



# Welcome To The Killeen Church of Christ!

"Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep His commandments: for this is the whole duty of man."-Ecclesiastes 12:13



www.kcofc.org

**VOLUME 30  
NUMBER 8**

**FEBRUARY 19, 2023**

\*\*\*\*\*

### **SHEPHERDS**

*Lee Fisher  
Zachary Petties*

\*\*\*\*\*

### **DEACONS**

*Roger Deem  
Paul Portley  
Gaylen Williams*

\*\*\*\*\*

### **PREACHER**

*Phil McIntosh*

\*\*\*\*\*

### **TREASURER**

*Gaylen Williams*

\*\*\*\*\*

### **MONTHLY SUPPORT:**

*Cherokee Home  
For Children  
Cherokee, TX*

*Christian Homes &  
Family Services  
Abilene, TX*

*Foster's Home  
For Children  
Stephenville, TX*

*Sunny Glen  
Children's Home  
San Benito, TX*

### **SERVICE SCHEDULE**

SUNDAY BIBLE CLASS - 9:30 AM  
SUNDAY AM WORSHIP - 10:30 AM  
WEDNESDAY - 7:00 PM

## The Power of a Habit

By Phil McIntosh



There are certain words in our language that are benign in and of themselves, only to wear a noted connotation when associated with a specific activity. The word *habit* exists squarely in that family. The word does not necessarily mean something negative, nor does it imply a positive; it just is. The word then takes on a connotation of meaning when it is inserted into a certain context. I don't always define words, but here I believe it adds something to our conversation. The word *habit* is defined by Merriam-Webster as:

"1: a settled tendency or usual manner of behavior, 2: an acquired mode of behavior that has become nearly or completely involuntary, a behavior pattern acquired by frequent repetition or physiologic exposure that shows itself in regularity or increased facility of performance...5: manner of conducting oneself...7: the prevailing disposition or character of a person's thoughts and feelings"

There are clearly other suggestions of varied iterations of the word that have been listed, however, they are either archaic usages or otherwise irrelevant to our discussion. We are interested in the "settled tendency", "usual manner of behavior", "acquired mode of behavior", and, most importantly, "behavior pattern acquired by frequent repetition". All of us have habits. Regardless of the age of an individual, they have habits. Some realize their habits, while others are virtually oblivious to them. Even animals have habits (*Exo. 21:29, 36 NASB*). Perhaps, in some respects, we should call our habits a *routine* instead. We have general ways that we do things. Some people can be quite flustered throughout their day if certain elements of their routine are altered, displaying the reality of how intensely reliant we are upon our *habits* (routines).

The word *habit* is not often found standing alone in our English Bibles. You can find the word *habitation* but not often habit (at least not in all translations). The solitary place I found the word *habit* in the NKJV was in Paul's letter to the church in Corinth. There he wrote,

"Do not be deceived: "Evil company corrupts good *habits*." -1 **Corinthians 15:33** (emphasis mine)

We traditionally use that verse as an admonition, do we not? A warning to those who are unaware, unconcerned, cavalier, or downright careless with their associations in this life. It has become an excellent verse to use in the process of training children (and babes in Christ alike) to be careful with whom they choose to make their company and spend their time, because the environment in which they envelop themselves will undoubtedly and inevitably make an impact on them. We might not always understand or acknowledge the impact, and we might even fiercely deny the possibility, but the power of influence remains, and one is materially affected by his or her environment (*1 Cor. 5:6; Gal. 5:9*).

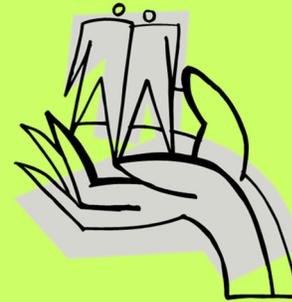
Did you notice that there are quotation marks there in the NKJV translation of 1 Corinthians 15:33? What was Paul quoting? If you have a Bible app, you can click on the "cross reference" sliding tab and turn them on. Once enabled, you will see a single reference, pointing back to 1 Corinthians 5:6. Could Paul possibly be quoting himself? Perhaps it is possible; however, we must remind ourselves that the verse references placed in Bibles and Bible apps were a conclusion of the human who inserted that cross reference there. Additionally, the reference to chapter five is permissible, but it is not an exact quotation, or even really similar. Is Paul then quoting the Old Testament? While we know of a certainty that the *principle* exists in the Old Testament (*Deut. 7:1-5; Isa. 52:11-12*; etc.), I do not know of a verse in the OT that Paul is believed to be quoting. It has been suggested that Paul was quoting (at least roughly) a Greek poet who lived at the end

of the 4<sup>th</sup> century BC. That poet, named Menander, was a comic who wrote over 100 plays. Many quotes are attributed to Menander; one of them being: “*It must be that evil communications corrupt good dispositions.*” Paul was writing to a congregation of the Lord’s church in Corinth, which was *in* Greece, so that wouldn’t be too difficult to understand that perhaps they knew the quote or were at least culturally familiar with the idea. If that were who Paul was quoting, it also would not have been the only time he ever used a non-Christian’s words in his writings (*Titus 1:12*). Ultimately, regardless of the origination of the quote, we know that the Holy Spirit was the premier authority as it related to the contents of the Bible (*1 Cor. 2:12-13*). Therefore, it *must* be a true principle. That it is universally true is perhaps even underscored by the possibility that because even a man (Menander) possibly originated the quote necessarily implied that it was such a true, applicable, tested principle that even the natural man knew it.

What does it mean? The Greek word that is used in *1 Corinthians 15:33* is *homilea* which is from *homileo* and means something like “conversing with, commune with, associate with.” If we expand upon how it is used in that context, we could say that it means that one’s otherwise good and productive manner of life is vulnerable to corruption when ungodly elements are entertained. This brings us back to the idea of a habit. There are good habits (behaviors and mannerisms) and there are bad habits. What you feed your behavior and whether or not you repeat certain behaviors will result in your personal, individual habits. As you learn of good and Godly habits (conversations and behaviors), you incorporate them into your life, supplanting that which is negative and unrighteous. One cannot have a foot in the world and a foot in the church. We all need to strive to desire habits that align us with Christ and not the darkness of sin (*Col. 3:1-3*). While we should endeavor to not allow good habits to merely become routine activities, we should set goals for ourselves about what kind of habits we want to define our lives. As was mentioned earlier, the word *habit* is found but one time in the NKJV of the English Bible; however, in the NASB there is another reference, one that absolutely can and should be incorporated into our repeated behavioral patterns. Here it is used in the negative, Christians who had the *habit* of not assembling with the saints (*Heb. 10:25*). If you want your *conversation* to be Godly and upright, then start by making your *habit* one that includes frequent fellowship, study, and worship with the Lord’s people.

## Sheep Keepers

### What is the Sheep Keepers’ Program?



“And let us watch out for one another to provoke love and good works.”  
-Hebrews 10:24

- The elders will place members in groups of four (we can have unlimited groups).
- Elders select group leaders.
- Groups will visit members with option to call (no cards).

#### Visiting Categories

- Visitors
- Delinquent members
- Widows/Widowers
- New converts

#### Work To Be Performed

- Make contact
- Invite Delinquent members to come back to Church
- Encourage new converts- (take to lunch, bowling)

#### Attend Shepherds Meeting

- Report to Elders details on visits or contact made.
- If you are unable to attend pass information to group leader.

**We need to be looking for opportunities to lovingly give them the gift of our time, a listening ear, and a supportive spirit, as well as an encouraging and compassionate shoulder to cry on when called for – all in addition to trying to take care of whatever legitimate physical needs we possibly can. All this being said we cannot do this alone we need all members to make the Sheep Keepers program a success, please sign up!**



**FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS**

11-ROGER DEEM  
14-LOIS BROWN  
15-BARBARA HUGHART  
18-GLADYS DRIVER

**February Nursery Schedule**

5-Victoria Polanco 12-Josephine Spear 19-Nichole Williams 26-Gayle Wilson *Substitute or Assist: Victoria Polanco	*We are in need of more ladies to help in the nursery. If you would like to be on the nursery list, please contact the office. Thank you!
--	---

**February Cleaning Calendar**

- May be done any time before the next Sunday.
- Please consult with your team leader for further questions.

Jan. 29-TEAM ROGER Patrick Brenda Linda	12-TEAM JAMES Kim-Marie Xavier Jaden Kingsford Barbara	26-TEAM LEE Natalie Derek Ken Tim
5-TEAM ZACK Amanda Diedre Paul Rubye	19-TEAM PHIL Michelle Beverly Josephine Yvonne Lois Marcella	

**ORDER OF SERVICE**  
**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2023:**

- ANNOUNCEMENTS: ANDRÉ PETTAWAY
- 1ST PRAYER: DERREL HEGINBOTHAM
- SONG: REGGIE BASS
- SCRIPTURE READING: MICHAEL ROGERS
- SONG: REGGIE BASS
- SERMON: PHIL MCINTOSH
- INVITATION SONG: REGGIE BASS
- SONG BEFORE COMMUNION: REGGIE BASS
- COMMUNION:  
GIANNI GRIFFITH & IVAN MCINTOSH
- SONG: REGGIE BASS
- OFFERING:  
GIANNI GRIFFITH & IVAN MCINTOSH
- CLOSING SONG: REGGIE BASS
- CLOSING PRAYER: JIM DUKES
- AUDIO/VISUAL: PATRICK SELLERS
- SECURITY: TIM MATTER & ROGER DEEM
- NURSERY: NICHOLE WILLIAMS

**SCRIPTURE READING**

**“Digging Into the Past”  
Isaiah 37:33-35**

*“<sup>33</sup> Therefore thus saith the Lord concerning the king of Assyria, He shall not come into this city, nor shoot an arrow there, nor come before it with shields, nor cast a bank against it.*

*<sup>34</sup> By the way that he came, by the same shall he return, and shall not come into this city, saith the Lord.*

*<sup>35</sup> For I will defend this city to save it for mine own sake, and for my servant David's sake.”*

