

Eisenhower Church of Christ

Except (Part 1)

The word “except” occupies a prominent place in God’s Word. We want to call attention to a few plain passages in which we have that word. In these passages the word means “unless.”

Jesus said: “Verily, verily, I say unto thee, except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God” (John 3:5). There is just no other way into the kingdom of God. Unless a man is born twice, he is not in the kingdom, and furthermore he cannot get into it until he is born again. We are in the human family and we all entered it by a physical birth. We were first begotten and then brought forth. It would be the height of silliness to talk about becoming members of the human family in any other way. Even preachers do not do that! They know that men get into the human family by a physical birth. They are begotten by father and brought forth of mother.

Jesus used this to teach us a lesson of spiritual significance. We are begotten and then brought forth from the waters of baptism. It is easy to learn how folks are begotten. Just about three simple verses from the Word of God make this clear. We read in James 1:18: “Of his own will begat he us with the word of truth, that we should be a kind of first fruits of his creatures.” Here we are told that we are begotten by the Word of Truth. There is nothing mysterious about this. Then in the next book of the New Testament we have this plain declaration: “Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth forever” (1 Peter 1:23). Here it says we are born by the Word of God. Then we go to 1 Corinthians 4:15, and here we hear the inspired Paul say: “I have begotten you through the gospel.” God’s way of begetting us is by having the Gospel preached to us. When we receive this message of truth into good and honest hearts we are being begotten by the Gospel. Then when we continue and are buried by baptism and brought forth from the tomb of baptism we have been born again. We have been born of the Spirit and of water.

Here is another “except,” Jesus is also the author of this one. “For I say unto you, that except your righteousness shall exceed the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, ye shall in no case enter into the kingdom of heaven.” (Matthew 5:20).

We had better look into this “except.” Here is something that will keep us out of the kingdom of heaven. Of what did the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees consist? Their righteousness was artificial. It was not real. They pretended to be very righteous, but they were hypocrites. Our righteousness must be real and sincere. Sham righteousness will keep us out of the kingdom of heaven. It must be true righteousness. There is too much formality in the so-called religious world, and it even creeps into the church. You know the Pharisees made long prayers, and then would devour widow’s houses. Ours must be genuine and from the heart.

But now for another “except” from the Lord. The disciples were wanting to know who was the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. This has always troubled men. Methinks it still troubles many. They went to Jesus with the problem. He called a little child unto him. He set this child in the midst, and then He said: “Verily I say unto you, except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven. Whosoever therefore shall humble himself as this little child, the same is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven” (Matthew 18:1-4). Too many are seeking greatness, but they are not seeking the true greatness of becoming humble as a little child. The lack of this childlike humility will keep many out of the kingdom. A little child is the very personification of humility. He is teachable. It is not hard to teach children. They are ready to listen. They are forgiving. They know not what it means to hold malice and grudges. We must be like children in the admirable traits. And, except we are this way we are just as near the kingdom as we ever shall be.

Sympathy

Our heartfelt sympathy goes out to Jackie & Wanda Perkins and all their family in the loss of their **eleven years old granddaughter** due to a house fire early last Saturday morning. Please keep all this family in your prayers as their grief is great at this time.

Prayer Request

Paul Gunn spent three days at Medical Center Hospital last week due to dizziness. He is very grateful for all the cards he has received. Please continue to keep Paul in your daily prayers that he will be well soon.

Glenda Hillis is now in the last stage of Alzheimer's. She lives with Brinda, her daughter, who is taking care of her. She has requested prayers and visits for her mom.

Tracie Rhodes, wife of Kevin Rhodes, will have a heart valve replacement on September 2nd. Kevin has requested prayers for her that all will go well with the surgery.

Ray Marshall, a friend of Carolyn Wilkerson's, fell and broke his hip. He lives at the Disciples Village also. Carolyn is requesting prayers for him.

Caleb York has asked that we keep his brother, **Aaron**, in our prayers as he is dealing with several struggles at this time.

Concerns Update

Bill Wood will have a stent put in his carotid artery on Tuesday. Keep him in your prayers.

Elaine Huntington's pain shot she had on Tuesday went well. She went home that morning.

Prayer List

Dr. Hank Abrams; Sheila Alcazar; Kelton Anderson; Wayne Anderson; Betty Branson; Bill and Mary Brown; Glenna Callendar; LaDonna Chism; Debbie Cox; Catherine Eastwood; Dana Erwin; Mark Erwin; Philip Garza; Hattie Gilmore; Paul Gunn; Doug Guynn; Elaine Huntington; Mildred Lee; Melissa Moore; Juan & Estella Morolez; Richard Ochoa; Bruce & Trina Plyler; Chassidy Rayos; Carlos Reyes; David Ryan; Lisa Salas; Marilyn Upshaw; Terresia Weaver; Darryl Williamson; Charles Wood; John Wood, Julia York.

Eisenhower's Shut-ins

Glenda Hillis; Dusty and Kathy Marshall; Glenna Callendar; Ronda Lyne; Janelle Shirley and Marilyn Upshaw

Remember to keep all of our sick, shut-ins, the bereaved, our military personnel and spiritually weak in your daily prayers.

Events

Watch ***"In Search of the Lord's Way"*** Sunday mornings at 7:30 am on KWES TV 9.

This year the **"24th Annual Lubbock Lectureship"**, hosted by the Southside Church of Christ in Lubbock, will be held October 9-12, 2022. Their flyer showing all the speakers and topics is posted on our bulletin board in the east foyer. The theme is "The Word of God". Please try to set aside some time to attend one or more if you are able.

Youth

Bible Knowledge Who said it?

Bartimaeus said to Jesus, "Rabbi, I want to see." (Mark 10:51)

Thank You

Thank you for all the cards and for everyone who fixed our meal on Monday. It was a wonderful meal. We have wonderful cooks at Eisenhower. Thank you!

Eugene & Anita Smith Family & Roger & Jana Smith Family.

Office News

We are hosting a “**Diaper Shower**” for Tiffany & Ramiro Rangel. They are expecting a baby boy at the end of September. A crib is set up in the foyer for them.

The items requested for our “**Food Pantry**” for the weeks of 8/21 and 8/28 are: Canned Pasta Sauce, Pasta Seasoning Packets, Boxes of Mac & Cheese and Canned Meat.

What Type of faith is Jesus Speaking of in John 3:16

The passage reads, “For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish; but have everlasting life.” Unfortunately, some interpret faith in this verse as simply believing in Christ as God’s son and “accepting Him as one’s personal Savior.”

John 3:16 certainly teaches that one is saved by faith. However, we must understand that not all faith saves. King Agrippa believed but was not saved (Acts 26:27). The demons believe and tremble (James 2:19). Many of the chief rulers believed on Christ but would not confess Him (John 12:42-43).

Well, what kind of faith saves? The faith of John 3:16 Jesus is speaking of a faith that will move and motivate the individual to do all Christ says in order to be saved. We see this faith in the life of the Philippian jailer (Acts 16:34). Paul put it this way in Romans 16:26, “...made known to all nations for the obedience of faith.” The faith of John 3:16 is obedient faith.

—Bulletin Digest

August 21st, 2022

Announcements
Song Leader
Sermon
Opening Prayer
Scripture
Second Prayer
Closing Prayer

A.M.

Larry May
Craig Wesson
Allen Weakland
Larry May
David Ryan
Josh Weakland
Bill Ryan

P.M.

Larry May
Steve Easlon
Allen Weakland
Larry May
Tommy Garcia
Don Easlon
Phil Halbert

Lords Supper

Scripture Reading

Jeff Wesson

Jr. Munoz

Tom Sorenson

Cody Wesson

Scot Straw

Communion

(In Library)

Other Responsibilities: *Elder:* Larry May —638-3990 *Deacon:* Don Easlon 288-5834 *Pulpit:* Richard Siler 556-2151—*Table:* Scot Straw 288-4533—*Song Leaders:* Larry May 638-3990—*Recording Sermons:* Jacob Carson 940-3775 — *Collections:* Jacob Carson

Sunday AM

“*Spiritual Degeneration*”

(*Judges 3:7-23*)

Sunday PM

“*Motivation of Faith*”

(*Hebrews 11:5-6*)

Our Records

Bible Class... 83

Morning Worship...108
Evening Worship ...—
Wednesday...67
Contribution...\$5,485.15