

# THE LEON VALLEY CHURCH OF CHRIST

Elders: Gerald Clanton  
Mike Gentry

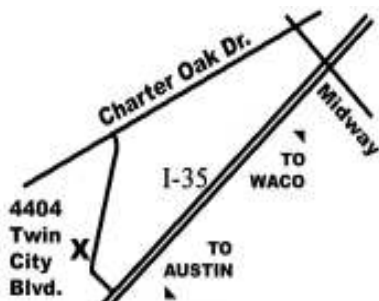
Deacons: Craig Clanton  
David Foster  
V.O. Speights

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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## One-Church Denominations

The word *denominate* is defined by some lexicographers as “to give something a particular name”; hence, a ‘denomination’ is a religious group distinguished from others by its name – among other things.

A recent trend in many denominations is the dropping of ‘brand name’ labels – like Baptist or Methodist – and the use of more generic names – like Fellowship Church. This trend is driven by polls that suggest that most people are ‘turned off’ by the old ‘brand names’. And, our first reaction is to rejoice at such a development. After all, one of the major themes of gospel preachers for years has been the ‘non-denominational’ nature of the church.

But, does this really signal a ‘back-to-the-Bible’ trend? Not hardly. The same polls that highlight the modern desire for ‘no brand names’ also highlight the desire for child-care services, youth groups, and singles ministries. In other words, it is still a ‘me-centered’ approach to religion rather than a ‘what-does-God-want?’ approach. Now we just have many ‘one-church’ denominations.

God’s people eschew man-made church names for the same reason they eschew man-made worship and organizational structure – ***because they want to please God!***

## Another Perspective

### The Gospel of Tolerance

I received a paper on 'Diversity Education' the other day from the principal of my daughter's middle school. It said, "Educators have an obligation to combat intolerant attitudes among students."

As I read the principal's message, red flags went up. It's not that I am opposed to multicultural understanding (I Co 9:20-22). There is no question that awareness of and sensitivity toward differences is a noble aspiration. We do live in an increasingly diverse society. God is sending the people of the world to our doorsteps, which adds vigor to our society and gives Christians new opportunities to preach the gospel.

But, this is precisely what the preachers of tolerance do not want. Recognition of other beliefs (religions) and personal orientations (e.g. homosexuality) is one thing. Acceptance is another thing entirely.

It is no longer fashionable to argue that truth is absolute (Jn 17:17), that God is "One" (De 6:4), and that there is but "one Lord" & "one faith" (Ep 4:5). In many respects, the new multiculturalism is a throwback to the days of the first century church (I Co 8:5-6).

I want my daughter to model the actions of the Good Samaritan in a society full of prejudice and indifference. On the other hand, I want her to know, without a doubt, that there is a truth which sets all people free — an eternal gospel to preach to those who live on the earth, and to every nation and tribe and tongue and people (Re 14:6).

— Mike Wilson, via Focus (edited)

### Just Thinkin'

**It's easy to get distracted by 'the numbers' - the nickels and noses of the congregation. After all, we live in a world that judges most everything that way. From student test scores to professional salaries, we judge success - and failure - by the numbers. And, many judge spiritual matters the same way. Forget truth - just do what we need to do to attract people.**

**But, God does not do things that way. We need only look at Noah, or Lot, or David's 'numbering' of the people to know that God is not impressed by numbers.**

**This does not mean that we can use such passages to excuse a lack of effort, or a 'care less' attitude about winning souls. But, if the fundamentals are in place, the numbers are irrelevant.**

**And, what are the fundamentals? 1) Do we love the Lord with all of our heart, soul, and mind? 2) Do we love one another fervently? 3) Are we preaching, and practicing, the whole gospel? If so, the numbers will take care of themselves. Think about it.**