

Eisenhower Church of Christ

Worship or Entertainment?

A dangerous tendency has been developing in the Lord's church for some time now, and it is past time that Christians everywhere set back and take a very serious look at where this practice has been leading and ultimately going. We have been, and are, drifting.

A number of years ago, preachers ceased bringing Bible lessons on how God is to be worshipped, and that God is the One to be pleased with our worship. The shift in emphasis, subtly and slowly, came virtually unnoticed on an unsuspecting brotherhood (in large part). Then, suddenly we began hearing that we must get away from book, chapter, and verse preaching (after all, that was legalistic, we were told). Instead we were told that our preaching must make people feel "good" about themselves! Of course, such an idea precludes Bible passages such as Colossians 3:17, I Corinthians 14:37, John 4:24, etc. Whatever it takes, even to neglecting to preach on repentance (Luke 13:3 ff.), if we are to appeal to the masses and grow in numbers, we must make people "feel good about themselves" began to be trumpeted.

Selfishness reigned supreme. Expressions like "I did not get much out of worship today," or "The worship hour was boring and stiff," began to show a mind set on entertainment, rather than on worship. To enliven the worship hour, we then began to hear that some advocated the use of more entertainment, choirs, quartets, etc. to spice up an otherwise dull worship period.

In this craze to try to please everybody (which is an impossible task), some began to declare that we must give women their freedom in Christ to serve to their full potential otherwise they will leave us for denominations where they are given greater freedom. Being interpreted this simply means: allow them to serve in leadership roles, etc., regardless of what the Bible says. Additionally, since a huge majority of the religious world out there does not agree with the bible doctrine of salvation by means of God's grace and man's obedient faith (Ephesians 2:8-9; Hebrews 5:9), then some began to promote the concept of salvation by grace alone; others have warmed over the old Baptist doctrine of salvation by faith only and are trying to palm it off on the brotherhood. After all, we will continue to lose people who reject these truths seems to be the idea. Others demand that we begin to use instrumental music or we will continue to lose others who have a great talent as musicians. Now, some congregations not only advocate the use of instrumental music in their worship assemblies, they have it—and they call this unscriptural worship; "Contemporary Worship."

The fact of the matter is that the Lord's church is better off without those who refuse to abide by the bible's teachings. If those who demand the right to teach and practice unscriptural doctrines do not leave, the bible tells us to withdraw fellowship from them! We dare not ignore bible truths in order to entice them to stay with us. Paul declared: "***if I yet pleased men, I should not be the servant of Christ***" (Galatians 1:10). Preachers must dust off some of the old sermon outlines on the subject of how worship must please God discover once again how that "preaching the word" is what God desires (2 Timothy 4:2-4), and not pleasing the pewsters (Galatians 1:10); continue to preach the "whole counsel of God" instead of falling prey to James Woodroof's doctrine of staying out of the epistles (Romans through Jude, they are legalistic, you know) and just use the four gospels instead; and above all things, begin anew bringing book, chapter and verse sermons and discard the pleasant, cute, after-dinner-speeches that cater to a people who do not want to hear the truth (Isaiah 30:9-10).

Worship is to be pleasing to God and just because something pleases us does not mean that it pleases God. To know what is pleasing to God can be ascertained but one way only, and that is

to find out what He says about it in the Word of God. God is to be pleased, not man (John 4:24).

—Wayne Price

Prayer Request

Brian Basaldua, brother to Mark Basaldua (Devida's son-in-law) had stem cells removed last week in preparation for his surgery at the end of August at MD Anderson in Houston. Please keep Brian in your prayers that he comes through his surgery okay and that the cancer can be removed from his blood.

Sheila Stanton has requested prayers for **David Hadley** who is suffering from congestive heart failure and also kidney failure. Please keep him in your prayers that whatever treatments he is undergoing, that it will help him return to good health.

Concerns Update

Letha Hooper was released from Madison Medical Resort from having fallen at her doctor's office over a month ago. Letha is still on a walker and unable to drive. Continue to keep her in your prayers that she can return to normal health once more.

Prayer List

Crissy Arroyo; Brian Basaldua; Don Blackwell; Betty Brooks; Bill Brown; Bill Butler; Cindy Campbell; Sylvia Campos; Steve Chavez; Linda Collum; Emma Craig; Ronald Dement; Bessie Diaz; Jazmine Duron; Dana Erwin; Hattie Gilmore; Anna Groves; Winford Hambright; Letha Hooper; Debbie Howard; Betty Leeth; Jed Martin; Ora McAfee; Glenna McCarty; Melissa Moore; Juan & Estella Morolez; Juanita Orosco; Caydon Parker; Laisha Ramirez; Jackie Rex; Paisleigh Grace Shepherd; Janelle Shirley; Charles & Susan Simmons; Velma Tolbert; Marilyn Upshaw; Robert Vargas; Beth Ann Warren; Lisa Wells; James & Janet Wesson; Jay Wesson; Conchida Williams; Sondie Williamson; John Wood.

Eisenhower's Shut-ins

Roberta 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...

How old was Isaac when he married Rebekah? (Genesis 25:20)

Last Week's Bible Quiz Answer...

The Pharisees accused Jesus of casting out demons by the power of Beelzebub. The symptoms of the demon-possessed man whom Jesus healed was blindness and muteness (Matthew 12:22)

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.

Thank You

Members of Eisenhower church of Christ:

We are so blessed to be part of such a loving congregation. From our very first visit, y'all did not hesitate to share your genuine Christian love. We are grateful for your acceptance and have enjoyed growing with the congregation.

“Thank You” doesn’t even begin to describe the depth of our gratitude for everyone’s contribution to help us prepare for our bundle of joy. We greatly appreciate your thoughts and prayers, as well as your help chasing Laurel down the aisles and behind the stage (?). Kevin and I are very eager to meet Luke this Friday and we look forward to bringing him up in the Lord’s church with this wonderful congregation.

Much Love,
Wilcox Family

The

Birth Announcement...

Congratulations to Mirah and Kevin Wilcox on the birth of their healthy baby boy, **Luke**. Luke came into this world Friday, August 2nd. He weighed 8 lbs. 10 oz. and was 20 1/2 inches long. Luke joins his big sister, Laurel. Again, congratulations to the Wilcox family.

Office News

The “New Mexico Children’s Home” will be in Odessa Tuesday, September 3rd, 2019. They have requested **Individual Instant Oatmeal Assorted and Grape Jelly**. Monetary donations also accepted.

Note: A “Family Devotional” is scheduled for Saturday, August 17th at 6:00 p.m. at the home of Gloria Craig. Please bring a side dish and a chair; the meats will be furnished.

Our “**Fall Quarter Bible Classes**” begins Sunday, September 1st. If you are interested in continuing teaching your class, start teaching or perhaps helping with a class, please let a Coordinator know. Your help is always appreciated.

Food For Thought...

Wealthy people miss one of the greatest thrills in life—making the last payment.

The man rocking the boat is not at the oars.

Real difficulties can be overcome; it is the imagined one’s that are unconquerable.

August 11th, 2019

A.M.

P.M.

Announcements	Larry May	Larry May
Song Leader	Oliver Hernandez	Craig Wesson
Sermon	Allen Weakland	Allen Weakland
Opening Prayer	Larry May	Larry May
Scripture	Jr. Munoz	David Ryan
Second Prayer	Gary Loving	Jaxon Straw
Closing Prayer	Bill Tolbert	Charles Wood

Lord's Supper

(**Scripture Reading**)

West...

Richard Siler

Tommy Garcia

Cody Wesson

Kevin Wilcox

Jacob Carson

Communion

(In Library)

East

Bill Ryan

Rudy Ochoa

Trinidad Wood

Other Responsibilities: *Elder* : Larry May 638-3990 *Deacon*:: Josh Wells 770-6753 *Pulpit*;; Tom Sorenson 638-9447 *Table*;; Jacob Carson 940-3775 – *Song Leaders*;; Larry May 638-3990 *Recording Sermons*;; Josh Wells 770-6753 *Collections*;; Josh Wells 770-6753

Sunday AM

"Spiritual Nature of God's Plan"

(Romans 9:6-13)

Sunday PM

"Spiritual Patriot"

(Jude 1:1-3)

Our Records

Bible Class... 69

Morning Worship...NC

Evening Worship...70

Wednesday...78

Contribution...\$5,163.40