

Eisenhower Church of Christ

Go to the Church of God's Choice

There is a statement that is commonly heard throughout our society that says: "Go to the church of your choice." You have probably seen it (or similar statements) emblazoned on various bumper stickers, signs, posters, and bill boards. This statement presupposes that there is a choice to be made in picking a church. For many people, this type of statement makes perfect sense- "it stands to reason!"

Within our communities, whether small towns or large cities, there are many different "houses of worship." In many places, you can find a number of "churches"- three, five or more, all located within a short distance of each other. On one corner, you might see the church building where the Methodists meet, across the street is the imposing place of worship of the Baptists, while down the avenue is the large Catholic cathedral. This supposedly presents the member of the community with a wide number of choices to be made when they start planning where to place their membership and attend worship services.

Many of these "churches" consider themselves "Christian," meaning their members maintain some sort of belief in Jesus Christ and recognize the Bible to be a source (however limited) of spiritual guidance and encouragement. Yet, these same "churches" also represent many different religious groups which vary greatly in their own beliefs, doctrines and practices. For example, Catholics strongly believe that it is necessary for infants to be baptized while Baptists do not.

The very existence of these different "churches" (religious groups) inevitably leads to some questions... Which "church (group) should I select to place my own membership and attend? 2) Which "church" has members that share my own personal convictions? And, 3) which "church" is correct in its teachings and right with God? These are all valid questions! They need to be answered.

The many choices that are presented to the common person have the potential to lead to great confusion and frustration. Some people deal with this confusion by saying (and believing): "It doesn't matter where you go!" or "One church is as good as another!" Trying to rationalize their decision, they may add: "All roads lead to heaven." Those who believe this way will maintain that the only thing that really matters is attendance at some type of "church." This has ultimately led to the statement: "Go to the church of your choice!" We are told to select the "church" that pleases us. We are encouraged to go to the group that makes us feel good and happy—which best meets our "felt needs." Still, the questions linger!

However, when we go to God's Word, the Bible, we discover that our choice is quite simple and straightforward. There is only one correct choice to be made! Paul writes... "And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence (Colossians 1:18, NKJV). The "He" that Paul is referring to is Christ. Notice that Paul states that Christ is "the head of the body, the church." He repeats this idea later on in this same chapter in verse 24 and also explains that "the body" is "His body." Thus, Paul emphasizes here, as he does also in Ephesians 1:22-23; 4:4; that Christ's body, the church, is singular, not plural! Christ is not the head of "*a body*" which *is* "*a church.*" He is the head of "*the body*" which is "*the church.*" The church, therefore, is not one of many but the one and only! There is no other! It is the "one body" mentioned in 1 Corinthians 12:12-13, Ephesians 4:4 and Colossians 3:15.

So we come to the necessary conclusion that there is only one true church! As we look out at all the choices that are available, we do not have to be confused or frustrated. On the contrary, we can be confident as we select the church that teaches the truth—the truth that is in God’s word. One of the key attributes of the one, genuine church is that it is “The pillar and ground of the truth” (I Timothy 3:15). Let us choose to become members of the church headed by God’s precious Son Jesus Christ and is ruled by His teachings. Let us: “Go to the Church of God’s Choice!”

—Erik Smith

Prayer Requests

Jennie Fuls (Nancy Eason’s sister) had a biopsy done on April 26th in Midland and it came back that she has breast cancer. She saw a surgeon last Monday regarding her treatment. We need to keep Jennie in our prayers. She has been struggling with several health issues since her automobile accident a couple of years ago.

Janelle Shirley (a shut-in) who is 93 years old was diagnosed with MCS (Multiple Chemical Sensitivities) years ago. She called to ask us to keep her in our prayers as she wants to be able to stay in her home as long as she can. Janelle has no health problems at this time, but is still in need of prayers. Also, she appreciates short calls and emails.

Please keep **Kathy Nunley** (a former member) in your prayers as she will be having a heart procedure done on May 22nd in Austin. Kathy and Jimmy live in Wimberley, TX.

Concerns Update

Rosalinda Benavides is on bed rest until the birth of her triplets which will be close to the end of May. Continue to keep her in your prayers that all will go well for her and the babies.

Prayer List

Tom Bauer; Rosalinda Benavides; Elsie Bradford; Bill Butler; Blas Campos; David Castor; Beth Clay; Sherry Cox; 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; Shirley Harvey; Glenda Hillis; Janis Laminack; Betty Leeth; Eliseo Lopez; Russ Montgomery; Juan & Estella Morolez; Tanya Nichols; Curtis Parum; Trina Plyler; Jackie Rex; Elvia Ruckman; Brenda Simmons; Charles Simmons; Matthew Simmons; 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; 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...

In Matthew, chapter 11, Christ began to upbraid the cities where most of His mighty works were done because they repented not. He pronounced woes against two cities. One was Chorazin. Name the other.

Last Week’s Bible Quiz Answer...

The next miracle Jesus performed after his first miracle of turning the water into wine was the healing of the nobleman’s son. (John 4:46-54)

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 in Odessa June 5th, 2018. They are requesting **55 Gallon Trash Bags**. Monetary donations also accepted.

Invitation

The Gardendale Church of Christ is hosting a *“Ladies Day”* Saturday, May 12th from 11:30-2:00 with Dr. LeeAnne Lowrie as guest speaker. Please RSVP by May 1st. Lunch will be served. All our ladies at Eisenhower are invited.

Crib Shower

Since Rosalinda Benavides will not be able to attend a baby shower once the babies are born so the church is hosting a *“Crib Shower”* for her. Rosalinda has requested diapers (all sizes) and baby wipes. The triplets’ birthdate is expected the end of this month. There is a crib set up in the east foyer.

POSSESSIONS OF JESUS

In the lifetime of Jesus we do not hear Him speak of “my house”, “my land”, “my farm”, “my books”, “my business”, “my money”. We do, however, hear Him speak of “my friends” (John 15:14), “my disciples” (John 15:8), “my church” (Matthew 16:18), “my name” (Matthew 18:20), “my words” (Mark 8:38), “my sheep” (John 10:27), “my joy” (John 17:13). It is significant that our example thought more of spiritual possessions than of material ones.

How empty is the life that’s filled with things. Jesus invested His life in you. Have you shown any interest?

“Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath: for the wrath of man worketh not the righteousness of God” (James 1:19-20)

—Selected

May 6th, 2018	A.M.	P.M.
Announcements	Larry May	Allen Weakland
Song Leader	Rudy Ochoa	John Wood
Sermon	Allen Weakland	Larry May
Opening Prayer	Larry May	Allen Weakland
Scripture	Richard Siler	Dex Dennard
Second Prayer	Charles Wood	Bill Brown
Closing Prayer	Don Eason	Richard Siler
Lord's Supper West...	Trinidad Wood	George Warren
	Tom Sorenson	Communion
	Scot Straw	(In Library)
East...	Jr. Munoz	
	Richard Siler	
	Bill Ryan	

Other Responsibilities: *Elder* : Larry May 638-3990 *Deacon*: Bill Ryan 272-5507 *Pulpit*: Jacob Carson 940-3775 *Table*: George Warren 557-2171 *Song Leaders*: Larry May 638-3990 *Recording Duties*: Chris Butler 362-7486 *Collections*: Chris Butler 362-7486

Sunday AM

"Craving the Best Things"
(1 Samuel 21:9)

Sunday PM

"Six Righteous People"
(Acts 10:34-35)

Our Records

Bible Class... 99

Morning Worship...143

Evening Worship...78

Wednesday...75

Contribution...\$5,243.00