

# Glenpool Church of Christ

## Choices

We need to take responsibility for our choices. This leads to the fruit of “self-control” (Gal. 5:23). A common boundary problem is disowning our choices and trying to lay the responsibility for them on someone else. Think for a moment how often we use the phrases, “I had to” or “She (he) made me” when explaining why we did or did not do something. These phrases betray our basic illusion that we are not active agents in many of our dealings. We think someone else is in control, thus relieving us of our basic responsibility.

We need to realize that we *are* in control of our choices, no matter how we feel. This keeps us from making choices to give “reluctantly or under compulsion” as 2 Corinthians 9:7 says. Paul would not even accept a gift that he felt was given because the giver felt he “had to” give it. He once sent a gift back so “that any favor you do will be spontaneous and not forced” (Philemon 14). Joshua said that same thing to the people in his famous “choice” verse: “But if serving the Lord seems *undesirable to you, then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve*” (Joshua 24:15).

Jesus said a similar thing to the worker who was angry about the wage for which he had agreed to work: “Friend, I am not being unfair to you. Didn’t you agree to work for a denarius?” (Matthew 20:13). The man had made a free choice to work for a certain amount and was angry because someone who had worked fewer hours had gotten the same wage.

Another example is the prodigal son’s brother, who had chosen to stay home and serve and then was resentful. Not satisfied with his choice, he needed to be reminded that he made a choice to stay home.

Throughout the Scriptures, people are reminded of their choices and asked to take responsibility for them. Like Paul says, if we choose to live by the Spirit, we will live; if we choose to follow our sinful nature, we will die (Romans 8:13). Making decisions based on others’ approval or on guilt breeds resentment, a product of our sinful nature. We have been so trained by others on what we “should” do that we think we are being loving when we do things out of compulsion.

Setting boundaries inevitably involves taking responsibility for your choices. You are the one who makes them. You are the one who must live with their consequences. And you are the one who may be keeping yourself from making the choices you could be happy with.

*excerpt from Boundaries by Cloud & Townsend*

December 11, 2016

### ELDERS

**Bobby Hill**

**Bill Path**

**Keith Riggs**

**David Tenison**

### PULPIT MINISTER

**Benjamin Williams**

### YOUTH INTERN

**Haden Brill**

### PRISON MINISTER

**Bill Hamrick**

### DEACONS

**James Hamilton,**

#### WORSHIP

**Thomas Hallsted,**

#### FINANCE

**Todd Khoury**

#### BUILDING & GROUNDS

**Johnny Riggs,**

#### MEMBER SERVICES

**Bruce Rothell,**

#### MISSIONS

**Zac Tenison,**

#### YOUNG FAMILIES

**Edwin Whittlesey,**

#### ADMINISTRATION

### SECRETARY

**Karen Brown**

**Belong. Learn. Serve.**



## SNOWMEN

If you picked up a snow man last week we thank you very much. Don't forget we need the unwrapped gifts at the church building by this evening.

## LEADERSHIP MEETING

The monthly Leadership meeting will be today at **2:45**.

## MONDAY NIGHT FOR THE MASTER

We haven't put much in the bulletin about the Monday Night for the Master activity here lately. You will meet again tomorrow night (Dec 12) and then have 3 Monday nights off and will meet again on Jan 9. Everyone is invited to come and help with things that need done around the building, for example gathering up the food for the Mark 10 Back Packs for Kids program, or putting up a bulletin board in a class room, just some little things, cleaning the white boards in the class rooms, or big things remodeling the bathrooms. If you wish to participate and have questions visit with David Tenison or Ben Williams.

(Monday nights 6:30ish to 8:00ish)

## CHRISTMAS CARDS

Bobby has been working hard to get the Christmas card sacks ready. They are in the old foyer area, by the kitchen and there are about 110 sacks! You can start bringing your cards anytime. If you were missed or have questions see Bobby Hill.



## WEDNESDAY NIGHT DEVO

Our young men will be leading our Wednesday night devo on Dec 21. If you would like your young man to be a part of this please see Haden Brill.

## OUR CORPORATE LEADERSHIP

The laws of our state require we have a yearly meeting where we need to elect a president, vice-president, etc to serve as our legal leaders. This brief meeting will take place on Sunday, Dec 11 at 2:45 and any and all members are welcome to attend. Please contact one of the elders if you plan on attending or if you have any questions. **Elders, Deacons, Ben and Haden are asked to be here at 2:45.**



### Sunday, Dec 11

Corporate Leadership meeting at 2:45

Leadership meeting at 2:45

Young Families Christmas party after evening services

### Monday, Dec 19

Youth Christmas Party

### Wednesday, Dec 21

Young men will lead devotional

### Sunday, Dec 25

Merry Christmas!

### Sunday, Jan 1

Happy New Year!

## IN NEED OF OUR PRAYERS

- Bill Dowdy and his family have been hit hard with three deaths and another member taken to the hospital. Please remember him at this stressful time.
- Tonya Davidson's father, Mike Fitzpatrick, is out of the hospital and his pneumonia is better. She thanks all of you for the prayers.
- Mary Watson has not been able to be with us here lately, she would appreciate cards and words of encouragement; her address is 8555 S. Lewis / room 239 / Tulsa, OK 74137. If you plan to go see her please call in advance.
- Fred Keas, a member of the Downtown Bixby congregation was scheduled to have by-pass surgery this past Friday; we have no update at the time of this writing.
- Let us remember Ruth Henry's daughter-in-law, Kathy Henry, as she takes chemo treatments for breast cancer; and Piper Pence while she is still in the hospital.
- Pray for our country and its leaders
- **Service men and women:** Jenna Sullivan; Jacob Littlebear;

**Long Term Prayer List:** Eric Vaughan (heart); Henry Lack (dizziness); Stephanie White (pain); Dolores Scherman; Alan Trimble (ALS); Wayne Morgan; Rosalie O'Neal (kidneys); Ruth Henry; Kathy Henry; Shelby family; Piper Pence;

## YOUNG FAMILIES CHRISTMAS PARTY

The Young Families will have a Christmas party today after evening services.



## YOUTH CHRISTMAS PARTY

The Youth will have a Christmas Party on Monday, Dec 19. See Haden for details.



## YOUTH GOALS

- **Andrea Mendosa** knows how many books are in the New Testament
- **Colton Harris** knows there are 66 books in the whole Bible.
- **Brody Harris** can name the 10 Commandments.

Great job everyone!

## COMMUNION PREPARATION

If you would like your name added to or deleted from the communion preparation schedule, give Susan Yeager a note before Dec 11.

## BUDGET

The budget for 2017 will be brought before the congregation this evening.

## SUNDAY, DEC 25

If you have looked at your calendars you have noticed that Christmas falls on a Sunday this year. The Elders have decided to have one service that day beginning at 10:30, we will have our regular worship service and be dismissed for the day (no morning class time and no evening service). For questions please see one of the elders.

## UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Jerry Morgan, Dec 12

Henry Lack, Dec 12

BJ Neal, Dec 12

Steven Wetzel, Dec 14

Keith Riggs, Dec 15

Alma Moctezuma, Dec 15

Randy & Karen Brown, Dec 16

Hadley Senn, Dec 18

Ben Williams, Dec 18

Selene Williams, Dec 20

Lenora Hamrick, Dec 22

Eddie&Debbie Witchurch, Dec 22

Kacie Martinez, Dec 23

Susan Yeager, Dec 25

Topper Causby, Dec 26

### SUNDAY AM WORSHIP

Song Leader	Matt Caldwell
Opening Prayer	Randy Crawford
Table	1. Sonny Pulliam 2. Ryan McCafferty 3. David Tenison 4. Johnny Riggs 5. Jared Collett 6. Topper Causby
Scripture Reading	Larry Killebrew
Closing Prayer	Bob Howard

### SUNDAY PM DEVOTIONAL

Song Leader	Matt Caldwell
Opening Prayer	Edwin Whittlesey
Table	1. David Tenison 2. Ryan McCafferty
Closing Prayer	Larry Potter

### WEDNESDAY DEVOTIONAL

Song Leader	James Hamilton
Opening Prayer	Bill Hamrick
Devotional	.
Closing Prayer	Todd Khoury

### FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Sunday Contribution	\$5,784
Budget	\$4,625
Over Budget	\$2,603

### LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE

Sunday Bible Classes	180
Sunday AM Worship	215
Sunday PM Worship	118
Wednesday Bible Classes	92

### COMMUNION PREPARATION

12/11	Earline Lierly
12/18	Lilia Rothell
12/25	Becky Byers

### NURSERY ATTENDANTS

12/11	Debbie & Autumn
12/18	Bobby & Shirley
12/25	Tammy C. & Dana

### SUNDAY MORNING

Bible Classes / 9:30 am  
 Worship / 10:30 am

### SUNDAY EVENING

Devotional & Classes / 5:00 pm  
**WEDNESDAY**  
 Devotional & Classes / 7:00 pm

### Sunday Series: The Peaceable Kingdom

“No Ravenous Beast”

Isaiah 35:1-10

Benjamin J. Williams

### Sunday Evening Devo: Psalm 118

### Sunday Evening Classes:

“Evangelism” (Bruce Rothell)

“Prayer” (Benjamin Williams)