

# THE LEON VALLEY CHURCH OF CHRIST

Elders: Gerald Clanton  
Mike Gentry

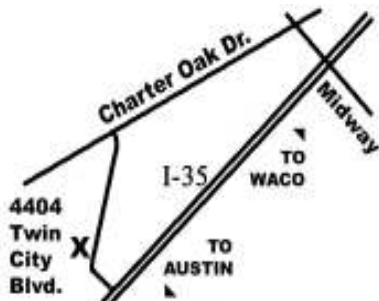
Deacons: Craig Clanton  
David Foster  
V.O. Speights

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.  
Contact the Leon Valley congregation at (254) 939-0682 (leave a message).



## BIBLE MOMENTS Radio Program

Listen to the Bible Moments radio broadcast Sunday mornings at 8:30 on KTEM 1400 on your A.M. dial!  
Free audio downloads of the program are available at:  
[www.biblemoments.org](http://www.biblemoments.org)

# SIMPLE TRUTH

A PUBLICATION OF THE  
**LEON VALLEY CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
4404 Twin City Blvd. Temple TX 76502

Volume 4

Number 7

## Daniel's Prayer of Confession

*"I prayed to the LORD my God, and made confession, and said, '...we have sinned and committed iniquity, we have done wickedly and rebelled, even by departing from Your precepts and Your judgments'"*

- Dan 9:4-5

These words were spoken by the prophet Daniel, a righteous man by any standard. This is the same Daniel who, as a young captive in a foreign land, insisted on keeping the Jewish dietary laws. It is the same Daniel who, in his old age, was cast into a den of lions because he refused to obey a royal decree forbidding prayer. So, why was Daniel confessing sin?

His prayer, of course, was a prayer of national repentance. Like the later prayers of Ezra and Nehemiah, this prayer was offered on behalf of all of God's people. Like Ezra and Nehemiah, Daniel stood as a leader among the people of God; and, it was in his role as a leader that Daniel offered – and recorded – this prayer.

But, Daniel's use of 'we' is not simply a modest gesture from a humble leader. Daniel knew what the apostle Paul later confirmed – that all are guilty of sin. All do not walk in sin; but, at some level all are guilty and are deserving of God's punishment. Thus, we all should – and could – say 'amen' to Daniel's prayer of confession.

## Another Perspective

### **WANTED: DEPENDABLE PERSON**

In virtually every classified section we find some employer advertising for a “dependable person” to occupy some position of trust and responsibility. No organization can succeed without dependable personnel. The lazy, irresponsible, hit-and-miss type is a shame to his company and hinders its effectiveness.

It is equally true that a local congregation cannot be effective unless it consists of dependable Christians: that is, members who will shoulder responsibility along with the rest and cooperate to fulfill the church’s mission. While the Bible does not use the word ‘dependable,’ it does use terms such as “steadfast” and “zealous” (1 Co 15:58; Ti 2:14). Every Christian should be characterized this way – one who can be counted on at all times.

The sad fact, however, is that many congregations have a percentage of undependable members: members who couldn’t hold down a job for a week if they conducted themselves toward their work like they do toward the church and its work.

For example, to have an effective edification program, churches need members whose presence in Bible classes can be depended upon. Also, the church needs members who are not only generous in giving, but who can be depended upon to plan ahead and give regularly.

The sum is this: the church of our Lord needs each member to be dependable in shouldering our responsibilities.

- *Bob West (edited)*

## Just Thinkin'

The bumper sticker was to the point: *'Forget world peace. Visualize using your turn signal'*. It highlights a common problem. Some folks get so enamored with the grand vision that they neglect the essential details.

We see it all the time in politics - the politician who works hard 'for the folks' and condemns corruption in business, but then neglects his own personal morality. It is sometimes seen in individuals who believe that tomorrow will bring them a better life, yet do little or nothing today to affect that change.

And, we see the same mindset in religion. For example, some churches are so obsessed with being bigger and grander that they forget important details - like obedience (Mt 7:21-23).

Of course, there is a time to 'visualize' the bigger picture. Christians are commanded to set our minds 'upon things above' (Col 3:2), and that's as big as the bigger picture can get. But, to inherit 'things above' we must pay attention to the here and now. So, let's get our heads out of the clouds and 'visualize using the turn signal'. Think about it.