

Eisenhower Church of Christ

A Purse with Holes

Modern life has long been characterized as a “rat race” or likened to a hamster in a wheel. We scurry back and forth from work or school, constantly busy, frequently exhausted, often at our wits end trying to make it from one paycheck to the next, and generally without making any measurable progress. Even in the best of economic times it seems that most people are living on the financial brink. It is no wonder that so many are consumed with quiet desperation.

In the highly-charged, partisan political environment of our times it is common to blame such circumstances on the party in power, or on the obstruction of the opposition party. Most of the time, the blame may be properly and equally spread among all the politicians and the federal employees who staff the ever-growing governmental bureaucracy. Even so, the fact that life can often become a fruitless exercise did not originate with modern society.

In ancient Judah the very “hamster in a wheel” circumstances with which we are so familiar plagued that nation. In Haggai 1:5-6 the prophet wrote, ***“Now therefore, thus says the Lord of hosts, “Consider your ways! You have sown much, but harvest little; you eat, but there is not enough to be satisfied; you drink, but there is not enough to become drunk; you put on clothing, but no one is warm enough; and he who earns, earns wages to put into a purse with holes.”*** The futility of Judah’s economic pursuits is graphically portrayed here. They were working harder than ever to get ahead in life, but never had enough to get by. The imagery of putting one’s wages into a purse with holes is powerful.

The reason for these conditions, however, had nothing to do with the economic policies of the kings of Judah. In Haggai 1:7-11 God revealed what had brought about these conditions. The people of Judah had become selfish. They had been returned from Babylonian captivity to rebuild the city of Jerusalem and the temple of God. They had done some of this work, but had not completed the work on the temple, God’s house in this context. Therefore, God told them to consider their ways. He commanded them to get back to work on His house so that their daily labors would again be blessed by Him.

This is the heart of the matter as we consider the frustrations of modern life. The reason why so many among us are working harder but still not making ends meet is because we have become selfish. Many are self-consumed in virtually all that they do. There is very little thought given to God and to spiritual things, and for this reason, I believe, man people are putting their wages into a purse with holes.

In the Sermon on the Mount the Lord spoke of the anxiety that so many experience in trying to care for themselves and their families. In Matthew 6:25-32 He spoke of how God provides for the birds of the air and for the flowers of the field. He then assured us that if God would do this for the birds and the flowers, He will do even more so for us. The exclamation point to this assurance is Matthew 6:33, where

Jesus said, ***“But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.”***

This is the one and only solution to the “rat race” of human life. If we put God first in everything we do, then we will receive the blessings that will make this life more pleasant and fruitful. If we put God first by honoring Him and obeying His will, then we will be blessed and our wages will not go into a purse with holes.

—Fred Dominguez

Baptized

On Thursday, September 22nd our hearts were made to rejoice as **Eva Carrasco** made the good confession and was immersed into the watery grave of baptism and was raised to walk in newness of life. Allen Weakland had the privilege of assisting Eva in becoming a child of God. Let’s give our new sister a very warm welcome.

Placed Membership

Phil & Tracie Halbert and their daughter, **Lanie** have been attending with us for a while and decided to place their membership with Eisenhower, Wednesday, September 21st. They come to us from the Parkview Church of Christ congregation. Welcome, Phil, Tracie and Lanie.

Concerns Update

Cody Wesson’s knee surgery on September 22nd went well. He is home recuperating.

Reda Sowell (Carolyn Wilkerson’s daughter) was treated for an upper respiratory infection and also shingles. Reda was released from the hospital and is recuperating at home.

Marilyn Upshaw was released from the hospital last week. Marilyn was able to move into an apartment. Her new address is: Marilyn Upshaw—Pebble Bend Apartments, 4917 Tanglewood, Apt. #1415, Odessa, TX 79762.

Helen Jones is out of the hospital and is in rehab.

Prayer List

Lee Roy Bell, Betty Branson; Mary Brown; Bill Bundick; Mitchell Bundick; Sissy Bundick; Carol Cooper; Barbara Crowder; Dayton Dennard; James & Joyce Drake; John Ford; Hattie Gilmore; Anna Groves; Lon Howard; Charles & Helen Jones; Connie Lowe; Juan & Estella Morolez; Rudy Ochoa; Trina Plyler; Andrew Schwarz; Charles Simmons; James Weaver; Judy Wells; Lisa Wells; Ann Wilson; John Wood.

Eisenhower’s Shut-ins

Ruby Davis; Roberta Hamil; Janice Laminack; Dusty and Kathy Marshall; Maxine Newton; Janelle Shirley; Marilyn Upshaw; and Lester Whisenant.

Youth

Bible Quiz Question...

How long did Solomon reign as king of Israel?

Last Week’s Bible Quiz answer...

“Testament” means an agreement or covenant.

Events

Prayer Services Scheduled: The Elders have scheduled two “**Sunday Evening Prayer Services**”... **October 9th** and **November 6th**. We would like to encourage all our members to be present as we go before God in prayer.

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 “**Westside Church of Christ’s Fall Gospel Meeting**” began today and ends Wednesday, the 5th. The theme is “Getting Close to God” with Guest Speaker John Moore. The topics are posted on the bulletin board.

Thank You

Eisenhower Church of Christ,

I want to thank the ladies for making such marvelous baskets of food. I want to thank Bill & Robbie Butler for bringing it to me while I was in the hospital. I want to thank all of those whom visited me at the hospital. Please keep me in your daily prayers.

In Christian Love,
Marilyn Upshaw

Office News

The “**Tipton Children’s Home**” truck will be in Odessa October 25-27 to pick up any food items and supplies. They are requesting... **Whole Dill Pickles, (Saltines, Club, Ritz Crackers), Assorted Cereal, Chicken Broth, Sliced Peaches, Green Chilies, Canned Tuna & Chicken. (Requested Supplies) Aluminum Foil, 13 and 30 Gallon Can Liners, Deodorant, Shampoo, Conditioner, Small liquid hand soaps.**

The “**New Mexico Children’s Home**” will be back in Odessa December 7th, 2016. They are requesting **Tea Bags** and **Koolaid**. Monetary donations also accepted.

NOTE: Ladies, we will be stuffing heart pillows, Thursday, October 6th at 6:30 pm in the Annex. The hospital will be there to take pictures for their newspaper article on breast cancer awareness.

NEW ADDRESSES:

Hazel Brown—Room #348, c/o The Oaks, 3720 Williams Dr., Georgetown, TX 78628

Marilyn Upshaw—Apt #1415, Pebble Bend Apts., 4917 Tanglewood, Odessa, TX 79762

October 2, 2016

Announcements

Song Leader

Sermon

Opening Prayer

Scripture

Second Prayer

Closing Prayer

A.M.

Larry May

Craig Wesson

Allen Weakland

Larry May

Dex Dennard

Jacob Carson

Tom Sorenson

P.M.

Larry May

Allen Weakland

Thom Moore

Larry May

Josh Weakland

Scot Straw

Jr. Munoz

Lord's Supper

West...

Bill Ryan

Josh Wells

Josh Weakland

Trinidad Wood

Isaiah Armendarez

Dylan Straw

Chris Butler

Communion

(In Library)

East...

Other Responsibilities: **Elder :** Larry May 638-3990 **Deacon:** Richard Siler 362-1392 **Pulpit:** Josh Wells 770-6753 **Table:** Chris Butler 362-7486 **Song Leaders:** Denny Wilson 325-340-2291; **Recording Duties:** Rudy Ochoa 214-0398 **Collections:** Rudy Ochoa 214-0398

Sunday AM

"The Way"

(Acts 9:1-2)

Sunday PM

"Thom Moore"

NMCCH

Our Records

Bible Class... 68

Morning Worship...145

Evening Worship...54

Wednesday...82

Contribution...\$4,234.00