

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).



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SIMPLE TRUTH

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Let This Mind Be In You

“After that, He poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples’ feet” - Jn 13:5

Some see this event in the life of Jesus as significant, but only as another ritual. Yet, we have no evidence in scripture that the early church ever practiced ‘foot-washing’ as an act of worship.

At the other extreme, some may view it as a somewhat minor event – a farewell gesture to His apostles. But, when we look at the lesson Jesus was trying to teach, we find that few other verses so perfectly sum up His attitude and His work.

Jesus was teaching a lesson in humble service. Though He was Creator of heaven and earth (He 1:1-2), He “*humbled Himself*” to leave the glories of heaven, to put on a body of flesh and blood, and then to offer that body as a sacrifice for our sins (Ph 2:3-8). It is hard for us to understand that degree of servant-mindedness – so Jesus illustrated it by washing the feet of His disciples.

We must learn to have the mind of a servant as well: “*Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus*” (Ph 2:5). This is the lesson of the water basin.

Homesick for Heaven

As children of God, we should feel homesick for heaven. The Apostle Paul faced the risk of death as he awaited trial in Rome. Unlike most, he considered death something to be desired. Given the possibility of life or death, he wrote, *“I am hard pressed between the two, having a desire to depart and be with Christ, which is far better...”* (Ph 1:23). We may face death with uncertainty, even fear, but a part of us remains homesick, expectant of the glory of immortality.

Conversely, the child of God is sternly warned about the dangers of being homesick for the world. We have escaped the corruption of the world, but we are still tempted to be homesick for the world. Peter writes, *“For if, after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they are again entangled in them and overcome, the latter end is worse for them than the beginning”* (2 Pe 2:20).

Nothing is more self-defeating than persisting in a love of the world. If we love the world, we are homesick for a place that is reserved by God for fire (2 Pe 3:7). We may find ourselves torn at times, conflicted between a love of the world and a desire for heaven. Of the two choices, we should be homesick for heaven. The glory of immortality with God will not disappoint.

– Author Unknown (edited)

Just Thinkin'

Temptation generally has a negative connotation, and this is for good reason; it can lead to sin. But, have you ever thought about the good that can come out of being tempted? Of course, with temptation comes the possibility of stumbling; but on the flip side, there's an opportunity to overcome it – a way of escape. We should always try to limit Satan's opportunities to tempt us, but when temptation comes (and it will come), we have a great opportunity to choose the way of escape, to please God, and to grow as a Christian (Ja 1:2-3).

Again, temptation has a negative connotation for good reason: it can lead to sin. But, temptation can also lead to righteousness. Through it, we can prove our faith to God and show Him we are willing to forgo our own fleshly desires and make God's wishes number one in our lives (cf. Ro 8:5-8). Think about it...

“Blessed is the man who endures temptation; for when he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life which the Lord has promised to those who love Him” (Ja 1:12).

– Drew Nelson