

# THE LEON VALLEY CHURCH OF CHRIST

Elders: Gerald Clanton  
Mike Gentry

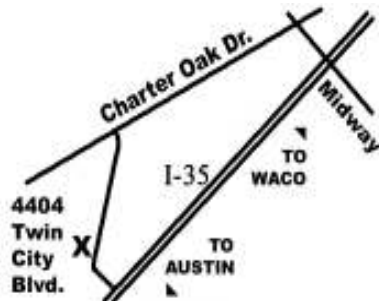
Deacons: Craig Clanton  
David Foster  
V.O. Speights

Preacher: Warren King

## WHEN WE MEET

Sun:	Classes	9:30 A.M.
	Assembly	10:30 A.M.
	Assembly	6:00 P.M.
Wed:	Classes	7:30 P.M.

## WHERE WE MEET



From I-35, take the Midway exit (# 297). Go south (toward Austin) on the feeder road for almost one mile. Turn right at the DPS Drivers License office. We are on the left.

All articles in Simple Truth are written by Warren King unless otherwise stated.  
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# SIMPLE TRUTH

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## Christianity: Cloak for Racism

Social engineers, disguised as preachers of the gospel, have for years used the pulpit to stir racial resentment and class warfare. Whether it is a ‘white church’ in La Porte, Colorado or a ‘black church’ in Chicago, the people in the pew are roused against others solely on the basis of skin color. One goes to the scriptures to ‘prove’ that white folks are God’s chosen people. The other goes to the scriptures to ‘prove’ that God stands opposed to rich white folks. But, what does God see? God sees no color.

“...*God shows no partiality. But in every nation whoever fears Him and works righteousness is accepted by Him*” (Ac 10:34-35). He “*will render to each one according to his deeds*” because “*there is no partiality with God*” (Ro 2:6,11). “*There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus*” (Gal 3:28). God is not into social distinctions.

Every race has its history; but, we cannot appeal to tribal ancestry as proof of right-standing with God. That is based on our individual response to His offer of salvation. Gospel preachers will preach it that way.

## Drowning in Debt



Proverbs tells us that the borrower is servant to the lender (22:7). When I borrow more than I can repay, then I am effectively a slave. In some cultures this led to the literal selling of oneself and one's own into servitude for life. Yet, just because our culture legislates grace, and does not permit slavery, does not mean that we are free from our obligation to repay our debts.

But, the problem of debt is not limited to the extreme of defaulting. The psalmist's antithesis to the wicked that does not repay is not a borrower who repays, but "*the righteous shows mercy and gives*" (Ps 37:21b). Many of us are not in a position to be the kind of givers we should be because much of what we have is not really ours but is borrowed.

Others find their financial situation deteriorating, not because of crisis or calamity, but because of a lack of self-control. They feel like they are slaves to the banks and credit card companies because, for all practical purposes, they are. The feeling of mounting financial debt is not pleasant, nor should it be.

As a rule, diligence in planning leads to abundance whereas hasty expenditures and borrowing lead to poverty (Pr 21:5-6). The immediate gratification of wants masquerading as needs is a sure way to death (physically and spiritually).

– Andy Diestelkamp (via *Think Magazine*, edited)

## Just Thinkin'

Remodeling an old house is not a job for the faint-of-heart. Sometimes it's just a simple matter of cosmetics. A coat of paint here, a new carpet there, and you're done. But, more often an old house needs more substantial work. In addition to paint and carpet, you may need a new sub-floor, or a new foundation – new shingles, or completely new decking and rafters. You just never know.



Christianity is much the same way. When a person is baptized, sins are forgiven. But, the process of conversion – of changing our life's direction – well, that requires more of some than it does of others. Some continue to wrestle with the old way of life for a long time, and have difficulty overcoming it (Ac 8:18-23). Others are eldership material within a year of baptism (Ac 14:21-23).

The beauty of the gospel is that it has the power to change us all, regardless of past circumstances. Whether the changes are few or many, the Master Carpenter can do the job. We just need to open the door, and let Him get started. Think about it.