

THE LEON VALLEY CHURCH OF CHRIST

Elders: Gerald Clanton
Mike Gentry

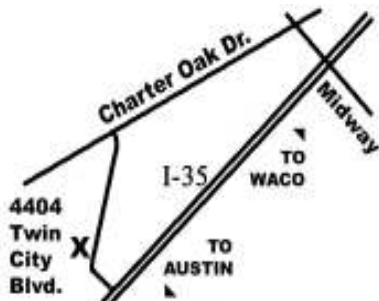
Deacons: Craig Clanton
David Foster
V.O. Speights

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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DEALING WITH SIN

“When I kept silent, my bones grew old through my groaning all the day long. For day and night Your hand was heavy upon me; my vitality was turned into the drought of summer. I acknowledged my sin to You, and my iniquity I have not hidden. I said, ‘I will confess my transgressions to the LORD,’ and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.”
- Ps 32:3-5

The Psalmist contrasts two approaches to sin. On the one hand, we can just ‘*keep silent*’ about it. We can pretend it doesn’t exist, make excuses for it, or just ‘sweep it under the rug’ and put on a hypocritical façade of righteous piety. This is the common approach.

On the other hand, we can ‘*acknowledge*’ our sin. We can muster the courage to own up to it, and admit our failures, and confess them before God (1 Jn 1:9) and others (Ja 5:16). This is the approach less taken.

The first approach does not really deal with the issue of sin. Like the proverbial ostrich, it leaves the problem – with all of its consequences – in tact. Guilt and ultimate damnation are just some of the consequences.

The second approach requires tremendous courage and humility. No wonder it is the approach less taken. But, it is the only method of dealing with sin that provides for forgiveness and the easing of guilt – which in the end makes it the only method of really dealing with sin.

Another Perspective

30 Hymns for the Lukewarm Church

1. A Comfy Mattress Is Our God
2. Joyful, Joyful, We Kinda Like Thee
3. Above Average is Thy Faithfulness
4. Blessed Uncertainty
5. Break Thou the Cornbread and Pot-roast
6. My Hope is Built on Nothing Much
7. Amazing Grace, How Interesting the Sound
8. My Faith Looks Around for Thee
9. How Okay Thou Art
10. O God, Our Enabler in Ages Past
11. Blest Be the Tie That Doesn't Cramp My Style
12. Oh, for a Couple of Tongues to Sing
13. He's Quite a Bit to Me
14. Oh, How I Like Jesus
15. Take a Few Minutes to Be Holy
16. Pillow of Ages, Fluffed for Me
17. I Surrender Some
18. Party, for the Night is Coming
19. I Think That My Redeemer Lives
20. Sitting on the Promises
21. Sit Up, Sit Up for Jesus
22. Take My Life and Let Me Be
23. There is Scattered Cloudiness in My Soul Today
24. There Shall be Sprinkles of Blessings
25. What an Acquaintance We Have in Jesus
26. When Peace, Like a Trickle
27. When the Saints Go Sneaking In
28. Where He Leads Me, I Will Consider Following
29. Did You Think to Complain?
30. I Need Thee Every Once in Awhile - *author unknown*

Just Thinkin'

'Never mess up an apology with an excuse'; although, just getting someone to apologize for sinful behavior is a major step in the right direction. Pride often prevents one from apologizing for sin at all.

But, offering up an excuse with the apology in an effort to save one's pride dulls the whole impact. "*I have sinned, but...*" allows us to do the 'right thing' while defending ourselves for having done the 'wrong thing'. How much sense does that make?

"I did wrong, but my spouse was a bad influence" (Adam). *"I did wrong, but the temptation was just too strong"* (Eve). *"I did wrong, but the multitudes pressured me"* (Aaron). *"I did wrong, but it was for a noble, spiritual purpose"* (King Saul). You get the idea. God bought into none of it.

Contrast those apologies with King David's ("*I did wrong*"), or Peter's ("*I did wrong*") or Paul's ("*I did wrong*"). It requires a spiritual giant to admit wrong and then put a period at the end of the sentence - no qualifiers, addendums, or excuses. Think about it.