

Eisenhower Church of Christ

What Your Treasure Is—A Serious Matter

Jesus was never flippant when he spoke about what we treasure. Never! What we choose to treasure was (and is) always a matter of utmost importance. For example, Jesus said, “The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered it up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field” (Mt. 13:44). Is Jesus saying that if we consider the kingdom of heaven our treasure, then we will with joy give up everything we have in order to possess it? If so, I must ask myself if God’s kingdom is worth that much to me? Or do I treasure some other things that I am unwilling to give up? Things such as my time, my money, or other things I enjoy doing?

How you answer these questions is a serious matter. It is a matter of eternal significance. It is a matter that determines whether you follow Jesus...or not! In Matthew 19 there is a story of a young man who asked Jesus about eternal life. He was a good man, a religious man. He knew and had kept the commandments since his youth. But Jesus knew this young man’s heart. Jesus told him to sell all that he had and give it to the poor, and then follow him. If he would do that, he would have treasure in heaven. It was decision time. Did he treasure his extreme worldly wealth or did he treasure the kingdom of heaven? Although it made him sorrowful, he chose to keep his worldly wealth and leave Jesus behind. He had kept all the laws, but in his heart he treasured his money more than the treasure Jesus promised.

It is not just what we do that matters. It is what is in our hearts, for our hearts determine what we treasure. As Jesus said in the Sermon on the Mount, “For where you treasure is, there will our heart be also” (Matthew 6:21). He also said, “The good person out of his good treasure of his heart produces good, and the evil person out of his evil treasure produces evil, for out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks” (Luke 6:45).

These things are not new to you. You have read them and heard them over and over. But being familiar with them does not make them less important. What you treasure is a serious matter. It is of utmost importance. We should never tire of examining and re-examining our hearts (2 Corinthians 13:5), because today we are being challenged more than ever to abandon what we once treasured to satisfy things of less importance. And we cannot blame COVID. It is a matter of the heart. I am not attempting to judge anyone’s heart, but from what I have read in brotherhood publications and personally seen, the kingdom of heaven does seem to be less treasured among us than just a few years ago. Attendance is down, especially for the evening assemblies; congregations are closing their doors at an alarming rate; feelings seem to be replacing truth; evangelism is directed more and more towards what attracts people (services and programs) rather than lifting up the crucified Christ and teaching the Gospel.

However, only you and the Lord knows what is in your heart. Only you and the Lord knows if you are willing to sell everything you have (Luke 14:33) in order to have treasure in heaven. Only you and the Lord knows to what extent you treasure His kingdom. My hope is that we all will seriously examine our own hearts to see if we truly treasure the kingdom of heaven enough to give it our all. My hope is that collectively the Lord’s people will “seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness” (Matthew 6:33) and let everything else fall into place.

“The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered it up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field” (Matthew 13:44).

—Joe Chesser

Prayer Request

Robbie Butler has been sick for over a week. She is very weak with very low energy and has no appetite. Robbie was trying to get in to see a doctor to see what is going on. Please keep her in your prayers that she will find a solution.

Linda Tate has requested prayers for her eight years old great-granddaughter, **Brinlee Duron**, who underwent a bone marrow biopsy on Friday, September 2nd. She has been dealing with very little to almost no energy at all for a long time now. Her doctor recommended that she have the biopsy done at Cooks Children Hospital in Dallas. The family has requested that we keep Brinlee in our prayers that they get an answer to the cause of her weakness.

Melissa Moore has requested prayers for her son, **Jason Moore**, who is going through a really rough time right now and is in need of prayers. Jason lives in the Dallas, Ft. Worth area. Keep him in your prayers.

Concerns Update

Bill Wood had a stent put in his carotid artery last Tuesday. Everything went well. Bill was kept in the hospital a day or so to monitor his blood pressure. He is home and doing well.

Prayer List

Dr. Hank Abrams; Sheila Alcazar; 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; Bill Wood; Charles Wood; John Wood, Aaron York, Julia York.

Eisenhower's Shut-ins

Glenna Callendar; LaVerne Couch, James & Joyce Drake; Glenda Hillis; Ronda Lyne; Dusty and Kathy Marshall; 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?

The serpent said to Eve, "You will not surely die". (Genesis 3:4)

Office News

There will be a **"Baby Shower"** for Julia York at Bonnie Sorenson's home next Saturday from 4:00-6:00 p.m. Julia's selections are at Babylist.com. Caleb and Julia are expecting a baby girl. All the ladies are invited.

We are hosting a **"Diaper Shower"** for Tiffany Rangel. Ramiro & Tiffany 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 9/4 and 9/11 are: **corn meal, vinegar & mustard (plastic bottles only)**

“A Christian Cannot Sin” (1 John 3:6)

There are some very peculiar passages within John’s epistles. Many have questions about who the antichrist is (1 John 2:18; 4:3) or what a “sin that does not lead to death” (1 John 5:16) is. However, there are a few verses in 1 John that seem to suggest that a Christian is unable to sin. 1 John 3:6 says, “Whoever abides in Him [Christ] does not sin. Whoever sins has neither seen Him nor known Him.” 1 John 3:9 and 5:18 say pretty much the same thing. However, we know that Paul said in Romans 3:23 that “all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.” And even in the same epistle, John himself said, “If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us” (1 John 1:10). So how can he say two things that seem to totally contradict each other? Can a Christian sin?

I hope we can agree that yes, Christians, while special and different from the rest of the world, (1 Peter 2:9) are able to and do sin. So how can John say that whoever abides in Christ, who is walking “in the light as He is in the light” (1 John 1:7) does not sin? The answer lies in the definitions of words. To abide in something is not just to be in something at some point, but rather it is to remain or stay in something. The same could be said for Biblical terms like living (Romans 8:5) or walking (Ephesians 4:1). This abiding demand that one be continuously doing something. And if we are abiding “in Christ,” (Romans 8:1; Ephesians 1:3) as John is pointing out here, we are not living in continuous sin. In other words, while the Christian does sin, the Christian cannot live in sin. If the Christian chooses to live in sin, then he is no longer “in Christ” and is not “walking in the light as He is in the light.”

God is not going to force anyone into a lifestyle that they, by their actions, choose not to live. Similarly, He is not going to force anyone into heaven against their will. God has given us the incredible gift of free will. But thanks be to Him that the believer can have security in Christ, (John 10:28-29) which is contingent on the state of their soul.

—Brennan Hooper

	A.M.	P.M.
September 4th, 2022		
Announcements	Allen Weakland	Allen Weakland
Song Leader	Steven Easlon	Jacob Carson
Sermon	Allen Weakland	Allen Weakland
Opening Prayer	Allen Weakland	Allen Weakland
Scripture	Jon Roemisch	Richard Siler
Second Prayer	Jacob Carson	Craig Wesson
Closing Prayer	Tom Sorenson	Oliver Hernandez
Lords Supper		Bill Ryan
Scripture Reading	<u>Scot Straw</u> Doug Guynn Gary Loving Jr. Munoz	Communion (In Library)

Other Responsibilities: *Elder:* Allen Weakland—254-8209 *Deacon:* Tommy Garcia 312-5332 *Pulpit:* Tommy Garcia 312-5332—*Table:* Bill Ryan 352--4871—*Song Leaders:* Cody Wesson 934-4646 —*Recording Sermons:* Rudy Ochoa 214-0398 *Collections:* Tommy Garcia

Sunday AM

“Choosing a Spouse”
(Judges 14:1-3)

Sunday PM

“Pilgrims Faith”
(Hebrews 11:8-10)