

THE LEON VALLEY CHURCH OF CHRIST

Elders: Gerald Clanton
Mike Gentry

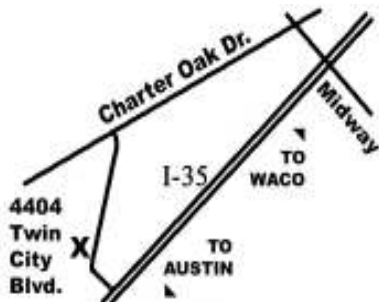
Deacons: Craig Clanton
David Foster
V.O. Speights

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).



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SIMPLE TRUTH

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Volume 4

Number 16

BE CAREFUL LITTLE MOUTH WHAT YOU SAY –

Watch Your Tongue!

“Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary edification, that it may impart grace to the hearers.”

- Ep 4:29

The application of this passage reaches every one of us. Here is a lesson for parents, for young people, for elders, preachers, deacons, teachers – and the rest.

The admonition is given as a part of a wider discussion on how to “*be renewed in the spirit of your mind*” (vs. 23). In other words, what we say is simply a reflection of what we think. If we would speak right, we must first learn to think right.

But, many things can get in the way of right thinking. Pride, for example, can cause a man to “*think of himself more highly than he ought to think*” (Ro 12:3). Covetousness can blind one’s mind to the “*true riches*” (Lu 16:10-14). Jesus sums it up: “*out of the abundance of the heart, the mouth speaks*” (Mt 12:34b).

So, while some might suggest that you should ‘watch your tongue’ when the urge to misspeak strikes, much better would be the advice to ‘watch your heart’.

High Maintenance

A term that is used to describe some Christians is 'high maintenance.' It refers to the amount of attention they demand. The term is usually not a compliment.

However, 'high maintenance' is not always a negative thing. For example, babes in Christ are high maintenance. As a human child is dependent upon others for his sustenance and care, the babe in Christ must depend upon others for protection and guidance. This is normal and understandable (1 Pe 2:2).

Another example is one who is suffering hardship. We are to comfort and protect these while they remain in this vulnerable position (1 Co 12:24-26). When we help the weak or fainthearted, we express our love to them and fulfill the law of love (1 Th 5:14).

However, some are high maintenance not because of circumstance, but because of sloth or worldliness. Their lack is of their own making, and is not only unfortunate, but also unacceptable to God (He 5:12, Ga 1:6-7, Mt 26:36-46).

The high maintenance Christian can often impact the welfare and growth of a congregation, as more serious needs are left unmet. Rather than being high maintenance Christians, we should all strive to be among the strong, zealous, and fruit bearing.

- Stan Cox (edited)

Just Thinkin'

I have often heard (and preached) that it is usually not a lack of knowledge that gets in the way of doing right as much as it is a lack of the will. Adam and Eve knew God's will - they just didn't have the will to do it.

Well, recently I ran across a similar truism. '*People do not lack the strength as much as they lack the will*'. And, in light of God's promise that we will not be tempted beyond our ability to bear (1 Co 10:13), I believe the adage is accurate. Adam and Eve could have resisted - they simply chose not to.

In contrast, the will of Jesus was to do the will of His Father (Jn 5:30) - and the will of Jesus was perfect in this regard. He never waived from His will to please His Father. This, as much as His knowledge or inherent strength, accounts for His success.

And, our will must be focused on the same thing - to please our Father (Jn 7:17). It is our will, as much as our knowledge or spiritual 'strength', that will account for our success - or failure - in overcoming the temptations of life. Think about it.