

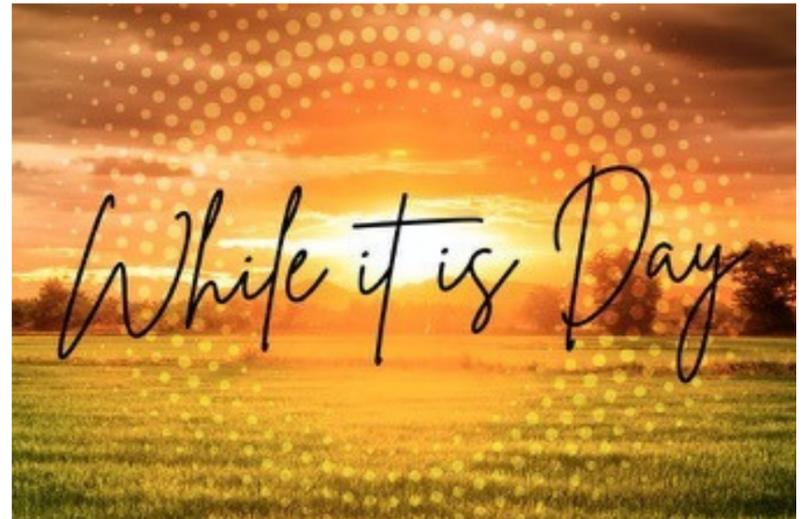


While It Is Day

Have you ever questioned, “*Why would God allow this to happen to me?*” Or, “*Why is God letting me suffer so?*” Maybe it was a health diagnosis, a broken relationship, or a situation that felt totally unfair. When something affects us negatively, we often want someone or something to blame. We want reasons. We want to be able to pinpoint exactly what is causing our suffering.

The disciples thought that way as they came upon a man born blind. In Matthew 9.1, 2, the disciples saw a blind man and asked Jesus, “***Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?***” The disciples assumed that since the man was born blind, there had to be a reason. Someone had to have done something sinful, and the consequence of that sin was the man’s loss of vision. Have you ever looked for something to blame? Have you ever thought, “*If I had just prayed more...?*” “*If I had been a better parent...?*” “*If I had stronger faith...?*” We want to explain it away whether our conclusion is rational or not. I was in the hospital late one night with a young woman who had just miscarried her first child. She was crying and kept saying, “*God is punishing me for being so wicked when I was younger.*” She wanted to blame herself for what had just occurred.

In the situation of the blind man, Jesus responded, “***It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be displayed in him***” (Matthew 9.3). Jesus was telling them to stop focusing on the question about sin and start focusing on the opportunity for God to be glorified. Jesus did not deny the existence of sin. He did not deny the reality of suffering. But He completely rejected the idea that every hardship is a punishment. Jesus totally reframed the situation: The man’s blindness is not a punishment; it is an



opportunity for God’s presence to be revealed. Instead of the question, “*Who is to blame?*” Jesus changed it to “*What is God about to do?*” How do you think your life would change if you adopted that same view?

Jesus continued to say, “***We must work the works of Him who sent Me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work***” (Mt. 5.4). There is a window of opportunity to do the work of God. An opportunity for God’s glory to be revealed. We must take advantage of opportunities as we have them; otherwise, the occasion may pass. Am I striving to make the most of situations by bringing glory to God? There are people you can encourage today that you may not see tomorrow. There are acts of compassion you can offer now that won’t always be possible. There are opportunities to shine the light of Christ that won’t wait for a more convenient season. What about you? Will you take time to glorify God today?

Gary

It Has Always Been About The Sheep

I Peter 5.1-5

- 1) What kind of leadership does a group of people need who have been called out of darkness to a worldwide mission?
- 2) How do you lead people who have as their major purpose the glorification of God?

The Work Of An Elder Includes...

I) Being _____ (Acts 20.28).

A) What is the first thing Paul told the Ephesian elders to do?

- 1) _____.
- 2) The same principle is given to all Christians (2 Corinthians 13.5).

B) Elders have the responsibility to take care of themselves spiritually and to discipline themselves accordingly.

II) _____ Others.

A) If the elders watch over us, what does that make them?

B) Elders are to...

- 1) _____ the flock—
- 2) _____ the flock—
- 3) _____ for lost sheep—
- 4) _____ the sheep—
- 5) Be an _____ to the sheep.

C) God's leadership has always been about caring for and feeding the sheep.

- 1) It has always been about the sheep.
- 2) It has not been about budgets, programs, attendance, inspirational services, correct music, or a host of other issues to which we give emphasis today.

D) You need to ask yourself—

- 1) Do I feel confident that this man will be concerned about my soul?
- 2) Do I think this man will be sure I am being fed spiritually?
- 3) Do I believe this man will come looking for me if I were to drift away from God?

III) Being the Administrators of _____.

A) How are the elders to nourish the flock of God?

B) In the administration of spiritual food, one of the qualifications of an elder is to be *“able to teach”* (I Timothy 3.12).

IV) _____ The House Of God.

A) Are elders rulers? (I Timothy 5.17; I Thessalonians 5.12).

B) How are they to rule?

Conclusion: *Are you living faithfully before God today?*

CONNECTION

O Good morning WH! It is so good to be all back together. I've heard from several people that there were more than just a few of us going stir crazy during the ice storm. Below zero chill factor and 10 days later we hit 70 degrees. Welcome to Texas!

R Deatra and I have a family member that is a professional drummer and a self-proclaimed audiophile. He loves music of many varieties and is an exceptionally talented musician in his own right. What fascinates me most is not his musical talent and skill, but his deep love for original LP vinyl albums. Jazz, rock and especially the Beatles original albums.

N Not reprints. Not remasters. Not digital downloads. He wants the original pressing.

E He explains that every time music is copied, compressed, digitized, filtered, remixed, and "improved," something is lost. The warmth changes. The depth fades. The texture thins. The sound the artist originally created slowly gets replaced with a version that is cleaner... but not truer. He says that he loves that original sound.

R That got me thinking about our Bibles.

Over time, people have a way of "remastering" God's Word. We filter it through culture, tradition, preference, opinion, commentary, and convenience. We soften difficult commands and emphasize comfortable verses until what we hear sounds pleasant—but may not be true to the original. Commentaries, online lessons and devotional thoughts, while they may be good, offer only clips of the original word. Additionally, they may be tainted or skewed by human opinions or agendas.



Like a remastered album, it may sound polished, but it's no longer the original.

Proverbs 30:6 warns: "Do not add to His words, lest He rebuke you, and you be found a liar."

Paul warned in 2 Timothy 4:3–4 that people would not endure sound doctrine but would gather teachers to suit their own desires.

The solution is simple: *go back to the source*. Open the Word. Read it plainly. Let Scripture speak before commentary does. Let God's voice be heard before culture's noise. If we want to hear the true voice of God, we must return to the original sound. Better yet, find a family member or friend to read together with — You'll be blessed!

— Les Keele

SHEPHERDS

*Greg Ball	214-801-7375
Russ Bartee	817-938-5825
Dan Kille	817-793-7493
Chuck Meyer	682-553-5444
Ross Tomlinson	682-429-1983
John Walton	817-441-0000

*Shepherd of the month

MINISTERS

Gary Williams	662-321-3208
Pulpit Minister	
Les Keele	817-808-0566
Associate Minister	
James Bowie	817-944-4492

THAI-LAOTIAN MINISTERS

Jeffery Lertboonpadong	206-819-9109
John Boudtaro	817-891-2132

DEACONS

Jonathan Bartee	817-889-2686
David Birdow	970-310-1143
James Bowie	817-944-4492
Zach Brookshire	817-296-9918
Brandon Duncan	903-603-1059
Jay Garner	817-205-2070
Ben Meyer	817-673-8557
Robert Scott	817-246-0911
Matt Sloan	405-471-3404
Steve Taylor	817-291-2065
Buck Thomas	817-733-2620
Arthur Torrez	817-721-2726

MORNING WORSHIP (10 AM)

Welcome - Stephen Johnson

Song Leader - Matthew Sloan

Song - Hear O Israel

Song - You're the One

Song - I Want to Know Christ

Song - As the Deer, Thirst

Opening Prayer - Steve Taylor

Scripture - I Peter 5:1-5

Song - By Christ Redeemed

Lord's Supper - Rob Donahue

Prayer For Contribution - Rob Donahue

Song - Ten Thousand Reasons

It Has Always Been About The Sheep - Gary Williams

Song - Mighty to Save

Announcements - Les Keele

Shepherd's Prayer and Dismissal - Greg Ball

Attended Nursery: After communion, we have an attended nursery available for ages birth to 3 years and a mother's nursing room.

Single-side in-ear mono earbuds with personal receivers are available for those with hearing difficulties. Please see the sound booth at the back of the auditorium for assistance.

Our Code For Tithley Giving



Our Code For Attendance



DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Monday, February 9

Exodus 21-22; I Peter 3

Tuesday, February 10

Exodus 23-24; I Peter 4

Wednesday, February 11

Exodus 25-26; I Peter 5

Thursday, February 12

Psalm 96; Exodus 27-28

Friday, February 13

Exodus 29-30; 2 Corinthians 1

Saturday, February 14

Exodus 31-32; 2 Corinthians 2

LAST WEEK

Bible Class	109	On-Line	4
Worship	216	Wednesday	87
Thai-Lao	30	Contribution	\$14,398.12
On-Line Sunday	37	Budget	\$15,372.28

TIMES OF ASSEMBLIES

Bible Class	9:00 AM
Sunday Morning Worship	10:00 AM
Sunday Evening Worship	5:00 PM
Wednesday Evening	7:00 PM

FRIENDS AND FAMILY PRAYER REQUESTS, continued

NAME	REQUESTED BY	CIRCUMSTANCE	PRAY FOR
Tracie Jones, wife of	Russ Jones	Health issues.	Healing
Shane Grantham	Michael and Kitti Davis	Suffers from cancer.	Healing
Jeff Holland, nephew of	Judy Birmingham	Bladder cancer has returned.	Doctors to determine best course of treatment
Becky Stark, cousin's wife of	Adam Powers	Emergency surgery to remove brain aneurysm.	Healing

FRIENDS AND FAMILY PRAYER REQUESTS

NAME	REQUESTED BY	CIRCUMSTANCE	PRAY FOR
Nicole Donahue-Isom, sister of	Rob Donahue	Has been diagnosed with breast cancer.	The doctors' skill and knowledge for her treatment and recovery
Jean Saba, husband of	Dana Saba	Had successful triple bypass surgery January 30,2026.	Continued recovery
Teres Robinson, friend of	Susan Dufrene	Killed in car accident.	Comfort for her 2 children
Rob, son-in-law of	Sharon Pippin	Will have surgery 2/12/2026.	He is not a Christian and needs prayers for his soul and his health
Jennifer Randles, niece of	Gail Willmington	Her ex-husband had his rights taken away awhile back. Lately he has been posting very threatening and disturbing posts. The posts have been seen by judges and taken to the DA. Also for her 2 boys.	For safety and that his heart will be calmed
Leeneh McLellan, friend of	Mindy Markham	Her lung collapsed and she is in the hospital.	Comfort for my friend
Hazel Birdow, mother of	David Birdow	Has been informed that her tests returned positive for cancer.	Her respiratory issues to be resolved and for the treatments to eradicate the cancer
Dave Slaughter, friend of	Jonny and Amy Bartee	Has been diagnosed with Stage 4 colon cancer and is undergoing chemo treatments.	Success from treatments to live healthy life
Paula Hamrick, sister of	Patti Mussellman	Is on chemo for her recurrent cancer. Her port became infected and she has a blood clot.	Doctors' skill and knowledge; new drug works and will eradicate the cancer

MEMBERS PRAYER LIST

NAME	CIRCUMSTANCE	PRAY FOR
Dwight Blair	Had an ablation and trans esophageal echo on Wednesday, January 28 at Harris, Downtown, Heart and Vascular. All went well. 121 Lilac Lane, Azle, Texas 76020.	Findings to direct the doctors
Mary Helen Bowie	Has suffered a stroke. She is in ICU at Grapevine. No visitors at this time please.	Healing and strength
Emilio Fernandez	passed away 02/06/2026. Service information is pending.	Comfort for family
Jonathan Price	Was killed in a motorcycle accident on 02/02/2026. Grandparents Michael & Kitti Davis - 812 Ala Drive, Fort Worth, Texas 76108. Visitation will be Monday night, February 9 th from 6-8 p.m. at the Alpine Funeral Home, 2300 N Sylvania Ave, Fort Worth, Texas 76111. Funeral will be at Western Hills Church of Christ on Tuesday, February 10 th at 12:00 noon	Comfort for family
Lucille Patterson	Had COVID and was in the hospital for a week. She has lost energy, is not eating and has moved to Willow Park Rehab, 300 Crown Pointe Boulevard, Room 307, Willow Park, Texas 76087.	Healing
Shirley Bennett	Has COVID. 4018 Ridglea Country Club, #508, Fort Worth, Texas 76126.	Recovery
Bob Willyerd	Has returned home on palliative care. 3704 Guadalupe Road, Fort Worth, Texas 76133.	Comfort
Jazelle Manry	Is undergoing treatment for her eyes. 1112 Meadow Park Drive, Fort Worth, Texas 76108.	Successful treatment
Wayne Gary	Had surgery on his right eye Thursday, January 29. 9912 Edmund Drive, Fort Worth, Texas 76126.	Healing
Patricia Emerson	Cancer has returned. 6536 Wooddale, Fort Worth, Texas 76148.	Remission and healing
Rob Donahue	Needs a job. 4529 Starlight Drive, Benbrook, Texas 76126.	God to provide the perfect situation for him
Mary East	On hospice at Mark and Karen's home. 101 Rambling Trail, Weatherford, Texas 76087.	Strength for Mary and guidance for Mark and Karen

YOUTH EVENTS

LTC

Study Joshua, Judges, and Ruth

www.ntlc.org

TODAY

2 pm Bible Bowl (Joshua 10, 11, 14, 20)

3:15 pm Drama

4:15 pm Chorus

Study For **February 8**

Joshua 21-24

Please check your **BAND APP** for the latest information.

LADIES' BIBLE CLASS

New Study begins on February 3

Subject: The Holy Spirit

Teacher: Ellen Bartee

The ladies class started a new study on the Holy Spirit that will be taught by 5 members of our group, using the book, *What Jesus Said About The Holy Spirit: And How it Applies To Your Life*, by Tim Woodroof, as a resource.

LADIES FELLOWSHIP NIGHT

On Thursday, February 19th from 6:00 - 8:00 pm. All ladies middle school age and older are invited to join us for a night of crafts, fellowship, and fun! Bring a "Comfort Food" dish to share with the group. Please let Jennifer Scott or Deborah Rollins know if you are coming so that we can make sure we have enough art supplies. Kindly leave little ones at home.

WELCOME BABY

Welcome Baby Christopher Johnston. If you would like to bring a gift for baby Christopher, you may leave it on the table in the West Foyer.

Proud Grandparents: Steven & Rene' Johnston

Proud Great Grandparents: Dwight & Judy Blair

They are registered on Amazon, also.

PRAISE AND HARMONY

Matt Sloan is ordering a subscription in the name of Western Hills Church of Christ. If you would like a discounted subscription, please see Matt.

CORPORATE MEETING

Sunday, February 8

Evening Services

We ask that all who are able, please attend.

WORLD BIBLE SCHOOL

If you need more names for the WBS mailing program, please see David Birdow.

NEW ADDRESS

Clara Boudreau
631 S Tenth St
Williams, AZ 86046

Eva Torrez
520 Samuels Ave
#5209
Ft Worth, Tx 76102

Updates for your directory

SMALL GROUPS

Small Groups will begin on 2/15/2026.

CALL LES TO SIGN UP -

- 1) Immediately following worship in the Fellowship Hall.
- 2) Greg & Janelle Ball's Home -
11:30 a.m.
- 3) Les and Deatra Keele's Home -
1:00 p.m.