

Wally's Message

Last month I was asked to speak on sexual identity by the El Paso Area Youth Minister's Council at their monthly meeting. A year ago I spoke to them on homosexuality and teenagers and how they can help. This time God was leading in a different way as so many teenagers and twenties have no moral absolutes. Without these, there are no reasons to make decisions not to do certain things. The lack of standards is as common with many in the church as outside.

I told them two things are needed. First, they must believe what the scripture says and follow it, and second, they must find victory over the sin that is in their life.

If they are not winning over sin, they cannot show those who are following them how to succeed. We often tell people what to do but do not show them because we aren't winning. Paul said to the Thessalonians that he worked without them paying him "to give you in our conduct an example to imitate." (2 Thessalonians. 3:9).

When we become victorious in our sin life, we are set free and are then able to help others. Where have you been struggling? There are others who are as well. We are saying with the apostle Paul, follow me as I follow Christ. Who is following you as you follow Christ? Is there anything to follow? Isn't it time to make a difference?

In the last 6 years many have found victory over pornography, sexual addiction, gossip, abuse, and anything you can think of at Celebrate Recovery on Wed. nights. This is the best discipleship program I have found. We come together to celebrate the recovery we are making from the past and to be what God intended us to be. Don't let your pride keep you in prison. If you know someone struggling with anger, hate, hurts from life, etc, send them our way. God is in the business of healing. This isn't for those people; it's for all people.

See you Sunday, *Wally*

Did You Know?

- The Women's Bible Study on Monday nights is growing as women are seeking *God's Answers for Relationships and Passion*. See Barbara Baldwin for more information.
- Help is needed around the church; weeds are growing, coolers need to be turned on, the kitchen needs cleaning and tiles are falling.

- 29 people pray weekly for the needs of the church, our families and loved ones, and the country. To join them contact Barbara Baldwin.
- Who to thank for making the *Living Last Supper* so successful.

Holly Fatusch for re-making the costumes	
Greg Davis as	<i>Leonardo da Vinci</i>
Aulton Davis as	<i>Nathaniel</i> ***
Mike Acuna as	<i>James the Lesser</i>
Curtis Glasscock as	<i>Andrew</i>
Bill Keoho as	<i>Peter</i>
Adam Kern as	<i>Judas</i>
William Figueira as	<i>John</i>
Clark Peters as	<i>Jesus</i>
Eric Hupp as	<i>James</i>
Rhea Bullock as	<i>Thomas</i>
John Vanderhoofven as	<i>Philip</i>
John Nelson as	<i>Matthew</i>
Ray Montelongo as	<i>Thaddeus</i>
Rob Phillips as	<i>Simon the Zealot</i>

***Aulton Davis did a great job filling in at the last minute.

- The new church sign has been installed. We are so thankful to all those who gave including Hope Goins, the family of Frank Mahoric, and many others, and to Rob Baldwin for digging the hole and hauling away the extra dirt.
- Several women went above and beyond in the preparations for the Harvest Unlimited dinner? Our biggest **THANK YOU** to Eleanor Phillips, Faye Chapman, Ruth Chadwell, Jann Dutton, JoAnn Davis, and Elizabeth Miller.
- There were 37 in Children's Church on Easter morning.
- Bill Keoho turned the sanctuary coolers on in time for the *Living Last Supper*. Call him to volunteer to help with the rest of the building.
- Wally will be out of the office May 9 – May 12. He has been asked to attend a conference with *Every Home for Christ* all expenses paid in Colorado Springs.
- Your hobby may be just what is needed to bring others to Christ. If you have a passion for quilting, gardening, fly-fishing, dog training etc. others may as well. See Greg Davis, John Vanderhoofven, or Allen for more information on *FREE MARKET SMALL GROUPS*.
- May 7th—Collection for Church on the Street
May 14—Mothers Day
May 21—Rescheduled Fellowship Dinner
May 31—Memorial Day

Allen's Message

In Genesis Chapter 28, Jacob, son of Isaac, son of Abraham has set out to go to his Uncle Laban to find a wife. In verse 12 Jacob has the famous dream of angels ascending and descending a ladder. In this dream the Lord makes with Jacob the same covenant He made with Isaac and Abraham, to bless him and make of him a great people.

It seems however, that although his father and grandfather both knew God personally, Jacob was like most Americans and simply knew *about* God, and like most Americans associated God and the worship of God with a place.

When Jacob awoke from his sleep, he thought, "Surely the LORD is in this place, and I was not aware of it." He was afraid and said, "How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God; this is the gate of heaven."

*Early the next morning Jacob took the stone he had placed under his head and set it up as a pillar and poured oil on top of it. He called that place **Bethel** (House of God), though the city used to be called Luz.*

Now let's jump ahead about 20 years and find God again visiting Jacob in a dream. We know that this time God makes Himself known to Jacob personally because later in Genesis 35, when Jacob returns to **Bethel** (The House of God), he renames it **El-Bethel** (The God, of the House of God). He now not only knows about God, but truly knows Him. He has received financial blessings, he has seen the hearts of both Laban and Esau changed and he knows the God who has made it all possible.

So what does this mean to us today?

1. As Christ-Followers we are called to know God (**EL**) not just His house (**Bethel**).
2. We are to worship God (**EL**) and not the traditions of the house of God (**Bethel**).
3. Instead of inviting our friends to simply attend our church (**Bethel – The House of God**) let's begin to invite them to join us in a relationship with our God (**EL-Bethel – The God of the House of God**)

Seeking the *Harvest* with You
Allen

Park Hills Christian Church
5701 Alabama Street
El Paso, TX 79904

Prayers & Praise

Please pray for our church family and friends who are recovering from illnesses or are homebound:

Hope Goins, Joan Terhune, Lou Downing, Allean Martin, Gene and June Roberts, Donna Porter, Gene Dawson, Vivian Phillips (Rob's Mom), Villetta Brundage (Eleanor's Mom), Cheryl Chapman (will have re-constructive knee surgery on May 4th) and any others we do not have listed.

In addition, there are many that need our prayers for spiritual peace and guidance.

Praise the Lord for allowing Lou Downing to celebrate her 75th birthday, and for Joyce Richardson returning home after breaking both wrists.

Missions News

- The Baby Bottle Campaign raised \$686.00 for Crisis Pregnancy Services and Love of Life. Thanks to all who gave.
- The Women's Fellowship Rummage Sale proceeds were divided among the following outreach ministries: \$450 Celebrate Recovery, \$150 Church on the Street Women's Ministry, \$200 gospel Ministries to Children, and \$200 Love of Life. Thanks again to all that gave, bought, and helped with the sale.
- Darrell Thorpe, a pastor from Australia and a friend of Wally's will bring greetings from the churches in Australia on the 21st of May.
- We are continuing to collect cleaning and personal items for the women's ministry of *Church on the Street*. See the insert in bulletin on the 30th of April for suggested donations.
- Rachel Eyster will be spending the summer in Papua New Guinea as a short-term missionary. If you are interested in helping her with prayer or financial support please call 594-6605.

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