; John Wood; Jack Wright; Paula Wyatt; Justin Young; Toya Zambelli.

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

Roberta Hamil; Janice 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...**

What was the name of Moses's wife?

#### **Last Week's Bible Quiz answer...**

Simon the Zealot was one of Jesus's 12 disciples.

## Events

Today is our **“Fifth Sunday Services”**. We will have a noon meal after our morning service followed by the evening service. All our visitors are welcome.

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 in Odessa June 6th, 2017. They are requesting **Juices (all kinds)**. Monetary donations also accepted.

There will be a **“Deacon’s Meeting”** Wednesday, May 3rd following our service.

**“Meals On Wheels”** donation will be Wednesday, May 3rd. Please see June Smith.

## Graduation Showers:

There will be a “Graduation Shower” for **Dylan Straw** on Sunday, May 7th between 2:00-4:00 pm in the Annex. He will be graduating from Permian High on Saturday, May 27th. Everyone is invited to come help Dylan celebrate this milestone in his life.

**Kamilla Armendarez** will also be celebrating her “Graduation and Birthday” on Saturday, May 20th between 12:00—2:00 pm in the Annex. Kamilla will be graduating from Odessa High on Friday, May 26th. Everyone is invited to her duo celebration.

## Become a Christian

Agrippa was almost a Christian (Acts 26:28). So many people end up in this same state. To stand before God in the judgment having never obeyed the gospel is to have accomplished the greatest failure in human history. Paul wrote in 2 Corinthians 7:10—*“For Godly sorrow produces repentance leading to salvation, not to be regretted, but the sorrow of the world produces death.”*

When we change our minds and hearts and make the decision to be right with God, we have made the single, most important decision of our lives. Christianity gives us hope, consolation, forgiveness, peace, direction and all of the other things in life that no other endeavor will afford us. Of all the titles one can hold, there is none greater than “Christian” (I Peter 4:16).

<b>April 30th, 2017</b>	<b>A.M.</b>	<b>P.M.</b>
Announcements	Larry May	Larry May
Song Leader	Denny Wilson	Rudy Ochoa
Sermon	Allen Weakland	Allen Weakland
Opening Prayer	Larry May	Larry May
Scripture	Jr. Munoz	Dex Dennard
Second Prayer	Jacob Carson	Tony Marrs
Closing Prayer	Josh Wells	Cody Wesson

## Lord's Supper

West...

Mike Roemisch  
Tom Sorenson  
Bill Butler

Chris Butler  
Communion  
(In Library)

East...

Rudy Ochoa  
Bill Brown  
Dex Dennard

**Other Responsibilities:** *Elder:* Larry May 638-3990 *Deacon:* Bill Ryan 272-5507 *Pulpit:* Josh Wells 770-6753  
*Table:* Chris Butler 362-7486 *Song Leaders:* Denny Wilson 325-340-2291 *Recording Duties:* Richard Siler  
362-1392 *Collections:* Richard Siler 362-1392

## Sunday AM

*"Reason to Hope"*  
(Romans 5:1-5)

## Sunday PM

*"Difficulties of Riches"*  
(Matthew 19:16-26)

## Our Records

*Bible Class...* 74  
*Morning Worship...*132  
*Evening Worship...*63  
*Wednesday...*77  
*Contribution...*4,057.60