

# THE LEON VALLEY CHURCH OF CHRIST

Elders: Gerald Clanton  
Mike Gentry

Deacons: Craig Clanton  
David Foster  
V.O. Speights

Preachers: Drew Nelson and 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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## Epaphroditus:

### Brother, Fellow Worker, Fellow Soldier

*"I considered it necessary to send to you Epaphroditus, my brother, fellow worker, and fellow soldier, but your messenger and the one who ministered to my need"* - Ph 2:25

His name is not exactly a household name. In fact, were it not for a couple of references in one of Paul's prison letters, his name would have been lost to history.

But, Epaphroditus was someone special to Paul. As a member of the church at Philippi, he had been chosen by the brethren to carry their 'sacrifice' – we would call it 'preacher support' – to Paul while he was in prison in Rome. It must have been an arduous journey, for it almost killed him. But, he was able to minister to Paul while there. As one writer put it, his service must have seemed to Paul *"like a bouquet of fresh flowers"* (ISBE).

Paul knew Epaphroditus as a 'brother', as a 'fellow worker', and as a 'fellow soldier'. He was a multifaceted man, able to encourage an imprisoned brother, to labor tirelessly in the work, and to draw the sword of the Spirit when he needed to. He was certainly appreciated by Paul – and, his kind is still appreciated today. Are you an Epaphroditus?

## Another Perspective

### “Heaven Holds All To Me”

These are the words of a familiar refrain written by Tillit S. Teddlie, who was – in my opinion – one of the greatest authors of our hymns. His songs are melodic and always carry a thought-provoking and inspiration-al message. Such is certainly true of this great anthem. But my question is, "Is this refrain true for you?"

I fear most church members are far too comfortable here. I fear we do not “*groan, longing to be clothed with our dwelling from heaven*” (2 Co 5:3-7). Why? Because most of us have too many ‘treasures’ here. I don’t mean that we are too wealthy (though that may be true enough), but rather that we have far too many things here that we treasure.

Think about it for a moment. When you pray, do more spiritual or physical concerns populate your prayer? When spiritual duties such as worship are set aside, how often is it done for physical pursuits that are not necessities (such as illness)? If your bank card and Bible were both taken without your knowledge, which would you miss first?

A physical cold gets our attention immediately, but spiritual heart problems often go ignored for years. Many are too concerned with physical life and health, and have far too little concern for spiritual life and health. Everyone dies. If heaven truly holds all to us, death is graduation day! It will be the culmination of all for which we have lived!

– Philip C. Strong (edited)

## Just Thinkin'

A philosopher once noted, '*Time is the best teacher; but unfortunately, it kills all of its students.*' It is certainly one of the ironies of life that when we are young and need it the most, wisdom often eludes us. Then, as soon as we gain a little wisdom, we die.

But, time is not the only teacher. Wisdom can also be gained through reading – and applying – the Word of God. Elihu was “*young in years*”, yet he had greater understanding of the role of suffering than did Job's older friends (Job 32:6-7). Though we cannot say for sure where Elihu gained his insight, the reader is left to presume that it came from God.

Fact is, time (advanced age) does not always equate to wisdom; nor does a shortage of time (youth) always equate to ignorance. A younger person – with a heart for God's Word – will be wiser than the old fool who bulls his way through life with no thought of applying Biblical principles to his life. So, maybe time isn't the best teacher after all. Maybe we just need to spend the time we do have with God's Word. Think about it.