

# THE LEON VALLEY CHURCH OF CHRIST

Elders: Gerald Clanton  
Mike Gentry

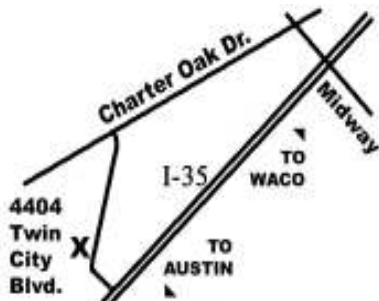
Deacons: Craig Clanton  
David Foster  
V.O. Speights

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

A PUBLICATION OF THE  
**LEON VALLEY CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
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Number 24

## Imitate Whom?

*“Imitate me, just as I also imitate Christ.” – 1 Co 11:1*

Scholars are divided over whether this verse belongs to the verse preceding it or to the verse following. After all, Paul references himself in both.

Frankly, it doesn't much matter. The apostle is a worthy example in either case. Yet, Paul was not perfect – and he was keenly aware of that fact. In his pre-Christian life he had been extremely hostile toward Christianity. Paul certainly would not want us imitating him in those things.

But, where his life mirrored that of the Christ (and it did in many ways), we should mirror Paul. And, the same principle applies with any godly man or woman we might have known. As the Hebrew author put it, *“Remember those who rule over you, who have spoken the word of God to you, whose faith follow...”* (13:7). Surely, we have all known some Christians worth imitating.

Yet, while every Christian is a candle and can exert a positive influence (Mt 5:14-16), only One is the Light (Jn 1:9, 8:12), in whom is *“no darkness at all”* (1 Jn 1:5). Only One is deserving of imitation in every way.

## Another Perspective

# Bitterness & Religion

A presidential candidate once said that people in small town America hold on to their guns and religion because they are bitter.



The idea is that people with guns and God are angry and afraid. Sadly this view of Christianity is held by many cultural elitists in our society.

They see people worshipping God and carrying a Bible – and they just don't get it.

Why do people worship God? Because, they believe this universe is more than a product of evolution. By faith they understand that *"the worlds were framed by the word of God"* (He 11.3). They believe the Bible.

They worship God because they believe in heaven and want to go there when this life is over. Jesus promised to prepare a place for His people (Jn 14:2). If this candidate meant to say that people who believe in God do so because they are afraid of hell, then he should have said so. But, that was not what he was implying.

Are religious people bitter? Religious people should be bitter toward sin and its results – but not toward God or their fellowman. Instead, we are to love even our enemies (Mt 5:43-44).

– Dennis Tucker (edited)

*(Although even Jesus justified armed defense, Lu 22:36 – wk)*

## Just Thinkin'

'The early bird may get the worm, but the second mouse gets the cheese'. This is not only a humorous lesson in contradictory proverbs; it is also a very good lesson in the importance of being cautious.

An inspired proverb (to which you will find no contradiction) made the same point. Solomon wrote that among those things considered an abomination to God are *"feet that are swift in running to evil"* (Pr 6:18).

Earlier he warned about following those who *"run to evil"* (1:10-19). And, though he does not mention a mousetrap, he does use the metaphor of a bird caught in a net. Either way, the foolish critter ends up dead.

There are, of course, lessons here for all of us. Certainly young people should be hesitant to follow a crowd. But, older folks should be careful about things as well, like chasing dollar signs. Get in a hurry either way, and you may end up dead.

Sometimes it's just better to be the second mouse. Think about it.