

Eisenhower Church of Christ

Biblical Conversion and the Human Heart

The child in the womb must undergo several stages of change. It is the same with a person who converts or turns to God. That person must successfully undergo a change of heart, a change of life and a change of relationship.

A concordance will bear out the fact that the word “heart” is used to refer to the: thinking, willing, morally conscious and emotional part of man. The avenue through which a sinner’s heart is changed is “faith” in the fact that what God says is so. Paul says, **“Faith cometh of hearing and hearing by the word of Christ”** (Romans 10:17). Then again, **“with the heart man believeth unto righteousness”** (Romans 10:10). The Lord explains that only those who **“perceive with their eyes, and hear with their ears and understand with their heart”** are those who truly “turn again” (Matthew 13:15). Faith is what motivates one to become **“obedient from the heart to that form of teaching”** (Romans 6:17).

Saving faith, which changes the heart, only comes to a person who has first, intellectually processed certain facts and which leads him to conclude that God is; that the Bible is God’s Word; and that, Jesus is the Son of God. **“Without faith it is impossible to be well-pleasing unto God”** (Hebrews 11:6) and it further explains that **“he that cometh to God must believe that he is and that he is a rewarder of them that seek after him.”** The information which intellectually leads us to accept that conclusion comes through various avenues. For example, Inspiration, in Romans 1:20 tells us that **“the invisible things of God since the creation of the world are clearly seen, being perceived through the things that are made, even his everlasting power and divinity; that they may be without excuse.”** Paul appeals to the intellect of the Greeks when he gives them a marvelous lecture in Acts 17, on the “God that made the world and all things therein.” Concluding his logical discourse, he says that God, intellectually, is **“not far from each one of us,”** (verse 27), thus, in verse 29 he says, **“being then the offspring of God, we ought not to think that the Godhead is like unto gold, or silver, or stone, graven by art and device of man.”**

One must also intellectually process information that warrants the conclusion, the belief, that **“all scripture is given by the inspiration of God”** (2 Timothy 3:16). There are many areas of internal, as well as external, evidence which cause one to reasonably conclude that production of such a book as the bible is beyond the pale of human capability. Man as he is; that is with his self-evident limitations, could not have produced the Bible as it is, leaving, then, only one possibility: **“it is in truth, the word of God”** (I Thessalonians 2:13). And finally, one must learn, process and be convinced by certain information set forth in the Scriptures. For example, in the Gospel of John, we are told **“these are written, that ye may believe”** (John 20:30-31).

But, the intellectual, the evidential aspect of faith is only part of the program. The potential convert must also come to be “pricked in his heart” (Acts 2:37) by the force of his personal guilt for the sins committed against God; and by the knowledge that **“while we were yet sinners Christ died for us”** (Romans 5:8). Finally, he must “will” himself to do what God tells him, which is why Paul describes the Romans as having **“from the heart obeyed that form of teaching”** (Romans 6:17). Without the “obedience of faith” (Romans 1:5), a complete change of heart can never take place.

Many think of faith only in terms of what they feel, but their faith is never educated by what the Word says, nor is it fulfilled by the willingness to obey. Such people were “many of the rulers” who “believed on him, but because of the Pharisees they did not confess it, lest they

should be put out of the synagogue; for they loved the glory that is of men more than the glory that is of God” (John 12:42). These had intellectually accepted the fact that Christ is who He said He is; they had also been moved in the emotional sense; but, their willingness to comply with His will was not there. In their case, there was no change of heart.

Understanding what the Bible means by “heart” and God’s method of changing the heart through faith gives new meaning to “heartfelt” religion.

—Alan Adams

Prayer Request

Please keep **Kirk McFarland** in your prayers as he suffered a light stroke on Wednesday, September 5th while at work. His stroke was preceded by total numbness in his hand and arm. Kirk was taken to the hospital where he was examined and treated. He is home now recuperating.

Caydon Parker (LaVern Couch’s 12 year old grandson) traveled to Dallas on Thursday, September 13th to have his brace put on. This will give him support for his chest area to help correct the bone developing problem. Please keep Caydon in your prayers that this will solve his problem.

Winford Hambright was scheduled for his swallow test, Thursday, September 13th. Continue to keep him in your prayers.

Emma Craig, Virgie Bartee’s granddaughter, will be undergoing tests in October and the family has requested that we keep her in our prayers that things will check out okay.

Lindsey Wells has requested prayers for her grandfather, **Bill Bundick**, who was scheduled for surgery on Friday, September 14th in Houston. He has cancerous tumors in both his pancreas and intestines.

Keep all the residents in North & South Carolina in your prayers as they weather the devastating effects of **Hurricane Florence** which hit Thursday, September 13th.

Also, we received a message from **Bernard Gamiao**, who is involved with the Lord’s work in the Philippines. He has requested prayers for the church there as well as all the people there who are in line for a direct hit by a large typhoon. Keep these brethren in your prayers.

Concerns Update

Glenda McCarty saw her heart doctor last Monday and she was taken off most all of the prescribed medications. Glenna will not be able get out for another 60 days. She was told that until she gets stronger she will continue to fall. A heart sonogram is scheduled.

Prayer List

Elsie Bradford; Brad Bundick; Bill Butler; Raymundo Calzadias; David Castor; Dayton Dennard; James & Joyce Drake; James V. Drake; Glenda Driver; Dana Erwin; Densell Fambro; Jennie Fuls; Hattie Gilmore; Anna Groves; Opal Hager; Winford Hambright; Letha Hooper; Chris & Shirley Landers; Ora McAfee; Glenna McCarty; Juan & Estella Morolez; Caydon Parker; Jackie Rex; Ida Rodriguez; Elvia Ruckman; Janelle Shirley; Brenda Simmons; Charles Simmons; Matthew Simmons; James Stephens; Velma Tolbert; Marilyn Upshaw; Chuck Weaver; Jimmy Weaver; Lisa Wells; James & Janet Wesson; Ann Wilson; Glenda Winkley; John Wood; Jack Wright.

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...

True or False? Saul gave his daughter, Michal as wife to another man while she was still married to David.

Last Week's Bible Quiz Answer...

Moses's wife's name was Zipporah.

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.

The **"Lee Street Church of Christ in Midland"** has a Gospel Meeting that starts today and goes through Wednesday with Anthony Flunder as guest speaker. Services will begin at 7:00 each evening. Check our bulletin board for more details.

Thank You

Thank you so much for your prayers, cards and words of sympathy regarding the death of my sister, Jane Burroughs. You are a wonderful group of Christians and I treasure my association with each of you. Nancy Fisher

Three Things

Three things in life that, once gone, never come back:

(1) Time (2) Words (3) Opportunity

Three things in life that can destroy a person:

(1) Anger (2) Pride (3) Un-forgiveness

Three things in life that you should never lose:

(1) Hope (2) Peace (3) Honesty

Three things in life that is most valuable:

(1) Love (2) Family & Friends (3) Kindness

Three things in life that is never certain:

(1) Fortune (2) Success (3) Dreams

Three things that make a person:

(1) Commitment (2) Sincerity (3) Hard work

Three things that is truly constant:

(1) Father (2) Son (3) Holy Spirit

September 16, 2018

Announcements
Song Leader
Sermon
Opening Prayer
Scripture
Second Prayer
Closing Prayer

A.M.

Allen Weakland
Jaxon Straw
Heath Stapleton
Allen Weakland
Dex Dennard
Jacob Carson
Tom Sorenson

P.M.

Allen Weakland
Jacob Carson
Allen Weakland
Allen Weakland
Scot Straw
Jeff Wesson
Charles Wood

Lord's Supper
(Scripture Reading)

Don Easlon

West...	Rudy Ochoa Josh Weakland Craig Wesson	Josh Wells Communion (In Library)
East...	Tommy Garcia Cody Wesson Richard Siler	

Other Responsibilities: *Elder* : Allen Weakland 254-8209 *Deacon*: Don Easlon 288-5834 *Pulpit*: George Warren 557-2171
Table: Josh Wells 770-6753 *Song Leaders*: Larry May 638-3990 *Recording Duties*: Doug Guynn 260-0440 *Collections*: Doug Guynn 260-0440

Sunday AM

"Heath Stapleton"

Sunday PM

"Making God's Will a Priority"

(Matthew 6:33)

Our Records

Bible Class... 79

Morning Worship...102

Evening Worship...78

Wednesday...60

Contribution...\$5,315.00