

# Eisenhower Church of Christ

## Good Intentions Will Not Get It Done!

Some of the proverbial expressions not found in the Bible are nonetheless true. Truth will always plumb with all other truth; one truth cannot contradict another truth. For example, the expression “the road to hell is paved with good intentions.” That statement is not found in the Scriptures, but it is nonetheless true. Nobody really wants to go to hell; and everybody I know of intends to do something to preclude making that trip. But when? Ah, that is the question. Good intention without follow-through is profitless. No matter how firm they are, they are still just intentions and serve no useful purpose until they are actuated. Intentions alone will not get it done.

### **“I intend to be more diligent”**

When? Right away? Diligence is necessary to progress in spiritual living. You cannot sit around and become spiritual. Furthermore, diligence does not come by some process of osmosis—even if you are in a close proximity to a Bible and/or to those who believe it and are involved in it. Diligence involves a personal, willful action. You decide to be diligent. In 2 Timothy 2:15, Paul says, “Give diligence to present yourself approved to God.” The English word translated “diligence” is from a Latin word which means to give earnest persistence to a matter. The Greek word for “diligence” means both an earnest zeal and a burning haste to get a matter done. You cannot sit around and be diligent. Peter tells us something about diligence when he exhorted the brethren to be “...giving all *diligence*, add to your faith virtue, to virtue knowledge, to knowledge self-control, to self-control perseverance, to perseverance godliness, to godliness brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness love,” and he concluded, “Wherefore the rather, brethren, give *diligence* to make your calling and election sure” (2 Peter 1:5-7-10). You do not just add those things up in your mind and think you are through. It is a life-long pursuit, one requiring consistent *diligence* to make sure the calling of God. It all begins with the decision to get on with the project. You have to develop a serious conviction, as well as a pressing urgency, to continually add all these graces as you go along. Intentions alone will not get it done.

### **“I intend to get involved”**

When? Soon? And what is wrong with starting today? You are involved only when you actually participate, when you become a part, when you make an effort to be dedicated to whatever the project. Paul speaks of such participation in Romans 12:4-5. “For as we have many members in one body, but all members do not have the same function, so we, being many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another.” We are individuals who are melded together in our common worship of the Father, in our common desire to grow up in Him, in our common desire to bring others to Him. We’re together and being together takes work, patience, and understanding. And it takes time. It does not just happen, either. It is planned action. Intentions do not work, folks. Intentions will not get it done.

### **“I intend to tell somebody about Jesus”**

When? Today? I seriously doubt that anybody is going to heaven alone. You will likely go with someone and you will likely take someone with you. Just as somebody loved you enough to tell you about the Lord and His salvation, it is up to you to love somebody enough to pass it on. But that takes more than mere intentions. You have to get past the fear, get past the timidity, and get on with the mission assigned. You have to run the risk, even if it means losing a friend or making a family member angry. Intentions will not get it done. And you do not have to be a Bible scholar to teach the Word. All you need is a note pad and a knowledge of the Scriptures broad enough to tell someone what you did to be saved. Following the great commission in

Matthew 28:18, Jesus said, "...teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you." Please note what He has just commanded. "Go therefore and teach all nations." Maybe you intend to do it but just do not have the ability. That is possible. Then help someone else do it. Be a part. One thing is certain: the message needs to be told and intentions will not get it done. Do you think that when all is said and done, and you can stand before the Judgment Bar of God, can you say to the Lord, with a clear conscience, "Well, I intended to"? You know the answer to that question.

—Brock Kendall

### ***Sympathy***

Our sympathy goes out to Dex Dennard and all his family in the loss of his father. **Derrick Dennard** passed away early Monday morning, September 4th. Services were pending. Please keep Dex and his family in your prayers at this sad time.

Colleen Wood has asked prayers for the family of her very close friend, **Judy Bies**, who passed away last week. A memorial service was held for her on September 1st in Michigan. Judy's husband, Tim, needs prayers.

### ***Prayer Requests***

**Julie Munoz** is in need of prayers. She is dealing with some health issues at this time. Please keep her in your daily prayers that she gets to feeling much better.

We need to keep **David Baldwin** in our prayers that he can get a cure for the seizures he has been having recently.

### ***Concerns Update***

**Wilene Wright** did very well with her physical therapy and was able to go home last Tuesday. Keep her in your prayers.

### ***Prayer List***

Mary Anchondo; Maria Baeza; Betty Branson; Mary Brown; Naomi and Adelynn Bustillos; Glenna Callendar; Arthur Campos; Sylvia Campos; Charlie Carson; LaDonna Chism; James Drake; Jon Easley; Cathy Eastwood; Daniel Eastwood; Hattie Gilmore; Paul Gunn; Doug Guynn; Lon & Lana Howard; Charles Lewis; Leigh Ann McFarland; Keith Mitchell; Juan & Estella Morelez; Joe Morrison; Bruce & Trina Plyler; Linda Straw; Marilyn Upshaw; Terresia Weaver; Carolyn Wilkerson; Jefferson Wood; John Wood; Natalynn Wood; Wilene Wright; Grace Zuniga.

### ***Eisenhower's Homebound....***

Glenna Callendar; James & Joyce Drake; Ronda Lyne; Kathy Marshall; Janelle Shirley & Marilyn Upshaw.

Remember to keep all of our sick, shut-ins, the bereaved, our military and the 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.

**Guest Speaker:** Please mark the date: October 21st and 22nd. Dave Miller will present an AP Seminar on "**God and Government**" in Bangs, TX.

### ***Gospel Meeting...***

9th & Main Church of Christ in San Angelo has a **Gospel Meeting** scheduled for September 24th through the 27th. The theme is "Christians Working Together". Also, the ladies' there have a meeting scheduled for September 23rd. Their theme is: "Christian Women Working Together". Both fliers are posted on the bulletin board giving more detailed information.

## Office News...

### “September Attended Nursery”

9/10 Mirta & Bonnie 9/17 Sonia & Jaque—9/24 Hannah & Gloria

## The Abuse of Technology

Paul said, “all things are lawful unto me, but all things are not expedient: all things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power of any” (1 Corinthians 6:12). In considering this verse, there are things we need to keep in mind. First, Paul is dealing with matters of expediency, in particular the eating of meats. Secondly, Paul is not saying that everything is lawful. In the same context, he mentions several things that are “unlawful” and therefore could never be expedient (like fornication). Thirdly, in matters of expediency, two principles need to be exercised. We must consider how our actions impact others, never doing anything that may cause another to stumble (Romans 14:14). And, we must consider how our actions impact our own faithfulness.

In the realm of lawful things, control must be exercised. We must not allow ourselves to fall victim, be dominated or become obsessed with anything. This is even true of things that are not inherently evil. Nothing is inherently wrong with sports, television, entertainment or with the various forms of technology available to us. However, what often happens is that we allow ourselves to be overly obsessed. We become so enslaved to a practice that we no longer allow Christ to rule over that part of our life.

The abuse of technology has become a great danger to many. While technology accomplishes many good things for which we can be thankful, too many become obsessed with various elements of technology. Some spend hours behind a computer screen surfing the internet, using social networking sites like Instagram, Facebook, Twitter and so forth. Some even many Christians, spend hours on such sites gossiping about everyone and everything. This is sin (Proverbs 6:19; 10:19; 16:28; 20:3; Lev. 19:16 and Titus 3:2).

As God’s children, we must be careful what we say, what we text and what we post on the internet. We should not hinder the Gospel or blaspheme the name of God by anything we do with technology. Paul said, “...do all to the glory of God” (1 Corinthians 10:31). Before you post anything, text anyone, or surf any site, ask yourself, “Will this glorify God?” If the answer is “No.” then do not do it (James 4:17).

—Clay Bond

### **Sept 10th, 2023**

Announcements

Song Leader

Sermon

Opening Prayer

Scripture Reading

Second Prayer

Closing Prayer

### **A.M.**

Allen Weakland

Jon Roemisch

Allen Weakland

Allen Weakland

Travis Ruckman

Don Easlon

Steve Easlon

### **P.M.**

Allen Weakland

Oliver Hernandez

Allen Weakland

Allen Weakland

Jackie Perkins

Jacob Carson

Charles Wood

### **Lords Supper**

Trini Wood

Jeff Wesson

Caleb York

Craig Wesson

Cody Wesson

Communion

(In Library)

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

**Sunday AM**

*“Is it an Alternative Lifestyle?” (Romans 1:24-27)*

**Sunday PM**

*“Words of the King” (Ecclesiastes 8:1-4)*

**Our Records**

*Bible Class... 60*

*Morning Worship...100*

*Evening Worship ... 55*

*Wednesday...85*

*Contribution...\$5,113.42*