

Eisenhower Church of Christ

Cafeteria Religion

At one time cafeterias were a popular dining option in the United States. Large chains operated sites in many major cities from coast to coast. The appeal of these restaurants was in the speed of service and in the variety of choice afforded the customer. Patrons passed along a serving counter and selected the components of their meal from multiple options. Those items they did not prefer could be omitted from their meal. Each person could construct his or her meal according to personal taste and never eat anything he didn't want to eat. The formal cafeterias of the 1940's and 1950's have mostly gone the way of the Dodo, primarily because of the fast food boom of the 1960's. Their closest descendant is the modern all-you-can-eat buffet, which carries on the time-honored tradition of picking one's favorites from a large variety of options.

Although the cafeteria isn't as prominent as it once was, the principle behind it continues to live, especially in religion. Many people look at the scriptures in the same way they might peruse the food line of their favorite eatery. Grace sounds good, so they take a double helping of it. Justice isn't as palatable, so they leave it on the counter. Faith is appealing, but obedience is too much like Brussel Sprouts. Love is like the dessert counter. They heap it up on their spiritual tray because it tastes so sweet. However, like desserts that are loaded with extra calories, they try to ignore the tough things biblical love requires of them. Perhaps without even thinking about it some treat God's word like a cafeteria, picking and choosing the things they like, while ignoring the things they don't like.

As popular as this mentality might be, it is completely foreign to the scriptures. From beginning to end the scriptures declare that we must conform to everything God has revealed in His word. On multiple occasions Moses warned Israel to keep all of God's commandments and to not turn aside from them to the right or to the left (Deuteronomy 5:32; 38:14, et al). When Paul spoke for the final time to the elders from Ephesus, he reminded them that he had not failed to declare to them "the whole purpose of God" (Acts 20:27). Paul withheld nothing from them because God expects His people to obey all His commands, not just the ones they like.

In Paul's first letter to Timothy he encouraged Timothy to continue teaching what he called "sound doctrine" (I Timothy 4:6). The Greek word that is translated "sound" literally means "healthy". In other words, for a Christian to be spiritually healthy, he must be fed everything that God has revealed in His word. Our souls are just like our physical bodies in this respect. If we only eat the "sweets" we will be unhealthy. If we feed on all of God's word, we will grow and mature in the faith and we will become the servants He expects us to be.

This is exactly what God expects us to do. The writer of Hebrews chastised his readers because they had failed in this regard. In Hebrews 5:13-14 he said, "***For everyone who partakes only of milk is not accustomed to the word of righteousness, for he is an infant. But solid food is for the mature, who because of practice have their senses trained to discern good and evil.***" He also said, "***All discipline for the moment seems not to be joyful, but sorrowful; yet to those who have been trained by it, afterwards it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness***" (Hebrews 12:11). Therefore, if our goal is to please God, we must abandon cafeteria-style religion. Instead,

we must take delight in all of God's word and like the psalmist, meditate upon it day and night (Psalm 1:2). By eating all of God's word we will become spiritually healthy and we will be faithful to Him in all we do.

—Fred Dominguez

Prayer Requests

Estella Morolez (a former member) is still fighting staph infection that she got from her recent heart surgery. Estella will be going back into the hospital for more treatment. Please pray that the infection can be wiped out so she can have good health once again. Also, keep Juan in your prayers as he is dealing with serious health issues.

Chuck Weaver (Jimmy's brother) had a stroke on Saturday, May 26th in Wichita Falls, TX. There is no permanent damage from the stroke; however, a further test revealed an aortic aneurysm. Chuck will undergo open heart surgery soon. Please pray for a successful surgery.

Terri Elaine Armentrout (Devida's niece) will undergo surgery on June 14th to repair a hernia in her stomach. Keep her in your prayers that all will go well.

Elsie Bradford (Loyce and Joyce's sister and mother of Wayne) fell and broke the femur bone in her leg. She is in Medical Center Hospital—Room 632.

Maxine Newton is still struggling with health issues. We are asking that you continue to keep her in your prayers that she will have better health soon.

James Vaughn Drake (youngest son of James & Joyce Drake) is in MCH—Room #840 with severe pneumonia. He was scheduled for a lung biopsy. James V. is in need of prayers.

Concerns Update

Wayne Bradford who has terminal cancer is still at Medical Center Hospital in Room #540. Wayne is Loyce Driver and Joyce Drake's nephew. Continue to keep him in your prayers.

Prayer List

Elaine Armentrout; Tom Bauer; Elsie Bradford; Wayne Bradford; Brad Bundick; Bill Butler; Blas Campos; David Castor; Beth Clay; Sherry Cox; Dayton Dennard; James & Joyce Drake; Glenda Driver; Verona Dykes; Dana Erwin; Jennie Fuls; Hattie Gilmore; Maria Guzman; Anna Groves; Opal Hager; Winford Hambright; Shirley Harvey; Letha Hooper; Chris & Shirley Landers; Juan & Estella Morolez; Kathy Nunley; Curtis Parum; Jackie Rex; Elvia Ruckman; Janelle Shirley; Brenda Simmons; Charles Simmons; Matthew Simmons; Velma Tolbert; Marilyn Upshaw; Laura Vasquez; Doris Weakland; Jimmy Weaver; Lisa Wells; Janet Wesson; Wanda Wheeler; Ann Wilson; Glenda Winkley; John Wood; Jack Wright.

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...

Is it true or false that when Jesus commissioned His 12 Apostles He commanded them not to go to the Gentiles?

Last Week's Bible Quiz Answer... To distinguish the Mary's by naming the husband of one of them, John referenced the name Cleophas. (John 19:25)

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

There will be a *“Family Devotional”* on June 24th following our Sunday evening service. It is being hosted by Elizabeth Armendarez and will be held in Room C-5. Please check with Elizabeth if you wish to help in any way.

Leigh Ann McFarland (Kirk’s daughter) has just moved back from Albuquerque, NM and is looking for a place to rent. If you can help in any way or know of someone who has a place, please let Kirk know.

BEFORE IT IS TOO LATE
If you have a tender message,
Or a loving word to say.
Do not wait till you forget it,
But whisper it today;
The tender word unspoken,
The letter never sent,
The long forgotten messages,
The wealth of love unspent,
For these some hearts are breaking,
For these some loved ones wait;
So show them that you care for them
Before it is too late.

–Frank Herbert Sweet
Bulletin Digest

June 10, 2018

Announcements
Song Leader
Sermon
Opening Prayer
Scripture
Second Prayer
Closing Prayer

A.M.

Allen Weakland
Cody Wesson
Allen Weakland
Allen Weakland
Trinidad Wood
Don Easlon
Rudy Ochoa

P.M.

Allen Weakland
John Wood
Allen Weakland
Allen Weakland
Dylan Straw
Jacob Carson
Jr. Munoz

Lord's Supper
West...

Bill Tolbert
Craig Wesson
Bill Ryan

Josh Wells
Communion
(In Library)

East...

Jeff Wesson
Tom Sorenson
Trinidad Wood

Other Responsibilities: *Elder* : Allen Weakland 254-8209 *Deacon*: Richard Siler 556-2151 *Pulpit*: Dex Dennard 296-1582 *Table*: Josh Wells 770-6753 *Song Leaders*: Larry May 638-3990 *Recording Duties*: Chris Butler 362-7486 *Collections*: Chris Butler 362-7486

Sunday AM

"Enquiring of God"
(2 Samuel 2:1)

Sunday PM

"The Elusive City"
(Hebrews 11:8-10)

Our Records

Bible Class... 54
Morning Worship...85
Evening Worship...46
Wednesday...67
Contribution...\$3,187.00