Oaks-West church of Christ

Sunday Worship Service: 9:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. • Bible Study: Following 1st Service
Wednesday Bible Study: 7:00 p.m.
Services are live-streamed to our website: oakswestchurchofchrist.com

SEPTEMBER 27, 2026

I Can Only Imagine

by Rickie Jenkins

It is written: "Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor have entered into the heart of man the things which God has prepared for those who love Him" (1 Corinthians 2:9).

Some of us sit in church week after week singing the songs and listening to the sermons, but in our hearts, we secretly doubt that all the promises about heaven really apply to us. Yeah, they sound great, we tell ourselves, but they're for the rest of the people sitting here, not me. The overwhelming reality of our sinfulness makes us feel as if we're beyond God's grace and that heaven is only a pipe dream. We compare our failures to others and conclude that we have fallen too far, that our mistakes are too many, and that God's patience must surely have run out. We imagine a divine ledger where our sins outweigh our good intentions, quietly resigning ourselves to the idea that eternity is reserved for the truly righteous, not for people like us.

But the wonderful, optimistic promise Paul quoted was written to the Corinthians. They were the most prideful, blatantly selfish, brazenly sexual, and the least mature believers in the world. Their church was divided by jealousy, their worship was chaotic, and their moral failures were public and scandalous. Yet Paul's faith in the transforming grace and power of God extended even to them. The promise of eternal life applied to them! If God could prepare a glorious future for such a broken people, then surely, He can prepare one for us. Our unworthiness does not disqualify us; it is precisely the backdrop against which God's grace shines most brilliantly. The cross transforms our identity, making us heirs of a kingdom we could never earn.

What are some things God has prepared for us in eternity? Too often, we think

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

Our Next Gospel Meeting with Terry Slack is scheduled for November 1-4

Gospel Meeting - Leon Valley, October 4-7

Gospel Meeting in Kerrville - October 11-14

Gospel Meeting in Cedar Park - October 11-14

Gospel Meeting in San Marcos - October 30-November 1

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

of heaven as a place where people wear robes and play harps or sit through endless song services. While those may have a certain appeal, they are not the whole picture. Instead, picture heaven as one of adventure, variety, and creativity. God promises us new bodies like Jesus' resurrected body (1 Corinthians 15:42-49; 2 Corinthians 5:1-3). These bodies will be imperishable, glorious, powerful, spiritual, free from pain, aging, and decay. Will we levitate and pass through solids? We'll see. The possibilities are limitless.

We don't know exactly what heaven looks like, but we do know that we will rule with Him over the new heaven and new earth. There will be fulfilling work, deep relationships, and beauty that never fades. Every longing that earth could not satisfy will find its answer in the presence of God. The adventure will never grow stale, the variety will never become routine, and the creativity will never exhaust itself.

"If we really understood Heaven, we would be most unhappy and unsatisfied with life on earth. We would rebel against our earthly limitations. If we saw Heaven, we could not bear this earth. That's why Heaven is forever: we cannot bear to leave it after we get there" (C. L. Allen).

This is not a fantasy for the perfect. It is a promise for the broken, the doubting, and the weary. Heaven is not a reward we achieve; it is a gift we receive. And the God who prepared it for the Corinthians has prepared it for us as well.

Bible Reading for this week:

Monday: 2 Samuel 20–21, John 1:29–42

Tuesday: 2 Samuel 22, John 1:43–2:12

Wednesday: 2 Samuel 23, John 2:13–25

Thursday: 2 Samuel 24, John 3:1–15

Friday: 1 Kings 1, John 3:16–21

Prayer Requests

Jimmy Stinnett, Jim & Judy Trammel

Terry Berhns was taken back to the ER with blood pressure issues.

Jan Meadows was hospitalized with heart issues but is home now.

Doug Adair is recovering.

Autumn Felps had surgery this week.

Shut-ins: Don and Alene Simmons, Dorthy Steadman, Dinah Williams, Terry Berhns.

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.

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

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