

Eisenhower Church of Christ

Simply Christians

Many people are growing disenchanted with present religious forms which originated in the middle ages and have become meaningless. There is displeasure with denominational structures and dogma. Some, because of such views, have even decided that “Christianity” is not relevant today. We believe they have made that decision because they are not sufficiently acquainted with the Scriptures to be able to distinguish between the gospel of Christ and what men over the centuries have attempted to add to it.

If some of these things have troubled you and you have felt a yearning to return to the simple, uncomplicated religion of Christ, stripping away all the nonessential elements of religion and simply abiding by the truths of Christ, truths which transform the soul and bind it to God, let us suggest that it can and has been done.

The Bible, God’s Word to man, presents Jesus Christ as the Son of God. He was foreshadowed and predicted in the Old Testament which God used to govern His people until Christ should come and establish the New (Jeremiah 31:31-33; Galatians 3:19, 23-24). That New Testament reveals the religion of Christ. By studying it we learn all there is to know of the way of Christ.

We learn that among the followers of Christ there existed no denominational organizations whatsoever. All began at a later time. In the New Testament we see people hearing the gospel and obeying the conditions of God’s grace. Being thus saved, they were added to the Lord’s people, the church (Acts 2:36-47). As the gospel spread, we find them assembling together in congregations in various localities. Each congregation was under its own elders (Acts 14:23) and no one else on earth. These elders could not make laws and be masters. They were given the responsibility of tending and caring for the congregation as shepherds would a flock (Acts 20:17-28); 1 Peter 5:1-3. The only headquarters those disciples knew was heaven, where their head, Jesus Christ, was and is (Ephesians 1:22-23).

Their worship was something in which to participate, not something to watch. On the first day of the week, for instance, they would eat the Lord’s Supper and hear preaching (Acts 20:7; 1 Cor. 11:23-29), they would all sing (Eph. 5:19), they would all pray with various ones leading (I Cor. 14:15-16) and they would share in their mutual responsibilities by sharing their prosperity (I Cor. 16. 16:1-2). We find no contributions being collected on any other day than the first day of the week and no hierarchy taxing them or telling them how much to give. They had no organizations clamoring for their support. They gave as they individually purposed in their own hearts (2 Cor. 9:6-7). In all this they were all necessarily involved for each saved person was a priest (Rev. 1:5-6). No one could perform this service or worship for another.

They lived godly lives. They cared for their poor. They taught others. They sent out preachers to teach others in far communities. With simplicity of faith and fervor there was no need of centralization. Without organized machinery, the gospel was preached to the whole of civilization in a short time (Colossians 1:23). These Disciples of Christ were known as Christians (Acts 11:26; 26:28; I Peter 4:16). They wore no sectarian names. Their religion was not materialistic or sensual. They did not seek to impress men with pious ceremony; rather, they sought to impress God with the only thing that has ever impressed Him—contrite obedience (2 Samuel 15:22). Their appeal was not social or recreational. They offered the gospel, for they knew it was God’s power to save (Romans 1:16) and any other appeal was beneath them.

Many sigh, “Oh, if only such could be today.” But it is! Free men and women over the earth have despaired of denominationalism, seeing in it neither necessity nor relevance but only a cause of division. They desire the simplicity of what Christ authored, and their number is increasing. How many have taken such a stand? Who knows! They are related and connected only in Christ and not in some organization with machinery to keep a tally. We will not try to number them. What is important, though, is that a group of such people meets within minutes of where you live.

They are just Christians. They worship and serve God in the same way the early disciples did. Christ is their only creed and the Scriptures their only guide. They are not members of any human organization; they are simply a congregation, or church, of Christ. They, in turn, would like to share Christ with you and with the world.

You too can be just a Christian and serve God without belonging to any denomination, bound by denominational laws or obligations.

—Dale Smelser
New Providence church of Christ

Prayer Request

Mildred Lee underwent gallbladder surgery on Monday, October 14th at Medical Center Hospital. Her surgery went very well. She was scheduled to be released on the 15th. Keep Mildred in your prayers that she will have a full recovery soon.

Lester Whisenant has been placed under Hospice Care at Medical Center Hospital and is in serious condition. He is in room #557. Jeannie has requested prayers for him.

Jackie Perkins has been struggling with kidney stones for the past week or so. Please keep him in your prayers.

Concerns Update

Mark Thompson (Linda Tate's son-in-law) is back at Baylor Hospital with a blood clot in his leg. Prayers have been requested for him.

Prayer List

Brian Basaldua; Don Blackwell; Betty Brooks; Bill Brown; Sharon Brown; Bill Butler; Shawn Callendar; Cindy Campbell; Sylvia Campos; Steve Chavez; Emma Craig; Ronald Dement; Bessie Diaz; Jazmine Duron; Paulie Ann Easlon; Dana Erwin; Hattie Gilmore; Anna Groves; Winford Hambright; Irene Hernandez; Leo Holloway; Letha Hooper; Sandy Lawless; Betty Leeth; Miguel Lozano; Jed Martin; Patsy Mitchell; Ora McAfee; Jason Moore; Juan & Estella Morolez; Juanita Orosco; Caydon Parker; Trina Plyler; Laisha Ramirez; Jackie Rex; Bill Ryan; Debra Shipley; Janelle Shirley; Charles & Susan Simmons; Mark Thompson; Velma Tolbert; Marilyn Upshaw; Robert Vargas; Lisa Wells; James & Janet Wesson; Jay Wesson; Tom Wilcox; Carolyn Wilkerson; Sondie Williamson; John Wood.

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 the spiritually weak in your daily prayers.

Youth

Bible Quiz Question...

___ A prophet whose name meant "The Lord is God".

Last Week's Bible Quiz Answer ...

Moses' father's name was Amram.

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.

Westside Church of Christ is hosting a “Ladies Day” on Saturday, November 2nd from 9am–2pm. The guest speaker is Becky Blackmon from Waco, TX. Her theme is “I Just Want to Be a Sheep”. Lunch will be provided. No childcare will be provided.

Office News

OCTOBER ATTENDED NURSERY

10/20/19 Virgie & Wanda

10/27/19 Sonia & Jaque

The “NMCCH” Home” will be here December 3rd for a food pickup. No food selections yet! However, we will be receiving names of children from the home next week for our X-mas Holiday consideration.

Ten Rules for Improving Attitudes in the Church

Tell yourself over and over that since you are not perfect, you would not fit into a “perfect” congregation if one existed.

Instead of picking out the worldly members to point to, select the sincere, dedicated, spiritual members and thank God for them.

If you are old, treat the young with the consideration you desired as a young person. If you are young, treat adults with the respect you will want when you are mature.

When you are tempted to criticize others, be sure to pray earnestly for them first. This may not change them, but it will do wonders for your attitude.

If you see a work neglected, instead of being critical, offer to help.

Never blame others for your own failures. Every individual can be faithful to God in spite of the bad examples and discouraging attitudes of others.

Remind yourself every day that the only way you can improve the world or the church is to begin with yourself.

Consciously look for the good qualities in each brother and sister in Christ; make a mental note of the good points each possesses.

Constantly strive to increase your circle of associates in the church. Try to do something for each.

Every congregation has problems. Constantly ask yourself, “Am I a part of the problem, a part of the solution or merely a critical spectator?”

–Banner of Truth

October 20th, 2019	A.M.	P.M.
Announcements	Jeff Wesson	Jeff Wesson
Song Leader	Clint Titlow	Cody Wesson
Sermon	Allen Weakland	Allen Weakland
Opening Prayer	Jeff Wesson	Jeff Wesson
Scripture	Tom Sorenson	Bill Brown
Second Prayer	Larry May	Kevin Wilcox
Closing Prayer	Bill Tolbert	Charles Wood
Lord’s Supper		
(Scripture Reading)	<u>Joshua Weakland</u>	
West...	David Ryan	John Wood
	Craig Wesson	Communion
	Josh Wells	(In Library)

East

Bill Ryan
Tommy Garcia
Jackie Perkins

Other Responsibilities: *Elder* : Jeff Wesson 556-5547—*Deacon* : Jacob Carson 940-3775—*Pulpit*; Doug Guynn 260-0440—*Table*: John Wood 413-7444 — *Song Leaders*: Larry May 638-3990—*Recording Sermons*; Trinidad Wood—413-7444
Collections: Trinidad Wood—413-7444

Sunday AM

“The Rolled Stone”
(Luke 24:1-9)

Sunday PM

“Wounds of the Lord”
(Luke 24:36-40)

Our Records

Bible Class... 70
Morning Worship...98
Evening Worship...65
Wednesday...82
Contribution...\$5,416.50