

Eisenhower Church of Christ

Life Apart from God

I am amazed at the depth, breadth, and height of God's Word. It is a reservoir that is never dry; a storeroom never empty. Through the years one of my favorite sections of Scripture is found in Luke, chapter fifteen. The practical principles of truth are seemingly endless. Listed below are a few of the many useful lessons taught by Jesus in this marvelous section. Please take time to read Luke 15:11-32.

(1) Apart from God, life and substance are wasted: Luke 15:13-14. "Riotous living" will always drain our bank account and our character. It does not take long in doing so. The distance from the phrases "gathered all" in verse 13 until "spent all" in verse 14 is only 21 words. Ask those who are addicted to gambling, immoral living and alcohol if this is true or not. What about the rich men in Luke chapters twelve and sixteen? Unlike this "prodigal son" of Luke 15 these men learned too late that life and substance apart from God is wasted. "A man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth" (Luke 12:15). "Is not the life more than meat and the body than raiment?" (Matthew 6:25).

(2) Apart from God, we cannot solve our own problems: Luke 15:14-15 "He began to be in want, and he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country." One would have thought, considering the "mighty famine" that arose in the land, that this young man would have immediately returned to his father's house. Instead, he tries to work things out on his own by "joining himself to a citizen of that country." No matter his best effort he soon learns that his problem is getting bigger. Wallowing with the hogs and starvation was not what he bargained for. "O Lord, I know that the way of man is not in himself: it is not in man that walketh to direct his steps" (Jeremiah 10:23).

(3) Apart from God, help is hard to find: Luke 15:15-16—He received no sympathy from the citizens of the "far country". In fact, "no man gave unto him." The world could care less what one's predicament is. The citizens of the "far country" have more pity for hogs than humans. His fair-weather friends are nowhere in sight now. Satan must be rejoicing! "But I am poor and needy; Make haste to me, O God! You are my help and my deliverer; O Lord, do not delay. In You, O Lord, I put my trust; Let me never be put to shame. Deliver me in Your righteousness and cause me to escape; Incline Your ear to me and save me" (Psalm 70:5-71:2).

(4) Apart from God, we cannot reason properly: Luke 15:17 "And when he came to himself ..." How irrational he had been. All the "good reasons" for leaving home seem so foolish now. Oh, if only I had listened! What was I thinking in the first place? Dumb me! Like this young man we all need divine wisdom, in making life's decisions, which comes only through the Bible. "Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? By taking heed thereto according to thy word. With my whole heart have I sought thee: O let me not wander from thy commandments. Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee...Through thy precepts I get understanding: therefore, I hate every false way. Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path...Therefore I esteem all thy precepts concerning all things to be right; and I hate every false way" (Psalm 119:9-11, 104-105, 128).

(5) Apart from God, life is miserable: Luke 15:15-16 "he sent him into his fields to feed swine and he would fain have filled his belly with the husks that the swine did eat: and no man gave unto him." There is never any joy in the "far country." Only misery and despair. In

contrast, in the Father's house there is compassion, love and rejoicing. Why perish trying to live on the husks of the world, when there is "bread enough and to spare" in the Father's house. The resources of the Father never run short or out.

(6) Apart from God, hearts are filled with pride, envy, self-righteousness and unforgiveness: Luke 15:25-32—Jesus paints an ugly picture of these sins exhibited in the person of the elder brother. How sad to live in the Father's house and not imbibe the spirit of the Father. The love, compassion and mercy of the Father had not affected his life. I know people with attitudes like this elder brother. They have the "me" syndrome. It is all about me, myself and I. The result is a hateful attitude like the elder brother. Life is too short to live apart from God

—Jeff Grimes.

Sympathy

Our sympathy goes out to the family of **Jon Cooper**. Jon passed away last Saturday morning, September 18th in Cocoa, FL. He was the son-in-law of Mildred Lee. Jon had suffered a massive stroke last Tuesday. Keep this family in your prayers.

Also, our sympathy goes out to the family of **Erma Archer** (Larry May's aunt) who passed from this life on Friday, September 17th. She was 97 years old.

Prayer Request

Paxton Basaldua (Devida's grandson) tested positive for the Covid virus early last Sunday morning. He is quarantined at home and on medication. Please keep Paxton in your prayers.

Larry May has two cousins **Sam and Karen** who are not doing well at this time and is asking prayers for them both.

Rosanna Herrera (Jr. Munoz's sister) was scheduled for surgery last week. Jr. has requested prayers for her.

Concerns Update

Reda Sowell (Carolyn Wilkerson) is home. She will continue treatment as an out-patient. Reda is better but still has a long way to go. Please continue to keep her in your prayers.

Prayer List

Wayne Anderson; Sean Bradley; Betty Branson; LaDonna Chism; Dana Erwin; Hattie Gilmore; Tara Grimmett; Doug Guynn; Alex Martinez; Glenna McCarty; Melissa Moore; Juan & Estella Morolez; Bruce & Trina Plyler; Jackie Rex; Reda Sowell; Albert Steinke; Velma Tolbert; Marilyn Upshaw; Terresia Weaver; Janet Wesson; Charles Wood; John Wood.

Eisenhower's Shut-ins

Dusty and Kathy Marshall; Glenna McCarty; Jackie Rex; Janelle Shirley and Marilyn Upshaw.

Youth

Bible Quiz Question ... (Multiple Choice)

Israel's first King? (Kish) (b) David (c) Saul

Last Week's Bible Quiz Answer...

(True) Before the Lord comes again, a powerful person will set himself up as God to be worshipped as God. (2 Thessalonians 2:3-4)

Bridal Shower

Ladies, you are invited to a “**Bridal Shower**” for Kamryn Pepper (Bride-Elect of Cody Wesson) at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, October 16th in the Church Annex. Selections are at Bed, Bath & Beyond & Dillard’s. Come join the fun!

Events

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

We are hosting a (safe and fun) “**Trunk or Treat**” festival for the whole family at 6:00 p.m. on Saturday, October 30th. There will be games, food, candy, fun and fellowship. If you can help, please see either Ashley or Kallie. A signup sheet will be posted.

The Name That God’s People Are to Wear?

It is often thoughtlessly said, “There is nothing in a name.” But nobody really believes this. When next you hear this said, inform the person so saying that hereafter you will address him as the “Devil”. Note how quickly bitter resentment rises. If there is nothing in a name, why is not the name “Devil” as good as any? Various religious titles are used today not one of which may be found in the bible. Is it not strange that some people prefer to be called by some human name rather than the one found in God’s word? “The disciples were called Christians first in Antioch” (Acts 11:26). Those people not only claimed to be Christians, THEY WERE CALLED BY THAT NAME. Peter, the apostle, wrote. “***If any man suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God on His behalf***” (1 Peter 4:16). Paul sought to make Agrippa a Christian, no more, no less (Acts 26:28). Should this not be enough for us today?

The name “Christian” is the divine name ordained by God that His people should wear. Isaiah, the prophet, wrote that a “new name” would be given to the Lord’s people. It was to be given only after the Gentiles were invited to become partakers of salvation through Christ (Isaiah 62:2; 65:15). It could not have appeared before Acts 10 when the Gentiles were recognized as being heirs of salvation. Is it not significant that in the chapter immediately following—Acts 11:26—that the ‘NEW NAME’ - the name “CHRISTIAN” was given? No other name, however ancient, honorable or distinguished can meet the demands of the inspired prophet. It pleased God to call His people Christians in the apostolic age and that which pleased Him then must undoubtedly meet His approval today. Let it never be forgotten that we glorify God only when we wear the name “Christian” no more, no less. The church is the bride of Christ, she must wear the husband’s name.

—I.D. Byars, Hooker, OK

	A.M.	P.M.
September 26, 2021		
Announcements	Allen Weakland	Allen Weakland
Song Leader	Cody Wesson	Craig Wesson
Sermon	Allen Weakland	Allen Weakland
Opening Prayer	Allen Weakland	Allen Weakland
Scripture	John Wood	Bill Ryan
Second Prayer	Jacob Carson	Larry May
Closing Prayer	Tommy Garcia	Jeff Wesson
Lords Supper		David Ryan
<u>Scripture Reading:</u>	<u>Don Easlon</u>	Communion
	Jr. Munoz	(In Library)
	Oliver Hernandez	
	Scot Straw	

Other Responsibilities: *Elder:* Allen Weakland 254-8209—*Deacon:* Tommy Garcia 312-5332-*Pulpit:* Richard Siler 556-2151- *Table:* David Ryan 512—924-0983—*Song Leaders:* Larry May 638-3990—*Recording Sermons:* John Wood 413-7444—*Collections:* David Ryan

Sunday AM

“Jesus-The Politically Incorrect Evangelist” (Pt. #3)
(John 4:11-24)

Sunday PM

“Back to the Bible—Bible Inspiration” (Pt. #4)
(Genesis 17:12)

Records

Bible Class... 56

Morning Worship...83

Evening Worship...55

Wednesday...65

Contribution...\$5,773.00