

Eisenhower Church of Christ

“Procrastinators—the Leaders of Tomorrow”

Is there anything that has promised so much, but delivered so little as procrastination? Some delays are dangerous, while others are absolutely damnable! Procrastination has been aptly called, “the Devil’s chloroform,” or “spiritual suicide on the installment plan.” Procrastination blinds us to the opportunities and blessings of today, promising action “tomorrow.” There is a wealth of wisdom in Proverbs 27:1: “Boast not thyself of tomorrow; for thou knowest not what a day may bring forth.” Procrastination undoubtedly costs souls—the souls of others and perhaps; even our own.

Procrastination has to do with putting off things intentionally and habitually that ought to be done. But the time eventually comes when we are fresh out of “later.” Yet such delays are common for many, and it is easy to offer excuses for putting matters of real priority off. Someone once penned, “Procrastination is my sin; It bring me only sorrow; I know that I should stop it, In fact, I will—tomorrow.” Our love for God (Mark 12:30), our determination to seek first His kingdom and righteousness (Matthew 6:33), and our genuine concern for the souls of men (2 Corinthians 5:14) should motivate us to take great pains to avoid the sin of procrastination.

The word of God gives many examples of procrastination. Despite God’s instruction, Lot “lingered” in Sodom until the Lord mercifully had His angels take him and his family outside of the city to flee the destruction to come. In Exodus 8:10, when Pharaoh was asked when Egypt was to be delivered from the plague of frogs, his response was “tomorrow.” In Haggai 1:1-11 God’s people are rebuked for procrastinating in the rebuilding of God house while they lived in nice homes. The people were told by the Lord, “Consider your ways.” The foolish virgins of Matthew 25:1-13 are classic examples of procrastination and unpreparedness. And then there is Felix. As Paul spoke to him, “he reasoned of righteousness, and self-control, and the judgment to come” (Acts 24:25). Felix procrastinated. He “was terrified, and answered, God thy way for this time; and when I have a convenient season, I will call thee unto me.”

The word of God encourages all to avoid the plague of procrastination. It would be wonderful if every child of God better applied Psalm 119:60, “I made haste, and delayed not, To observe thy commandments.” Our Lord said, “We must work the works of Him that sent Me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work” (John 9:4). Surely there is a sobering reminder in this verse for all of us regarding our own lives too. There must be a sense of urgency when it comes to the will and the work of God. Ecclesiastes 11:4 offers this counsel: “He that observes the wind shall not sow; and he that regards the clouds shall not reap.” Excuses and procrastination are leading causes of spiritual crop failure! (cf. Romans 1:13; Galatians 5:22-23).

Scripture repeatedly emphasizes the importance of today (2 Corinthians 6:1-2; Hebrews 3:7-13). The great tragedy of procrastination is that it causes us to fail to fully appreciate the value for today. When we see each day of life as a stewardship, a gift and a sacred trust (2 Corinthians 4:1-2; James 1:17), our daily activities will show it. When we contemplate that we will give an account to the Lord for the way we managed His blessings, the sin of procrastination becomes even more evident (2 Corinthians 5:10). Truly, the best way for us as Christians to make dreams come true regarding life's most important matters is to wake up from the slumber of delay.

—Mike Vestal

Prayer Requests

Wilma Squire fell and broke her neck Saturday, July 23rd at Legacy Ranch Alzheimer's Special Care Center. She is presently in Midland Memorial Hospital—room #748 under Hospice Care. Please keep Wilma in your prayers.

Bill Bundick (Lindsey Well's grandfather) was scheduled to have a stent put in his heart Thursday, July 28th. Lindsey wants us to keep her grandfather in our prayers.

Cheryl Thompson (Josh Wells' aunt) had a quadruple bypass surgery Tuesday, July 26th. The family would like for us to keep her in our daily prayers.

Maria Anaya has requested prayers for her niece, **Monica Garcia**. She is back in the hospital because her lupus is acting up again and is much worse this time. Maria wants to thank everyone for all of our prayers.

Prayers are being requested for **Patty Montgomery**. Her cancer is not responding to the chemo treatments as they had hoped for which is very discouraging. Patty is Devida Montgomery's sister-in-law. Please continue to keep Patty in your daily prayers.

Concerns Update

John Wood completed the steroid infusions last week. He is scheduled to go to Dallas for further testing but unsure of the exact date.

Charles Simmons' surgical procedure in San Angelo last Friday went very well. He is feeling a lot better now. The pain in his back is at a minimum.

Prayer List

Lee Roy Bell, Susan Bosse, Mack Bradford; Betty Branson; Bobbie Braun; Bill Bundick; Mitchell Bundick; Sissy Bundick; Eddy Chavez; Steve Chavez; Zane Chism; Dayton Dennard; James & Joyce Drake; Ethan Driggers; John Ford; Bill Gibbons; Hattie Gilmore; Kelsey Gomez; Anna Groves; Opal Hager; Natalie Hudson; Bobby Hunt; Bryan Jernigan; Charles & Helen Jones; Tracy Leeth; Connie Lowe; Jill McAfee; Elder McCarty; Patty Montgomery; Russ Montgomery; Carolyn Morrison; Juan & Estella Morolez; Julie Munoz; Laura Olivas; Earlene Poses; Elvia Ruckman; Montrella Ruffner; Andrew Schwarz; Brenda Simmons; Charles Simmons; James Singleterry; Bob Spurlin; Virginia Stanton; James Weaver; Judy Wells; Lisa Wells;

Eisenhower's Shut-ins

Ruby Davis; Roberta Hamil; Janice Laminack; Dusty and Kathy Marshall; Maxine Newton; Janelle Shirley; Wilma Squire, Marilyn Upshaw; 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 happened to the man on the road between Jerusalem to Jericho?

Last Week's Bible Quiz answer...

Jesus healed a man who had been crippled for 38 years beside the pool of Bethesda.

Events

The Texas and Clements Ladies Bible Class have invited our ladies to their "**Annual Ladies Day**" program on Saturday, August 13th, 2016. Urisonya Flunder from the 20th & Birch Church of Christ in Lubbock will be their guest speaker. Registration is from 8:30 a.m. until 9:00 a.m.

Watch "***In Search of the Lord's Way***" every Sunday morning at 7:00 am on KWES TV 9, (New West 9). This week's topic is "Is Hell Real?"

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.

New Baby Girl!

Congratulations to Alyssa and Cameron May on the birth of their new baby girl (Jolene Marie) born Friday, July 22nd. Jolene weighed 8 lbs. 4 oz. and was 19 3/4 inches long. Mother and are baby doing well. Very Proud Grandparents are Larry & Janis May. Again, congrats!

Office News

The next food drive for "**The New Mexico Children's Home**" is Tuesday, August 30th. They are requesting **Canned Peaches and Canned Apricots**. The home also accepts monetary donations.

Today is our "**Fifth Sunday Service.**" We will have a potluck following our morning services followed by our evening service. All our visitors are welcomed to join us.

CHURCH DIRECTORY CHANGE:

The Midland Memorial Hospital has changed their telephone number to 432-221-1111. Please record this change on the inside of the back cover of your Church Directories.

July 31, 2016

Announcements
Song Leader
Sermon
Opening Prayer
Scripture

A.M.

Larry May
Denny Wilson
Allen Weakland
Larry May
Tony Marrs

P.M.

Larry May
Craig Wesson
Allen Weakland
Larry May
Isaiah Armendarez

Second Prayer
Closing Prayer

Bill Brown
Mike Roemisch

Jeff Wesson
Don Easlon

Lord's Supper
West...

Rudy Ochoa
Bill Ryan
Cody Wesson
Trinidad Wood
Craig Wesson
Dylan Straw

Tom Sorenson
Communion
(In Library)

East...

Other Responsibilities: ***Elder*** : Larry May 638-3990; ***Deacon***: Jr. Munoz 363-1309; ***Pulpit***: Tony Marrs 553-7349; ***Table***: Tom Sorenson 631-2518; ***Song Leaders***: Denny Wilson 325-340-2291; ***Recording Duties***: Chris Butler 362-7486; ***Collections***: Chris Butler 362-7486

Sunday AM

"To Whom Belongest Thou?"
(1 Samuel 30:13)

Sunday PM

"Plea to Pilgrims"
(1 Peter 2:11-12)

Our Records

Bible Class... 71
Morning Worship...121
Evening Worship...84
Wednesday...94
Contribution...\$2,968.75