

Eisenhower Church of Christ

The Church and Present Trends

As a rule, most parents want things to be better for their children than it was for them. As we think about this, each member must recognize that the church's strength today will help provide for the church's strength tomorrow. Thus, there is the need for every member to be what God would have him to be and to do what God would have him to do. Every area of obligation, responsibility and privilege in serving God must be characterized by our giving all diligence and adding to our faith "virtue" and to virtue knowledge; and to knowledge temperance and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness; and to godliness brotherly kindness and to brotherly kindness charity. For if these things be in you and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ" (2 Peter 1:5-8). In obeying God and performing well in the work, worship and service that God demands, we have every reason to expect that the next generation will be benefitted by our efforts.

The basis of our concern is in knowing what can happen in one generation's time! Judges 2:10 says, ***"And also all that generation were gathered unto their fathers: and there arose another generation after them, which knew not the Lord nor yet the works which he had done for Israel."*** Knowing what can take place in one generation's time, we had better do our very best! Let us consider some current trends which we are facing. If these trends continue, we are concerned that the church in the future...

1. Will be made up of primarily older members! Obviously, because to the young people God is not a high priority thus, we are losing many of them (ECC 12:1). Older saints are truly a blessing, but let us remember that God has so designed His will for man that every accountable being can respond obediently and begin to live by that inspired rule and grow up in faithful service! As parents, let us teach our children that youth is the time to remember and to begin to serve God (Ecclesiastes 12:1; Eph. 6:1-4; Col. 3:20; 2 Tim. 1:5; 3:14-15).

2. Will be hurting in the area of leadership! In many places the church will not have elders and will not have much prospect of having elders in the future. Sadly to say, many elderships today are filled with men who either do not possess the qualifications that God has given (1 Timothy 3:1-7; Titus 1:5-9), or they do not have any concept of the work that God has placed upon them (Tit. 1:9-11; 1 Tim. 3:2; Acts 20:28-31; Hebrews 13:17; 1 Thess. 5:12-15; 1 Pet. 5:1-3; Eph. 4:11-16; Jas. 5:13-16). There are also many attacks against elderships by some who are unwilling to be submissive and obedient to those men charged with the watch-care of their souls (Hebrews 13:17). Thus, there is not very much appeal for men to desire this work!

3. Will have little (if any) discipline! The idea of fellowship for many is absolutely meaningless, making the "discipline" that is often involved meaningless as well! All manner of misconduct is virtually overlooked (or tolerated) without consequences. We dare not neglect this area of responsibility (1 Cor. 5; 2 Cor. 2:1-9; Rom. 16:17-18; 2 Thess. 3:6, 14-15; Tit. 3:10-11). Discipline ignored for years usually means discipline ignored permanently!

4. Will have homes which are unscriptural or if not unscriptural, homes which are virtually powerless as far as having and demonstrating a godly influence! We are already well aware of the fact that marriage-divorce-remarriage has crippled the church. I was personally told by an elder (in a congregation where I was working concerning a couple in an unscriptural relationship), "Bob, how can you be so sure? After all, the scholars disagree among themselves!" Can any doubt what direction this kind of thinking will lead the church toward? Jesus, the Master Teacher, was very plain in the area of marriage, divorce and remarriage (Mt. 5:31-32; Mk. 10:11-12; Mt. 19:1-9). Beyond that problem, there are many other areas of concern relating to the family which are being ignored (Eph. 5; 6:1-4; Col. 3:18-21; Tit. 2:1-8; 1 Peter 3:1-7).

5. Will replace New Testament truth and work, opting instead to please and entertain the membership! Should we be surprised? I mean, after all, one who is ignorant of the truth is not going to call for a return to the "old paths, where is the good way" (Jer. 6:16) because he does not know any better. Likewise, the same will be true concerning various areas of work because one must go to the Word of God in order to be "thoroughly furnished unto all good works" (2 Tim. 3:17). Minus the Bible, ears will be tickled (2 Tim. 4:3-4), the church will no longer be ***"Holding forth the word of life"*** (Phil. 2:16); fun will be the order of the day and souls will be lost (2 Cor. 4:3)!

I sincerely hope that we will consider these points of concern. I am very much aware of the fact that what has been outlined here is characteristic of many congregations of the Lord's church today. Brethren, we must ***“give the more earnest heed to the things which we have heard, lest at any time we should let them slip”*** (Hebrews 2:1).

— Bob Patterson

Prayer Request

Emma Craig (granddaughter of Virgie Bartee) had some tests done Thursday, October 11th. The family has asked prayers for her. Please pray that Emma receives answers to her problem and returns to good health.

Bill Butler had a CT scan done Monday, October 8th. Please continue to keep Bill in your prayers that everything checks out okay.

Cathy Mooney dealt with walking pneumonia last week and was unable to work. Please keep her in your prayers that she will be feeling well real soon.

Prayer List

Elsie Bradford; Bill Bundick; Brad Bundick; Bill Brown; Bill Butler; Raymundo Calzadias; Casey Cleveland; David Castor; Emma Craig; Dayton Dennard; James & Joyce Drake; James V. Drake; Glenda Driver; Dana Erwin; Densell Fambro; Jennie Fuls; Hattie Gilmore; Anna Groves; Opal Hager; Winford Hambricht; Letha Hooper; Chris & Shirley Landers; Ora McAfee; Glenna McCarty; Kirk McFarland; Juan & Estella Morolez; Caydon Parker; Jackie Rex; Ida Rodriguez; Elvia Ruckman; Janelle Shirley; Brenda Simmons; Charles Simmons; Matthew Simmons; Anita Smith; Albert Stegall; James Stephens; Velma Tolbert; Marilyn Upshaw; Jurlean Warren; Chuck Weaver; Jimmy Weaver; Josh Wells; Lisa Wells; James & Janet Wesson; Sondie Williamson; 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 spiritually weak in your daily prayers.

Youth

Bible Quiz Question...

After the casting of the evil spirit out of the damsel who was possessed with the spirit of divination, Paul and his companion were thrown into jail. Who was the person who was thrown into jail in Philippi with Paul?

Last Week's Bible Quiz Answer...

Worldly riches stood in the way of a young man who came to Jesus and said, "Good Master, what good thing must I do to inherit eternal life"? (Matthew 19:22)

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.

Office News

The ***“New Mexico Children's Home”*** will be here Tuesday, December 4th for a food pick up. They are requesting **Chocolate Chips and Vanilla**. Monetary donations are also accepted.

STF—Group #2 will have their luncheon get-together this morning following the service in Room C-5.

More Real Men

Recently, I saw a bumper sticker that read: “Real men love Jesus.” The sentiment impressed me because there is such confusion over the role of men in society today. Jesus was a real man. He possessed a moral strength that shames every “wannabe” tough guy out there. So, what does a real man do?

- A real man is strong enough to protect his children and gentle enough to hold them in his arms.
- A real man does honest work for honest pay.
- A real man will pray on his knees in the sight of his children.
- A real man will return good for evil at the work place, in the church and at home.
- A real man will teach his son to be gentle and his daughter to be strong.
- A real man respects the elderly.
- A real man doesn't cheat his boss, his friend or his wife.
- A real man brings his family to worship and teaches his children God's way.
- A real man forgives.
- A real man builds, whether it's tables and walls, or the church. He knows that anyone can heap mockery and derision on another's efforts he will lend a helping hand.
- A real man listens to children.
- A real man will admit when he is wrong and take responsibility.
- A real man learns humility; a weak man thinks he knows it all.
- A real man takes God at His word.
- And most importantly, a real man loves Jesus.

–Bulletin Digest

October 14, 2018

	A.M.	P.M.
Announcements	Jeff Wesson	Jeff Wesson
Song Leader	Jaxon Straw	Jacob Carson
Sermon	Allen Weakland	Allen Weakland
Opening Prayer	Jeff Wesson	Jeff Wesson
Scripture	Trinidad Wood	Jackie Perkins
Second Prayer	Jacob Carson	Tom Sorenson
Closing Prayer	George Warren	Don Easlon

Lord's Supper

(Scripture Reading)

West...

Dex Dennard

Don Easlon

Tom Sorenson

Bill Tolbert

Cody Wesson

Communion

(In Library)

East...

Richard Siler

Trinidad Wood

Bill Ryan

Other Responsibilities: *Elder:* Jeff Wesson 556-5547 *Deacon:* Jr. Munoz 363-1309 *Pulpit:* John Wood 413-7444 *Table:* Cody Wesson 934-4646 *Song Leaders:* Larry May 638-3990 *Recording Duties:* Rudy Ochoa 214-0398 *Collections:* Rudy Ochoa 214-0398

Sunday AM

“Forgiveness of the N.T.”

(Romans 8:1-4)

Sunday PM

*“Determination of Christ to Suffer”
(Mark 15:16-26)*

Our Records

Bible Class... 75

Morning Worship...115

Evening Worship...70

Wednesday...71

Contribution...\$4,308.92