

Eisenhower Church of Christ

I Want To Go Home

One of the most beloved films of all time is the 1939 movie, "The Wizard of Oz." Long after its theatrical release this film became a favorite of generations of Americans due to its extensive airing on broadcast television. The story is an entertaining mix of fantasy, humor, and the traditional values of right and wrong and personal responsibility that used to be the stock in trade of the film industry. There is just enough danger and suspense to keep the audience's attention and it concludes with the once typical happily ever after ending.

A key element in the film's story is Dorothy's consuming desire to go home. Although Oz is an amazingly beautiful place, conveyed by being filmed in color versus the black and white of the opening and closing sequences, Dorothy just wants to go home. Her magical adventure, her wonderful new friends, and her victory over the wicked witch are not enough to satisfy her. She would gladly trade all of Oz's delights just to be home once again with her family.

It may surprise us to learn that the great apostle Paul, as he neared the end of his ministry, had the same feelings that Dorothy expressed. He just wanted to go home, but he had something substantially different in mind. As he awaited an audience with Caesar in Rome, Paul wrote to the church in Philippi and told them of his dilemma. In Philippians 1:23-24 he said, *"But I am hard-pressed from both directions, having the desire to depart and be with Christ, for that is far much better; yet to remain on in the flesh is more necessary for your sake."*

Paul's ancestral home was in Tarsus of Cilicia, but that's not where he wanted to go. For Paul, home was being in the presence of the Lord. Even though he was doing some of the most important work a man could possibly do; even though he was highly regarded among the brethren all over the Roman Empire; and even though his continued efforts were so needed by the church, Paul just wanted to go home. We can imagine Paul, like Dorothy, saying, "There's no place like home."

We may wonder how he could have such a desire to go to a place he had never been, and to think of this unknown place as home. Yet it is not so hard to understand. In Philippians 1:21 Paul said, *"For me to live is Christ and to die is gain."* In other words, his relationship with Christ was such that nothing in life could compare to it. Whatever joy he might have had in life, it was nothing compared to his desire to be with the Lord. For Paul, home was where the Lord was, even though he had never been to that place before.

We understand this in our own experience because home is where our loved ones are, no matter where that place may be. We may have fond memories of the old family dwelling place or locale, but once the family is gone from that place it isn't the same, is it? As it turns out, it was not the place that was so special, but the fact that our family was there. This was Paul's attitude about going to be with the Lord. He's never been to that place, but it was home because the Lord was there, and nothing on earth would satisfy this desire.

This should be our attitude as well. God gave us a beautiful world in which to live, full of all kinds of wonders to amaze us and to enhance our time here, but like the old song says, "This world is not my home, I'm just a-passing through." We should not be so attached to this place that

we lose sight of where our true home is. As we live our lives, our overwhelming desire, and our every action, should be so we can go home to be with the Lord when we die (2 Corinthians 5:8). If we do so, then we will indeed live happily ever after, at home with the Lord.

—Fred Dominguez

Sympathy

Our sympathy goes out to Thad & Leah Limer and their family in the loss of their 10 year old daughter, **Katie**. Katie entered her Heavenly home Tuesday, August 11th, 2015. She was preceded in death by her brother a few years earlier who also suffered with Niemann-Pick disease. The Limer family lives in Arlington, TX Please keep them in your prayers.

Prayer Requests

Andrew Schwarz, our former Youth & Family Minister, has been diagnosed with colon cancer. He and his family had moved back to Oklahoma last November. Andrew is the located minister for the church of Christ in Hydro, OK. He will have surgery Monday, August 24th. Please keep him in your prayers.

Hazel Brown was bitten on the right side of her face either by a wasp or spider last week. The area became swollen and inflamed and has caused her to lose eyesight in her right eye. The doctors are hoping that in time she will regain her sight.

Concerns Update

Continue to keep **Ed and Dottie Fisher** in your prayers as he battles cancer.

James Wesson's surgery on August 13th in Lubbock went well. A full recovery is expected. James is Jeff Wesson's father.

Prayer List

Lee Roy Bell; Susan Bosse; Mack Bradford; Charles Browning; Neva Carrigan; Steve Chavez; Ruby Davis; Dayton Dennard; Jewell Bettes-Dennard; Brian Drake; James & Joyce Drake; Ed Fisher; John Ford; Hattie Gilmore; Anna Groves; Opal Hager; Winford Hambricht; Linda Horton; Lon & Lana Howard; Bobby Hunt; Bryan Jernigan; Susan Lee; Tracy Leeth; Katie Limer; Connie Lowe; Jill McAfee; Jack McCarty; Flossie Montgomery; Patsy Montgomery; Juan & Estella Morolez; Rudy Ochoa; Avery Ojado; Jonathan Pegan; Judy Phillips; Trina Plyler; Evan Rector; Elvia Ruckman; Blair Saldana; Christa Bella Sellers; Carmen Settle; Brenda Simmons; Nancy Slife; James Stevens; Marilyn Upshaw; Jurlean Warren; Bré elle Watts; Lisa Wells;

Eisenhower's Shut-ins

Mildred Bell; Neva Carrigan; Anna Groves; Roberta Hamil; Janice Laminack; Dusty & Kathy Marshall, Janelle Shirley, Wilma Squire and Lester Whisenant

Youth

Bible Quiz Question...

Who was the son of Nun?

Last Week's Bible Quiz answer...

Jacob wrestled with an angel all night.

FYI

Denny Wilson is hosting a weekly radio program called "**Christian Take Aim**" at 6:30 pm Tuesdays; www.thegospelradionetwork.org. Feel free to please pick up a business card on the youth table in the foyer.

Watch "**In Search of the Lord's Way**" every Sunday morning at 7:30 am on CBS, channel 7.

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.

Events

Fifth Sunday Potluck/Strengthening the Family Reorganization Meeting—Next Sunday, August 30th Everyone is encouraged to attend.

A “**Men’s Breakfast**” is scheduled for Saturday, September 5th.

Thank You

To all our beloved members of the Eisenhower congregation, Dottie and I are thankful for your encouraging cards and prayers on our behalf, especially the prayers. Unfortunately, our medical doctors tell us I have terminal cancer in several organs, especially the liver. It is wide-spread, incurable, and beyond treatment. At this stage even a single treatment of chemotherapy could be fatal. I am weak, but mobile and working hard to get our affairs in order. That is one reason we requested no phone calls or visits. We continue to ask for your earnest prayers, hoping God’s timetable is longer than our doctor’s.

Until we meet again in a better place, we love you and you are also in our prayers,
Ed & Dottie Fisher

Thank you for your prayers and cards for Janis and me. We are feeling much better.

Larry & Janis May

Congratulations...

Bradley & Raven Wilson are proud parents to a new baby girl, **Madelyn Diane**. Madelyn was born Wednesday, August 12th at 6:40 p.m. weighing 7 lbs. 10 oz. and was 20 inches long. The very proud grandparents are Denny & Robyn Wilson. Again, Congratulations!

Crib Shower...

A “**Crib Shower**” is being hosted for Bradley & Raven Wilson’s new baby girl, Madelyn Diane. A baby crib is set up in the east foyer for your gifts. Selections are at Target. They will be using “**gDiapers Cloth inserts**”

Office News

Our “**Food Pantry**” is low on food. It needs to be kept supplied with food and supplies for the children’s homes and those in need especially at the holiday season.

The **New Mexico Children’s Home** will be in Odessa Tuesday, September 1st for a food drive. They are requesting **Oatmeal**. Monetary donations accepted.

August 23, 2015

Announcements
Song Leader
Sermon
Opening Prayer
Scripture
Second Prayer
Closing Prayer

A.M.

Allen Weakland
John Carroll
Allen Weakland
Allen Weakland
Bill Ryan
Larry May
Clint Titlow

P.M.

Allen Weakland
Craig Wesson
Allen Weakland
Allen Weakland
Isaiah Armendarez
Tony Marrs
Cody Wesson

Lord's Supper

West...	Jacob Carson Bill Butler Jaxon Straw	Bill Tolbert Communion (In Library)
East...	George Warren Josh Wells Dylan Straw	

Other Responsibilities: *Elder* Allen Weakland 362-1403 *Deacon:* Richard Siler 362-1392 *Pulpit:* Chris Butler 362-7486
Table: Bill Tolbert 381-5564 *Song Leaders:* Denny Wilson 325-340-2291 *Recording Duties:* Tommy Garcia 638-2702;
Collections: Tommy Garcia 638-2702

Sunday AM”

*“Making God’s will Priority One”
(Matthew 6:33)*

Sunday PM

*“Jesus’ Passion & Resurrection”
(Mark 10:32-24)*

Our Records

Bible Class...87
Morning Worship...134
Evening Worship...66
Wednesday...90
Contribution...\$5,455.02

