

Eisenhower Church of Christ

Spiritual Life Requires Spiritual Education

“And the disciples were called Christians first in Antioch” (Acts 11:26). A “disciple” is more than a “pupil” or “learner.” According to the *International Standard Bible Encyclopedia*, “In all cases it implies that the person not only accepts the views of the teacher, but that he is also in practice an adherent.” Thus, it is logical that Christ’s disciples are called “Christians,” which means “Christ-like.” To truly be Christ-like, one must incorporate Christ’s teaching into his life (cf. 2 John 9-10; James 1:22-25). Jesus tells His disciples, ***“If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free”*** (John 8:31-32). Every person who professes to be a Christian needs to understand that his spiritual life depends on his spiritual education.

As a prerequisite to gaining spiritual life, one must be taught the means by which it is obtained. Jesus stressed: ***“No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day. It is written in the prophets, And they shall be all taught of God; Every man therefore that hath heard, and hath learned of the Father, cometh unto me”*** (John 6:44-45). That explains why, in giving His “Great Commission,” Christ charged His disciples. ***“Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world”*** (Matthew 28:19-20)

Spiritual education cannot begin too early in a person’s life. Christian fathers are instructed, ***“provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord”*** (Ephesians 6:4). Timothy’s father was a Gentile and his mother was a Jewess (Acts 16:1). Unfortunately, nothing is said of Timothy’s father providing him with any spiritual training. However, Timothy was blessed in that he did receive spiritual training from his mother and grandmother. Complimenting their efforts, Paul tells Timothy, ***“When I call to remembrance the unfeigned faith that is in thee, which dwelt first in thy grandmother Lois, and thy mother Eunice; and I am persuaded that in thee also...And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures”*** (cf. 2 Timothy 1:5; 3:15).

Once one reaches the “Age of accountability,” hears the Gospel and obediently responds to it, he is born again (John 3:3-5). It is then, “in Christ,” that he is “made alive” (I Corinthians 15:22). Spiritual nourishment is necessary from spiritual birth. Speaking to “new” converts, Peter exhorts, ***“As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word that ye may grow thereby”*** (I Peter 2:2). From spiritual “milk,” the Christian is to develop to a point where he can partake of “strong meat.” Some who failed to do this were sternly rebuked:

**For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which be the first principles of the oracles of God; and are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat. For every one that useth milk is unskillful in the word of righteousness: for he is a babe. But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil
(Hebrews 5:12-14).**

Spiritual life requires the enlightening spiritual nourishment that a sound spiritual education provides. By way of Timothy all Christians are admonished, ***“...Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needed not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of***

truth” (2 Timothy 2:15). Humility dictates that everyone should be willing to accept help with his spiritual education when needed. The Ethiopian nobleman did. When asked, *“Understandest thou what thou readest? And he said, “How can I, except some man should guide me?”* (Acts 8:30-31). From time-to-time, even those who are *“mighty in the scriptures”* need to be shown *“the way of God more perfectly”* (Acts 18:34-26). It takes a diligent spiritual education and personal application, but a faithful Christian must heed Paul’s words, *“Wherefore be ye not unwise, but understanding what the will of the Lord is”* (Ephesians 5:17).

—Tommy J. Hicks

Sympathy

Our sympathy goes out to the family of **Helen Jones** who lost her battle with cancer the night of October 10th at Medical Center Hospital. Her funeral services were held at 11:00 a.m. Thursday, October 13th at the Eisenhower Church of Christ. Helen was laid to rest in Andrews, TX.

Concerns Update

Jimmy Weaver received the results from his test Friday, October 7th. The Doctor said “No, cancer.” She will give him shots if he qualifies. That should help him make blood. They are asking the infectious disease doctor to change his antibiotic. Terresia asks that we pray that God will use these tools to make Jimmy well again.

Virgie Bartee’s shoulder surgery on October 6th went well. She is very sore but is on the road to recovery. Keep her in your prayers.

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; John Tessendorf; Marilyn Upshaw; James Weaver; Judy Wells; Lisa Wells; Ann Wilson; John Wood; Toya Zambelli.

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”** in 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...

What unusual souvenir did Naaman take back to Syria?

Last Week’s Bible Quiz answer...

Daniel was the one who explained to Belshazzar the meaning of the writing on the wall.

Events

There will be a **“Prayer Service”** November 6th. We would like to encourage all our members to be here as we go to the Lord in prayer concerning our country.

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 “**Tipton Children’s Home**” truck will be in Odessa next week (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.

Whose Responsibility?

We often hear people say the church is losing its young people. Exactly what do they mean by this statement? It seems to me that this is not usually given as a statement of fact but rather intended to be an indictment of the church for failure of some sort.

The truth of the matter is that the church has no young people to lose. God has entrusted children to their parents, not the church. “...*And ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath; but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord*” (Ephesians 6:4).

The church has the same responsibility to young people that it has to anyone else—preach the word. It is not the church that must decide at what hour our teen must be in. It is not elders that tell your children what to watch. The church does not choose the friends your children can have in your home nor the ones they run with at school. It is not the church that allows them to smoke, use language that would shock a sailor, drink beer and/or whiskey. It is not the church that allows your daughter to sit on the lap of a young man. It is not the church that allows young people to abuse or destroy the property of people good enough to invite them into their homes as guests. Teachers are not the ones who allow a boy or girl to leave their workbooks and Bibles at home. Who should see to these things? Parents, we are not really that dense. Who is kidding whom? If your child is lost, do not blame the church. —

Bulletin Digest

October 16, 2016

Announcements
Song Leader
Sermon
Opening Prayer
Scripture
Second Prayer
Closing Prayer
Lord's Supper
West...

A.M.

Larry May
Craig Wesson
Allen Weakland
Larry May
George Warren
Don Easlon
Roemisch

Scot Straw
Tony Marrs
Jacob Carson

P.M.

Larry May
John Wood
Prayer Service
Larry May
Bill Brown
Tony Marrs
Jeff Wesson

Chris Butler
Communion
(In Library)

East...

John Wood
Bill Brown
Dylan Straw

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

“Walking in the Fear of the Lord”
(Acts 9:31)

Sunday PM

“Militant Christian”
(I Peter 4:1-6)

Our Records

Bible Class... 74
Morning Worship...135
Evening Worship...61
Wednesday...77
Contribution...\$5,302.00