

Eisenhower Church of Christ

The Confession of Sin is good for the Soul

Please forgive us of all of our sins. It is such a simple phrase— uttered time and time again. Those who do so likely mean it sincerely; however, it unquestionably lacks the expression of contrition and appreciation that God deserves. In the closing psalm of Book Four, a section highlighting man's relationship with God, the psalmist details the rebellious history of Israel as part of confession on behalf of the nation, a confession that the people would then themselves sing as they reminded one another of the joint spiritual failures of their fathers— a powerful spiritual exercise, to be sure, and one God's people today would do well to consider. Our confession of sins should take place within the context of God's own character, a reflection on the goodness and mercy that gives any meaning to confession (Psalm 106:1). Confession ought to focus on what God has done to make salvation possible (Psalm 106:2) and on the righteousness He expects of His people— and on how we have failed Him (Psalm 106:3). Confession remains incomplete without meditation on the grace that offers the opportunity (Psalm 106:4) and that makes hope still possible (Psalm 106:5). Indeed, any request for forgiveness removed from the context of God's character and personal introspection lacks the spiritual heart God Himself intended. ***“We have sinned with our fathers, we have committed iniquity, we have done wickedly”*** (Psalm 106:6). Moreover, the psalmist's subsequent listing of the sins of the nation demonstrates how important it is for man to reflect on the whole of his existence and failures rather than on just the most recent occurrence, because this helps us see the patterns of rebellion that plague us and the longsuffering of God that makes it possible for Him to forgive us again.

Israel rebelled even before they left Egypt because they failed to appreciate the deliverance God was making possible (Psalm 106:7), but God demonstrated His own character in responding to their sin with an opportunity they did not deserve, which they, in the moment embraced (Psalm 106:8-12; Romans 5:8-9).

In the wilderness they thought only of themselves and not of God and thus tested Him (Psalm 106:13-14), and yet He proved Himself and His care once again (Psalm 106:15). They rebelled against the leadership He established (Psalm 106:16) and were judged as a result (Psalm 106:17-18). At the foot of Sinai they turned away from the God who delivered them and turned back to the idolatry of Egypt (Psalm 106:19-22); only Moses' pleading kept them from destruction (Psalm 106:23). Faith failed them when they spied out the land (Psalm 106:24-25), so the first generation died in the wilderness (Psalm 106:26-27). They fell into paganism and immorality with the Midianites (Psalm 106:28) and suffered a plague as a result (Psalm 106:29) until Phinehas rose to oppose the sin (Psalm 106:30-31). Their grumbling at the lack of water grew so virulent that a frustrated Moses responded rashly and was thus kept out of Canaan (Psalm 106:32-33). They failed to destroy the Canaanites but instead compromised their identity with them (Psalm 106:34-38), and God responded by letting them feel the consequences of their own decision (Psalm 106:39-40) time and time again until ultimately sending them into captivity (Psalm 106:41-46). Their history of rebellion was all too real and they needed to acknowledge it— just like we do.

However, in the closing verses, the true beauty of the psalm shines forth. As we turn to God for salvation, He still will listen (Psalm 106:47a). As we offer our thanks and our praise once more, He hears our cries (Psalm 106:47b). All of this— the character of God, our history of sinfulness and divine longsuffering— should teach us to grow in appreciation for our God more and more every day. For He alone deserves our allegiance because He is the one alone is truly

faithful. Therefore, He deserves for us to recognize all that He has done and praise Him with all our heart (Psalm 106:48). It is hard to capture all of this in one easy throwaway phrase. And we should not try.

—Kevin Rhodes

Sympathy

Our sympathy goes out to the family of **Mary Ochoa** (Rudy & Emma's sister-in-law). Mary lost her battle with liver cancer on Thursday, October 25th, in a hospital in Ft. Worth. Her funeral services were held at 11:00 a.m. Monday, October 29th in Bridgeport, TX. Again, condolences to the Ochoa family.

Also, we extend our condolences to Jeff Wesson in the loss of his cousin, **Clayton Smith**. Clayton left this life two weeks ago in El Campo, TX.

Concerns Update

Emma Craig's tests in Dallas have been re-scheduled for a later date. Continue to keep her in your prayers.

Melida Frazier (Devida's sister) received good results from her CT report on her lung test. Everything checked out okay.

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 Hambright; 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; Jack Straw; 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...

Cain slew Abel and God pronounced a curse upon him. Genesis 4:16 records that... "Cain went out from the presence of the Lord and dwelt in the Land of Nod". Was Nod located (1) West of Eden; (2) North of Eden or (3) East of Eden?

Last Week's Bible Quiz Answer...

When Jesus went to the Sea of Tiberias, He shewed himself again to six apostles; Zebedee had two sons who were present.

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.

The **Oldham Lane Church of Christ** in Abilene is having a "**Ladies Day**" Saturday, November 10th. The time is 8:15 am-1:00 pm. The theme is: "Broken but blessed". Their invitation is posted on the bulletin board.

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. The home will also be collecting the holiday gifts for the children at the same time.

STF—Group #1 will have their luncheon get-together this morning following the service in Room C-5. Our visitors are invited.

Food for Thought

The best way to get rid of the past is to do something about the future.

Failure should be our teacher—not our undertaker.

A man who is on a wild goose chase all his life never feathers much of a nest.

JUST SUPPOSE

Suppose we had to “run” for church membership as any candidate runs for political office. Would you win or lose?

Suppose the membership were good for one year only and that re-election depended upon the good we had done in the church during that time. Would we be re-elected or would we be dropped?

Suppose there were a long list of those waiting to get in; would we be more alive to our duties as Christians?

Suppose we were called upon to explain just why the church should keep our name on the roll; have we a case to offer in our defense?

Suppose every member of the church did as much for the church as we are presently doing? Would more seats be needed or would the doors be shut?

JUST SUPPOSE!

—Bulletin Digest

Beech Grove church of Christ, Spring Hill, TN

November 4, 2018

Announcements
Song Leader
Sermon
Opening Prayer
Scripture
Second Prayer
Closing Prayer

A.M.

Larry May
Jaxon Straw
Allen Weakland
Larry May
Dex Dennard
Doug Guynn
Scot Straw

P.M.

Larry May
Rudy Ochoa
Allen Weakland
Larry May
Richard Siler
Bill Brown
Don Easlon

Lord's Supper
(Scripture Reading)
West...

George Warren
Richard Siler
Cody Wesson
Dan Igo
Trinidad Wood
Jackie Perkins
David Ryan

Jacob Carson
Communion
(In Library)

East...

Other Responsibilities: *Elder* : Larry May 638-3990 *Deacon*: Rudy Ochoa 214-0398 *Pulpit*: Bill Brown 703-6225 *Table*: Jacob Carson 940-3775 *Song Leaders*: Larry May 638-3990 *Recording Duties*: Tommy Garcia 638-2702 *Collections*: Tommy Garcia 638-2702

Sunday AM

"Bringing the King Back"
(2 Samuel 19:10)

Sunday PM

"The Life of Abraham"
(Genesis 17:1-2)

Our Records

Bible Class... 75

Morning Worship...112

Evening Worship...70

Wednesday...63

Contribution...\$4,187.70