

## For the Record...

Bible Study:	Weekly Giving: \$ 13,554
Sunday Worship:	Weekly Budget: \$ 13,820
Sunday Evening:	YTD Giving: \$ 153,098
Wednesday:	YTD Budget: \$ 152,017

### Our Ministers

Zac George  
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### Our Shepherds

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### Our Staff

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### Our Deacons

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## WELCOME TO WEST SIDE!

For our visitors:  
If you have any questions, if you want to get involved with our church, or if you just want to meet some of our leaders, please stop by the Starting Point kiosk in the lobby. We'd love to meet you and answer your questions. Thank you for worshipping with us today!

*West Side Church of Christ  
2300 West "C" Street  
Russellville, AR 72801*

*Office Information:  
Phone: 479-968-1121  
Email: office@westsidear.org  
Jenifer's hours Mon-Thurs 8:30-3, Fri 8:30-12*

## Sermon Notes



# WEST SIDE CHURCH OF CHRIST

## Differentiation

by Tim Tripp

If you have not watched the first season of "The Chosen," I recommend it. It is a series that takes a unique and fascinating view of the life of Christ and the story of his life. The way they tell the story emphasizes how he was very different from the religious establishment in the day. It shows a very humble and real Jesus endowed with supernatural ability and abounding in grace and love.

There is one scene in the episode in which Jesus encounters the woman at the well (my favorite episode) where Jesus and his disciples are traveling from Judea to Galilee. Jesus' disciples want to take the road that detours around the Samaritan villages but Jesus insists that they go through Samaritan territory. One disciple said, "But Lord, we always go this way." Jesus smiled and said, "Get used to different!"

I love that line. It is not in the Bible but it certainly sounds like something Jesus might have said! There can be no doubt that it was the way he lived. He refused to blend in with the social agenda of the Jewish leaders; an agenda which heavily favored the wealthy and elite. He often spoke against it. He was respected by the common people but feared by the ruling class. Jesus was accused of many things but no one could accuse him of blending in. Though it cost him his life, he would differentiate.

Several Bible authors encourage their audiences to stand out. They insist that followers of Jesus not be satisfied to look like the culture around them. Peter encourages his audience to live like "foreigners and strangers" in their culture even if that means they are mistreated (1 Peter 2:11-12). The Hebrews author says, "We are not of those who shrink back and are destroyed, but of those who believe and are saved," (Hebrews 10:39). The intended audience of the Hebrew letter were Jewish Christians who were fading back into Judaism because of persecution. Sometimes its just easier to fade into your surroundings. Someone who stands out is a target.

Parallels in our culture are abundant. Blending in with the cultural rage machine is easy. Arguing and trading insults with those who see things differently is sanctioned. Colluding with your own age, political, racial, ethnic or other group to diminish another group is commonplace. Accepting a watered-down version of morality and sexual purity is expected. However, it is not Jesus.

Jesus followers are expected to be people of love, people of peace, non-judgmental and forgiving. They are also people of the highest possible moral standards, absolute purity and spotless integrity. Blending in is when Christians embrace love and grace for others but lower the standards of morality to live like them. What is understood and tolerated in love for those who do not follow Jesus cannot be acceptable or tolerated for those who claim to follow him. When a person lives in a kingdom, they must follow the rules of the King.

Followers of Jesus cannot allow culture to dictate morality and integrity standards to them. Only God sets those standards. Jesus followers must teach the truth in love and live holy lives even if holy living is deemed out of bounds by the dominant culture. Christians must differentiate; live like "foreigners and strangers" even when it hurts. Only then can we be like Jesus, living a life of love before a world that has little clue of what real love looks like. A light shines brighter when the darkness is darker.

### Dios Le Bendiga! (God Bless You!)

by Aris Ortiz

Did you know that we are able to do "everything" that is good.? We don't have limits to do good and "we can do all things in Christ that strengthens us." On each day, we can do so much good that we will not feel even tired at the end of the day, because, "he renews our wings." We all can make an endless list of good deeds to do for others, for our friends, families, neighbors; for people that we will meet in our way, our work or even during our time of vacations. (Remember that when we all part to Heaven, we will need to be "very tired" because the place that awaits us is about that "rest," but if we are not tired, then, what rest is God talking about? ) Jesus, on one occasion, declared: "My Father until now, he is working and I'm working too." Also, "while the day is still here, I work, but when the night will come, nobody works." Remember that if you and I have been called from the Lord, that call is to work, to be busy in his kingdom. We are labors working for the Lord and he will pay us according to our labor. You and I have a "talent" that he gave us to be used in his kingdom, and we better use it, because one day, he will ask what we did with those talents he gave us. (Mt. 25:15) So, if we are part of the Lord's church, then we have a great opportunity to produce good deeds for the Lord and he has given us all the means, the tools we need to keep us very busy all of our days of the life that he is given us.

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Children's Ministry Grades K - 5 Meets Sunday at 9 AM and Wednesday at 6:30 PM.

*Our Raising Arrows Children's program is currently suspended until further notice in an effort to keep everyone safe and healthy.*



### HEY TEENS!!

Bring a friend and join us on Wednesday nights for WSYM at 6:30 in the Cornerstone!  
Masks required. Safe social distance.

Fireside devos outside at the firepit as weather permits.

Hangout and talk | What's going on  
Devotional | Prayer requests



CHURCH OF CHRIST STUDENT CENTER · ARKANSAS TECH UNIVERSITY

### Pork Butt Fundraiser!!

For \$35 you receive a smoked 8+ lb pork butt ready to eat or freeze.  
Ready for pickup the afternoon of April 18 @ the Student Center!  
(more info about pickup closer to time)

Order on our website ([renewatu.org/porkbutt](http://renewatu.org/porkbutt)) or by calling the student center.  
For more info visit [renewatu.org](http://renewatu.org)

## Adult Bible Classes

### Sunday Morning:

In- Person gathering in the Main Auditorium at 10am  
Look for our online Bible Study resources such as the Spiritual Formation series, and study on the Gospel of John, on our Facebook page and website.

### Wednesday Night:

6:30 online class - West Side Church of Christ Facebook page

## WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW:

### Annual Pie Auction and Chili Lunch benefiting Camp Caudle 2021 Summer Camp Scholarships

Following our Sunday Morning Worship service on **March 28th** we will meet in the parking lot adjacent to the family center for our Chili (& more) lunch followed by a paddle -style Pie Auction. Bring your lawn chairs and wallets and come prepared to have a good time! In the event of poor weather conditions, all activities will be moved inside in keeping with CDC guidelines.

Please register online for this event. Registration is open and the process is the same as it is for our Sunday In-person gatherings.

For help with registration, or for monetary donations contact Jenifer Hurt at 501-425-5208 (call or text) or through the church office at 479-968-1121.

## FOSTER CARE INFO

Southern Christian Children's Home will be hosting two online Zoom meeting events focused on Foster Care Information. If you are interested, you can register by phone (501) 354-2428 or email Marcus McCormick at [marcus@schome.org](mailto:marcus@schome.org)

Meeting times:

Tuesday **March 23rd, 6:30-7:30pm**

&

Saturday **March 27th, 1:00-2:00pm**

## Gathering Times

### SUNDAY

9:00 AM Clase en Español  
10:00 AM Adoración

In the Family Center

### WEDNESDAY

6:30 PM join us online on the West Side Church of Christ Facebook Page

## Family Illness and Recovery

Eli Thomas will have surgery again toward the end of April, in St. Louis. Prayers for a successful surgery which will bring about complete healing are appreciated.

Richard Humphreys is scheduled to be released from the hospital soon to go for in- patient Rehab.

Niles Raines, father of Kristen Davis, is undergoing cancer treatment again. Please pray that his body will tolerate the treatments and reverse the cancer.

Continue to keep Zane Grant in your prayers as he recovers.

Please keep Trish Bailey's sister and her family in your prayers. The family is facing an enormous amount of serious illness and upcoming surgery(ies). Pray for strength and healing as well as comfort for them all.

Patsy Parnell had a stent placed following a recent heart attack. Please keep her in your prayers as she recovers.

Payton Vanderheiden found out this week that she has a hereditary gene mutation that causes a blood clotting disorder. This will be a lifelong condition. Please keep Payton and Amy and family in your prayers as they journey through this adjustment.

Tiffany Lutrell has been having some health complications accompanied by tremendous pain. Please pray for ease of symptoms, and ultimately, healing.

Cathy Peel, sister of Shirley May, is currently in ICU in a Texas hospital in very serious condition. Please pray for her family at this time of unknown outcome.

## RIVER VALLEY CHRISTIAN COUNSELING

West Side Church of Christ has partnered with Paul Senn of River Valley Christian Counseling to provide high quality, affordable, Christian counseling. Hourly fees are based on the client's income and services will be provided regardless of the income/insurance situation of the client.

If you would like more information, please contact Paul Senn at 479-219-3019 or [rvccounseling@gmail.com](mailto:rvccounseling@gmail.com).

You may also visit [www.westsidear.org/rvcc](http://www.westsidear.org/rvcc) for more information.

### Those in Nursing Homes / Retirement Centers

Wayne Nordin - Brookdale - Rm 101

Glennette Price - Stella Manor - Rm 305

Joe Pitney - The Arbors - Apt. 308

### Missions

James & Abigail Rucker

WBS Students

Paul & Noemi Crites

### Military

Ethan Grace

James Cole, Jr

Micah Hunter

Charles Pitney

Carson Curtis

### Expectant Mothers

Lauren Pipkin

Brooke Strasser

Shelby Burke

Jolynda Bullard

## A Look Ahead...

*Sunday evenings - 6:30 class on Zoom*

*Wednesdays at 6:30 pm - West Side Church of Christ Facebook page.*

*WSYM - Wednesdays 6:30 pm in the Cornerstone*