

Eisenhower Church of Christ

Uninformed

We sometimes say that ignorance is bliss, but it seems likely that most of us don't believe it. We draw this conclusion based upon the overwhelming human desire to be "in the know." Most people want to know what is going on, whether at work or at school, in politics and current affairs, in their neighborhood, and even in the church. For some, this desire to know drives them to snoop into other people's business or to try to pry information out of others, usually for their own benefit. Rarely are we content to go along blissfully unaware.

In some cases, not being informed on some subject may not have any consequences. In other cases, being uninformed may result in confusion or misunderstanding. This was the situation in Thessalonica when Paul wrote his first letter to the church there. Some Christians in that city were concerned about the fate of their brothers and sisters who had died. Since they had died before the Lord returned, they wondered if they would be raised when the Lord came again. The uncertainty because of their lack of knowledge was troubling to them.

Paul, of course, readily dealt with these concerns. In I Thessalonians 4:13-18 he explained to them that those who had died in Christ would indeed be raised from the dead when the Lord returned. In fact, he said that they would be the first to rise to meet the Lord in the air (verse 16). Then, after the dead in Christ are raised, those who are alive at His coming will rise to meet Him in the air (verse 17). Paul ended this passage by saying "***Therefore comfort one another with these words***" (verse 18).

It is interesting to notice how Paul began this section of his letter. In verse 13 he said, "***But we do not want you to be uninformed, brethren.***" He did not want them to be ignorant of this good news. He wanted them to be "in the know" on this important subject. When they knew the truth about the resurrection of the dead, they would be comforted. They would possess hope because they understood what the Lord was going to do at His return. In this case, ignorance was not bliss.

The same is true about everything pertaining to our relationship with God. The scriptures teach us that God wishes for all to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth (I Timothy 2:4). This means that He does not want us to be uninformed about the consequences of sin and about the opportunity for salvation. Unlike the pagan gods of old, who were aloof and their ways mysterious and unknown, the true and living God has revealed Himself, and all we need to know in order to please Him.

In Romans 1:18-20 Paul said that God revealed His invisible attributes through creation so we would be without excuse. In 2 Peter 1:2-3 Peter said that God has granted to us everything pertaining to life and godliness through the knowledge of the one who called us. He granted this information to us through His inspired word, which Paul said equips us to every good work (2 Timothy 3:16-17). In I John 5:13 John said that the things he had written were so his readers would know that they had eternal life.

So then, because God has revealed everything we need to know in order to be saved, being uninformed, either as to the existence of God or as to what God requires

of us for salvation, will not be an excuse at judgment. In 2 Thessalonians 1:7-8 Paul said that when the Lord returns He will deal out retribution to those who do not know God and to those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. Therefore, it behooves us to take advantage of the knowledge God has made available to us in His word. We do not want to stand before God uninformed.

—Fred Dominguez

Response

Eva Wells came forward Sunday morning, October 2nd, confessing that she has been living in an unscriptural marriage and has taken the steps to make it right with God. Eva asked forgiveness from God and from her church family. Keep Eva in your prayers.

Prayer Request

Helen Jones was taken to the ER at Medical Center Hospital Monday morning, October 3rd. She had a nose bleed and very low blood pressure and high pulse rate. Helen was diagnosed with Sepsis and was put on antibiotics.

Toya Zambelli (Carie Basaldua's sister-in-law) has been diagnosed with Lynch Syndrome, which makes her cancer treatments totally ineffective and maybe makes it even worse. Her cancer has spread to several areas now.

John Tessendorf is scheduled to have surgery October 17th.

Concerns Update

Cathy Mooney is still dealing with shingles. She is not on any medication for shingles at this time.

Prayer List

Lee Roy Bell, Betty Branson; Bill Bundick; Mitchell Bundick; Sissy Bundick; 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; Red Sowell; Marilyn Upshaw; 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; and Lester Whisenant.

Youth

A **“Hiking Trip”** to the Guadalupe Mountains is planned for October 22nd. If anyone is interested in going, please contact John Wood. It will be a one day trip.

Bible Quiz Question...

Who explained the meaning of the writing on the wall to Belshazzar?

Last Week's Bible Quiz answer...

Solomon reigned as king of Israel for forty years.

Events

Prayer Services Scheduled: Today for our evening service and again on November 6th.

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.

New Address Correction:

Marilyn Upshaw’s address. Pebble Bend Apts. — Apt. #1415, 4315 Edmond, Odessa, TX (62)

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 **Kool aid**. Monetary donations also accepted.

ARE YOU DECEIVED?

A man is DECEIVED if he is a hearer and not a doer of the Word (James 1:22).

A man is DECEIVED if he says that he has no sin (I John 1:8)

A man is DECEIVED when he thinks himself to be something when he is nothing (Galatians 6:3).

A man is DECEIVED when he thinks himself to be wise with worldly wisdom (I Corinthians 3:8)

A man is DECEIVED when he seems to be religious and does not bridle his tongue (James 1:26).

A man is DECEIVED when he thinks that he will not reap what he sows. (Galatians 6:7).

A man is DECEIVED when he thinks that evil company will not corrupt good morals. (I Corinthians 15:33)

A man is DECEIVED when he thinks that the unrighteous will inherit the kingdom of God (Heaven). (I Corinthians 6:9)

Now Satan will try to DECEIVE you to not pay attention to the above. Will you let him?

Bulletin Digest

October 9, 2016	A.M.	P.M.
Announcements	Larry May	Larry May
Song Leader	Jacob Carson	John Wood
Sermon	Allen Weakland	Prayer Service
Opening Prayer	Larry May	Larry May
Scripture	Richard Siler	Bill Ryan
Second Prayer	Charles Wood	Jacob Carson
Closing Prayer	Trinidad Wood	Tony Marrs

Lord's Supper

West...

Jeff Wesson

Bill Tolbert

Don Easlon

East...

Tom Sorenson

Jr. Munoz

Trinidad Wood

Chris Butler

Communion

(In Library)

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

"Road to Damascus"

(Acts 9:1-9)

Sunday PM

"Prayer Service"

Our Records

Bible Class... 90

*Morning Worship...*150

*Evening Worship...*75

*Wednesday...*86

Contribution...\$5,307.35