

Eisenhower Church of Christ

The Religion of the Individual (Part 1)

Christianity is universal in its nature. It is for all men of all nations. This is emphasized by the fact that Christ “tasted death for every man” and by the Great Commission which authorizes the preaching of the Gospel to all nations (Hebrews 2:9; Mt. 28:19). Yet, Christianity is also an individual religion. It is the religion of the individual. Paul exhorted Christians to “work out your own salvation” (Philippians 2:12). He also said that “every man shall bear his own burden” (Galatians 6:5).

Christ and Individualism

The teaching of Jesus is addressed to the individual. He often preached to one person. His illustrations emphasized the one. The Good Shepherd seeks the one sheep. Angels rejoice over one sinner that repents. One soul is worth more than the whole world.

Christ did not expect kingdoms, states and nations to follow Him. He knew that they would not follow Him and that they would cause His followers much trouble and sufferings. He did not anticipate that all of one’s family, friends or neighbors, would be Christians. We have often heard it said that Christianity has not been tried. Possibly the one who makes this statement is thinking on a national scale. Christianity has been tried. It has been tried by countless individuals and has been highly successful wherever it has been tried.

Becoming a Christians

The steps in conversion are of such nature that no other person can take them for you. The primary steps of obedience are faith, repentance, confession, and baptism. These must necessarily be acts of the individual. Many Christians would gladly confess Christ and be baptized for you if they could, but that of course is impossible.

In the light of New Testament teaching on personal responsibility, many religious doctrines and practices are seen to be false. How can the doctrine of purgatory be reconciled with the idea of personal responsibility? How can the prayers and efforts of friends and relatives on the earth benefit the soul of a departed loved one? How can “infant baptism” be harmonized with the fact of individual responsibility? Gospel obedience is not something that our parents can have done for us before we are capable of making decisions for ourselves. Baptism for dead people is also ruled out by the fact of individual accountability. It is the individual who is commanded to be baptized and he must do so of his own volition.

Christian Worship a Personal Duty

Others cannot attend worship services for us. Some seem to have a satisfied conscience if only one member of the family is present for services on the Lord’s Day. But the acts of worship are of such nature that each one must participate. Each one must listen attentively to the words of the prayer and make them his own. Others cannot obey the command to sing for

us. Each one is to lay by in store. Each one is to partake of the Lord's Supper. Worship is more than "going to church" It is something in which the heart of each Christian is to participate. And each Christian is to participate in this act through which the worship of the heart is expressed to God.

—Raymond C. Kelcy
(Part 2 next week)

Prayer Request

Prayers are being requested for **Brian Basaldua**, brother of Mark Basaldua (Devida's son-in-law). Brian is scheduled to have stem cell transplant surgery in two to three weeks at MD Anderson. Afterwards, he will be in isolation for a while. Contact with people is prohibited due to being exposed to germs. Keep Brian in your daily prayers.

Patsy Mitchell will have her knee replacement surgery on Tuesday, May 28th at Medical Center Hospital. Please keep Patsy in your prayers that her surgery will go well and she has a speedy recovery.

Everlee Ruth Wells (infant daughter of Josh and Lindsey Wells) was born with a broken clavicle on her left side. Also, Everlee has jaundice. Please keep their baby girl in your daily prayers that she will be better soon.

Jay Wesson (Jeff's brother) has a spot on his lung that he is having checked out. Jeff has requested prayers for him.

LaDonna Chism has requested prayers for **Laisha Ramirez** (a 5th grader at her school). Laisha is undergoing chemotherapy for a brain tumor. Please keep her in your prayers that the chemo will be effective on the cancer.

Concerns Update

Jazmine Duron (Linda Tate's granddaughter) met her doctor last Monday and he wants her to have a genealogy test to see if there is cancer cells in her other breast. Please keep Jazmine in your prayers.

Debbie Howard's open heart surgery has been moved to June 19th due to an eye infection. She cannot have any infection in her body when undergoing open heart surgery. Debbie is Devida's cousin. She needs prayers.

Prayer List

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

Eisenhower's Shut-ins

Robertta 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...

Multiple Choice: In the Christian's armor, of what does the breastplate consist? (a) faith (b) peace or (c) righteousness (Ephesians 6:14)

Last Week's Bible Quiz Answer...

Sentence Completion: "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him and He will make your paths straight. (Proverbs 3:5)

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 here on June 4th for a food drive. They need **Toilet Paper and Paper Towels**. Monetary donations are also accepted.

STF Group #4, please pickup your cards in the library this morning following the services.

An Honorable Name

Each of us is building upon a legacy which began with our ancestors and continues with our descendants. Each generation places their stamp upon the name of their kinsmen. As days go by and reputations are built, our family name is either lifted up or trampled underfoot. The bible makes it clear that our reputations are one of our most valuable assets. "A good name is to be more desired than great wealth; favor is better than silver and gold" (Proverbs 22:1).

In today's world, this thought has been replaced with the idea that no one should care what anyone else thinks of them or their actions, to the destruction of countless souls. Family names have been soiled by the arrogance of the current generations. As we consider this, we should remember our spiritual family name.

The name Christian was given to our forefathers centuries ago. "And the disciples were first called Christians in Antioch" (Acts 11:26). It is a name which, despite man's efforts, has found favor amongst people.

—Walter Rayburn

May 26th, 2019

	A.M.	P.M.
Announcements	Larry May	Larry May
Song Leader	Jaxon Straw	Cody Wesson
Sermon	Allen Weakland	Allen Weakland
Opening Prayer	Larry May	Larry May
Scripture	George Warren	David Ryan
Second Prayer	Jr. Munoz	Tommy Garcia
Closing Prayer	Doug Guynn	Rudy Ochoa
Lord's Supper		
(Scripture Reading)	<u>Don Easlon</u>	
West...	Trinidad Wood	Craig Wesson
	Bill Ryan	Communion
	Oliver Hernandez	(In Library)
East	Josh Weakland	
	Kevin Wilcox	
	Josh Wells	

Other Responsibilities: *Elder* : Larry May 638-3990 *Deacons*; Jr. Munoz 363-1309 *Pulpit*; John Wood 413-7444 *Table*: Craig Wesson 934-4633— *Song Leaders*: Larry May 638-3990 *Recording Sermons*; Tom Sorenson 638-9447 *Collections*: Tom Sorenson 638-9447

Sunday AM

"Prescription for Spiritual Well-being"
(III John 1:1-4)

Sunday PM

"Atheist"
(Proverbs 14:12)

Our Records

Bible Class... 50
Morning Worship...85
Evening Worship...NC
Wednesday...77
Contribution...\$4,582.00