

# Eisenhower Church of Christ

## One of These Days

In 1962 a record was released entitled, “Old Rivers.” Walter Brennan, a famous character actor of that time recited the words with a choir singing the tune in the background. The story was of an elderly farmer whose life was being remembered by a man who had been a family friend of Old Rivers as a boy. The refrain of the song spoke of Old Rivers’ desire to depart to be with the Lord. It began with the words, “One of these days, I’m gonna climb that mountain, walk up there among them clouds.”

The phrase, “one of these days,” is a statement of a wish that is hoped for, but without any definitive schedule attached to it. In the song, Old Rivers knew that one day he would pass on to the other side, but he did not know when he would make that trip. This is why he said, “One of these days I’m gonna climb that mountain.” He could not mark a date on the calendar for his passing. All he could do was acknowledge the fact that one day he would.

We often use this phrase in a slightly different manner. We may tell a friend, “One of these days, we’ll do this or that.” When we say this, we may fully intend for that thing to happen, but we do not set a specific time to do it. In such cases the occasion may never come because neither friend ever schedules it. In other instances we may say this to be polite and to appear friendly, when we actually do not intend to make it happen. It is a way to deflect making a commitment without appearing unkind.

We also use this phrase sometimes with regard to our obedience to the gospel and our faithfulness to the Lord. One who is not a Christian may say, “One of these days, I’ll start coming to church and get my life right with God.” A wayward Christian may make the same statement when he is urged to renew the practice of his faith. We have no way of knowing if this is a true statement of that person’s intent, or if it is just a polite way of saying, “No, thank you,” to the Lord.

Even if we were to take such a statement at face value, we cannot allow it to go without noting an important consideration. “One of these days” is an ambiguity. It is a dangerous balm to salve one’s conscience about any subject that he actually wants to avoid. “One of these days” cannot be found on any calendar, and thus postpones the action that might resolve whatever issue is under discussion. Whether it is health issues or exercise, pursuit of some educational or vocational goal, or following through on one’s commitment to the Lord, “One of these days” kicks the can down the road.

“One of these days” plays right into the devil’s hands. It has been said that one of the devil’s greatest lies is that we have plenty of time to get right with God. If he can convince us to wait until “one of these days” he knows that we will very likely never follow through with our obedience to the Lord. The reason why this is so, is that we have no guarantees that “one of these days” will ever come. In James 4:14 James warned that our life is a vapor that appears for a little while and then vanishes away.

This is why Paul said, “**Behold, now is the acceptable time, behold now is the day of salvation**” (2 Corinthians 6:2). Our only guarantee is this moment, and this breath we take. To put off obedience in the hopes of some future opportunity is to court eternal condemnation. To wait for “one of these days” is to play Russian roulette with one’s soul. Make today your “one of these days” and get right with the Lord in obedience to His word.

—Fred Dominguez

### **Prayer Request**

**Weldon Whitley**, cousin of Janice Smith, underwent emergency gall bladder surgery Sunday, December 13th. His surgery went well, however his WBC dropped due to an infection and was put on antibiotics. He was to go home the 15th or 16th.

### **Concerns Update**

**Lee Roy Bell** was released from Odessa Regional Hospital Thursday, December 10th. He was prescribed antibiotics to take at home.

**Hazel Cavanaugh** went to Lubbock for her six months cancer checkup. No update yet.

### **Prayer List**

Lee Roy Bell; Susan Bosse; Mack Bradford; Bobbie Braun; Neva Carrigan; Steve Chavez; Cruz Coe; Dayton Dennard; James & Joyce Drake; Todd Drake; John Ford; Gloria Garcia; Hattie Gilmore; Anna Groves; Opal Hager; Linda Horton; Bobby Hunt; Bryan Jernigan; Andrué LaFlure; Susan Lee; Tracy Leeth; Connie Lowe; Jill McAfee; Jack McCarty; Anna McGlothlin; Patty Montgomery; Juan & Estella Morolez; Laura Olivas; Connie Phelps; Elvia Ruckman; Blair Saldana; Andrew Schwarz; Christa Bella Sellers; Brenda Simmons; Meta Troutz; Marilyn Upshaw; Teresa Vires; Jill Wallace; Lisa Wells; Carolyn Wilkerson; Haylee Wint; Jack Wright; Toya Zambelli

### **Eisenhower's Shut-ins**

We have several dear members of this congregation who, because of illness and/or advanced age, are not able to assemble with us on the Lord's Day for Bible Study and Worship as they would like. They mean a great deal to us and we love them very much. These members are: Mildred Bell; Neva Carrigan; Anna Groves; Roberta Hamil; Winford Hambright; Janice Laminack; Dusty and Kathy Marshall, Janelle Shirley, Wilma Squire 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...** What job did Nehemiah do at the court of King Artaxerxes?

**Last Week's Bible Quiz answer...** You will find papyrus growing near water, it's a reed.

### **FYI**

Watch "***In Search of the Lord's Way***" every Sunday morning at 7:30 am on CBS, channel 7.

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.

### **Thank You**

For all you do...Thank you

Thank you so very much for the snack basket. It was much appreciated and enjoyed by many!

Love,

Mildred Lee

Thank you for the cards and "goodie" basket. Thank you for thinking of me and keeping me in your prayers.

Thanks,

Winford Hambright

### **Office News**

The "**Christmas Day**" luncheon will be at 12:00 noon, December 25th. (turkey and ham are

provided) Please bring a dish and join us. Please sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board.

**Group #3 of “Strengthening the Family”** will go to the library to pick up their cards following our morning service.

### **Announcement**

All classes will gather in the auditorium for services Wednesday, December 23rd & 30th.

The “**New Mexico Children’s Home**” will be back in Odessa Tuesday, March 1st, 2016 for a food pick up. They are requesting **tomato sauce and tomato paste**. If you can help out with this request it is greatly appreciated. Monetary donations also accepted.

Also, the **Tipton Children’s Home** will be here March 8<sup>th</sup>–10<sup>th</sup> for a food pick up. They are requesting: **Assorted Cereal, Assorted Soup, Ritz Crackers, Assorted Spices, Tomato Sauce, Vegetable Oil, Microwave Popcorn, Enchilada Sauce, Cough Drops, Toilet Bowl Cleaner and Disinfectant Spray.**

#### A Poem to Ponder

A Candle’s but a simple thing...  
It starts with just a bit of string,  
Yet dipped with patient hand,  
It gathers wax upon the strand  
Until, complete and snowy white,  
It gives a lovely light.  
Life seems so like that bit of string...  
Each deed we do, a simple thing,  
Yet day by day if on life’s strand,  
We work with patient heart and hand,  
It gathers joy, makes dark days bright,  
And gives at last a lovely light.

### **December 20, 2015**

	<b>A.M.</b>	<b>P.M.</b>
Announcements	Jeff Wesson	Jeff Wesson
Song Leader	Jaxon Straw	Rudy Ochoa
Sermon	Allen Weakland	Allen Weakland
Opening Prayer	Jeff Wesson	Jeff Wesson
Scripture	Larry May	Craig Wesson
Second Prayer	George Warren	Jacob Carson
Closing Prayer	Bill Butler	Bill Brown
Lord's Supper		
West...	George Warren	John Carroll
	Josh Wells	Communion
	Larry May	(In Library)
East...	Cody Wesson	
	Dylan Straw	
	John Wood	

**Other Responsibilities:** *Elder* : Jeff Wesson 561-5302 *Deacon*: Jr. Munoz 363-1309 *Pulpit*: Tony Marrs 553-7349; *Table*: John Carroll 553-2780; *Song Leaders*: Denny Wilson 325-340-2291; *Recording Duties*: Chris Butler 362-7486 *Collections*: Chris Butler 362-7486

### **Sunday AM**

*“Truth and War”*  
(Exodus 17:1-9)

### **Sunday PM**

*Poverty and Wealth”*  
(James 1:9-11)