

THE LEON VALLEY CHURCH OF CHRIST

Elders: Gerald Clanton
Mike Gentry

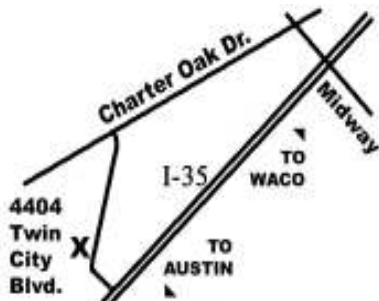
Deacons: Craig Clanton
David Foster
V.O. Speights

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

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SIMPLE TRUTH

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“O Absalom My Son, My Son!”

“The king was deeply moved, and went up to the chamber over the gate and wept, and said ‘O my son Absalom—my son, my son Absalom – if only I had died in your place! O Absalom my son, my son!’” - 2 Sa 18:33

Few passages in the Old Testament are as full of pathos as this one. Only someone who has lost a child can fully empathize with David in his grief. It matters not that Absalom had led a full-scale rebellion against his father. He was David’s son, and David loved him dearly.

Nowhere else does love naturally run deeper than in family. Nowhere else are the concerns greater or the separations more heartrending. Nowhere else do we see such willingness to sacrifice – even life itself – for the good of others. It is little wonder that God uses familial ties to illustrate our relationship in the spiritual realm.

The spiritual family should be characterized by similar feelings. Love for one another should run deep. Concern for one another’s welfare, and the willingness to sacrifice our very lives for one another – these should typify our relationships in God’s family. He is, after all, our Father.

In fact, we can almost hear God’s cry when we sin: “My son, my son, if only I had died in your place...” But then, that’s exactly what He did.

Another Perspective

THROWING THE ROPE

Calf-roping has always intrigued me. These men train hard, practice often, and wear out miles of rope to compete for maybe five or ten seconds.

Many times these riders fail. Sometimes their horse jumps out of the gate too early. Sometimes the calf stops as soon as it leaves the gate. Sometimes the rope doesn't tighten around the calf's head, but around its body, or it just slips off. One thing stands out though: if given the chance, they ALWAYS throw the rope.

It occurs to me that Christians might learn something from these cowboys. Consider the application to teaching the lost. Jesus made the Apostles "*fishers of men*" (Mk 1:17). Here in Texas we can appropriately be called "lassoers of men"!

When trying to teach someone the Gospel, we may fail; but we need to keep 'throwing the rope' to others. We need to throw the rope of God's Word, because only it has the power to save (Ro 1:16-17). We need to throw the rope of a godly example because through it people will glorify God (Mt 5:16). We need to throw the rope of truth because only the truth sets one free from sin (Jn 8:32). And, we need to throw the rope of love because it is the greatest of commandments and without it there is no profit whatsoever (1 Co 13).

Like cowboys, we need to 'throw the rope' when we get the chance, without fear of failure. Even Jesus didn't convert everyone; but, He tried.

– Mike Walls (edited)

Just Thinkin'

"The road to hell is paved with good intentions". We've all heard it. It's like the fellow who bragged about the book he had started writing. When pressed, he admitted that so far he had only completed the page numbers. At least his heart was in it.

Now, failing to write that novel is not going to cost us our soul; but, failing to turn our lives around and to conform to the image of God's Son will. And, having the intent without the doing doesn't change that fact (hence, 'The road to hell...').

The real lesson in 'good intentions' is a lesson in procrastination. As with Felix, "I will – when it's convenient" is just another form of rebellion. It may salve the conscience, but it doesn't make us right with God.

When we intend to become a Christian, but don't – that's rebellion. When we intend to improve our attendance, our Bible study, our prayer life, but don't – that's rebellion. And, when we intend to 'love our neighbor as ourselves', but don't – that's rebellion, too. I'm thinking about writing a book about it.