

August 20, 2023

Distraction

by George Slover

“And this I say for your own profit, not that I may put a leash on you, but for what is proper, and that you may serve the Lord without distraction.” (1 Corinthians 7:35)

In the context of the above verse Paul lists several common human experiences. “But this I say, brethren, the time is short, so that from now on even those who have wives should be as though they had none, those who weep as though they did not weep, those who rejoice as though they did not rejoice, those who buy as though they did not possess, and those who use this world as not misusing it. For the form of this world is passing away.” (1 Corinthians 7:29-31) All of these are perfectly legitimate activities, but like all encounters in this life they are temporary. Thus, Paul places greater emphasis upon our eternal relationship with Christ.

So, it is not wrong to be lawfully married, and devoted to your mate. There are occasions to cry or laugh that are perfectly legitimate. It is not a sin to have physical possessions, or even to enjoy the wonders of the physical world. However, the time and devotion given to each of these must be tempered by the greater priority- our devotion to Christ. We must never get distracted from this central reality: our relation to

the Lord. Everything must be evaluated by our love for Christ. There must be no other standard or interest!

What distracts you from serving the Master? May God help us to have a single eye and a united heart. May all of our feelings, tasks, and relationships be woven by a single strand of commitment to Christ.

Confidence for Daily Living

by George Slover

“But the Lord is faithful, who will establish you and guard you from the evil one.” (2 Thessalonians 3:3)

Living each day for God is often challenged by personal temptations, by people who disappoint us, and by physical trials. Many opportunities for failure and discouragement are presented to the Christian.

Where can the child of God go for help? Certainly, one should be able to go to brethren, or friends or family for support. However, there are times when men fail us, but not God, for He is faithful. Men may be disposed to do you wrong but, God will “establish

Welcome!

When you visit our assemblies, you will be received friendly, kindly and courteously. We believe this to be the natural attitude of those who truly love God and mankind. Though you may at first be among strangers, we hope that you will come to know us well and count us as your friends.

We offer Bible studies as well as correspondence courses for those interested in learning more about what God expects of us.

Important Dates

If you know of upcoming events, please inform Darrell so they can be included here.

you and guard you from the evil one.” This is the promise of God.

To “establish” is to make stable, to strengthen, to make firm. In Colossians 2:6,7, Paul commands: “As you have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith.” Believers can be established when they come to God’s word and allow it to influence their lives. It will be manifested by (II Thessalonians 1:3) a growing faith, (II Thessalonians 1:3) an abounding love, and (II Thessalonians 1:4) an enduring patience.

It is equally reassuring to know that God will faithfully guard us from the evil one. Jesus commands us to pray: “And do not lead us into temptation, But deliver us from the evil one.” (Matthew 6:13) Paul then assures us that God will deliver on our request by providing a way of escape in time of temptation (I Corinthians 10:13). God, according to Ephesians 6:10-17, supplies us with the armor necessary to win the battle. God is faithful!

This is so wonderful to contemplate! What great consolation to the faithful Christian to know that God is always loyal to the “cause” they love. We have all failed God on several occasions, but He has never failed us! God wants us to succeed! He is faithful!

Prayer Requests

Jack Wilson is still struggling with pain and limited mobility.

Jerry Richardson’s lymphoma has returned and is undergoing chemo.

Dinah Williams continues to have mobility issues.

Don Simmons is still struggling with his breathing; he is on oxygen at all times. He is home from rehab. **Alene** is having hip issues.

Lisa Mullen (Darrell’s sister) is undergoing chemotherapy.

Tony Mauck has cancer that has spread.

Vicki Stevens has cancer and is undergoing treatment.

Dorothy Steadman is staying with Hank and still undergoing some tests.

Debbie McMurray started immunotherapy this week.

Danny Dow has an infection in his spine causing paralysis.

Ruben Amador’s grandson passed away suddenly.

If you know of someone that needs to be on this list, please tell Darrell (email preferred) and provide updates so names stay on the list as long as needed.

“praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication.

To that end, keep alert with all perseverance, making s application for all the saints,”
(Ephesians 6:18 ESV)

The Oaks West church of Christ is a group of individual Christians who have been added to the Lord’s body through baptism (Acts 2:38, 47; Gal 3:26, 27), and have joined themselves together (Acts 2:42ff) in an effort to do the Lord’s will.

We are not a part of any larger organization - we do not follow any man-made creeds and we do not answer to anyone other than the Lord.

Our standard of faith and practice is the Word of God. We believe in the God of revelation (Eph 3:1-7; 2 Tim 3:16-17) and follow his instructions in an effort to have an ongoing relationship with him (1 John 4:7-11; 5:3).

Our times of study and worship are open to all, and our members are happy to meet with interested individuals or families for study.

Evangelist

Darrell Trammel
512-756-4493 Office
Darrell@
oakswestchurchofChrist.com

Elders

George Gresham
Darrell Trammel

Contact Us

Address:
P.O. Box 675
Burnet, TX 78611

Call:
(512) 756-4493

E-Mail:
oakswestchurch@gmail.com

Website:
oakswestchurchofchrist.com