



1023 NORTH MAIN  
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[www.elychurchofchrist.org](http://www.elychurchofchrist.org)

**March 31, 2024**

**Visitors welcome:** Thank you for visiting with us today. If you have any questions about the bible or our service, please feel free to ask questions after service.

**Continued prayer requests:** Sister Ceil Ellis, Sister Sue; Brother Henry; Sister Vernelle; Sister Fannie Kelley; Sister Diane Wortman, Brother Smith, Sister PeeWee, Sister Emily, Brother Vince, Brother Sullivan.

**Prayer requests from Last Lord's Day:** Sister King for Alice's health and for Felicia's drive to Tennessee, for Sister Smith and for Sister King and their family for grief; Sister Lorine for her grandson and for being late, and that they worshiped in Vegas last week; Sister Elizabeth for sin and missing bible study; Brother Devin for missing bible study also for sin and patience; Sister Diedra for Geronica and Sharon who are worshiping at Roeser Road and thanked the church for support at the funeral; Sister Raina for sin; Brother Derrick for missing service and his family; Sister Hilda for sin and her daughter's loss of her husband; Brother Lorenzo for sin and his family; Sister Shanae for strength through her grief for the loss of her husband; Sister Mary for missing bible study and for her mom's health, also for Rita who is going through some issues; Brother Rashaud for sin and his family and for his health and for his mom; Brother Ellis for his family and for his grandson to come back to church and for David for his job; Sister Eraina to be in service for the church while in Arizona

**Announcements:**

- The area wide singing is today at 2:30 pm in Eloy. Evening worship will begin at 4 pm
- The next Fundamental Friday class will be April 5 at 7:30 pm. Potluck
- The Coolidge Church of Christ will host a Ladies Day on April 6 from 8:30 to 1:30
- The 1st Sunday singing will be on April 7 at Roeser Road Church of Christ
- The Teacher's Appreciation dinner will be on April 2 at 6 pm
- The Eloy Church of Christ is sponsoring a blood drive on April 13 to be held at the church building
- There will be a congregational meeting on April 14 after morning worship
- The next Men's Training class and Ladies Bible Class will be held April 14 at 2:30 pm
- The Arizona Lectureship meeting will be held on April 20 at 10 am, at Tonto St.
- There will be Total/Bring a Friend Day on April 21. A fellowship meal will be served after worship. Evening worship will begin at 2:15 p.m. Team 1 is responsible for service this day
- If you are in need of 2023 contribution form for taxes, please text Brother Fain (520-709-8172)
- Members, please send the email addresses of delinquent members to Brother Williams so an effort can be made to bring these souls back to the Body before it is everlasting too late. Brother Williams email is [eddietrustgod@yahoo.com](mailto:eddietrustgod@yahoo.com)
- There are copies of the sermons available upon request. There is no charge for them.

***\*\*John 13:34-35 A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another\*\****

Memory verse leader this week: DeAndray Kelley - John 15:9-13 (KJV)

*9 As the Father hath loved me, so have I loved you: continue ye in my love. 10 If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love. 11 These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full. 12 This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you. 13 Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.*

Memory verse leader next week: ~ James Kelley - John 15:9-14 (KJV)

*9 As the Father hath loved me, so have I loved you: continue ye in my love. 10 If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love. 11 These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full. 12 This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you. 13 Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. 14 Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you.*

## **MINISTER'S NOTES**

### **ROMANS 15:4**

For everything that was written in the OLD TESTAMENT was written to teach us, so that through the endurance taught in the Scriptures and the encouragement they provide we might have hope.

Paul seems to take a bit of a detour from his main point with these words. In the previous verse, he quoted from Psalm 69 to support the idea that because Christ did not please Himself in this life, self-gratification should not be the main priority of Christ-followers.

Now Paul seems to comment on his practice—seen in Romans and throughout his other letters—of quoting Scripture to support his teaching about Christ. For the modern reader, Paul's references are from what we now call the Old Testament. It is true that Christians have died to the law in Christ and have been released from any obligation to obey the requirements of the law (Romans 7:4–6). That does not mean, however, that the scriptures from the "former days" have stopped being valuable.

Paul insists that those older Scriptures were written to teach modern Christians, not just those who read them in the former times. Those Scriptures are for us, too, to bring encouragement and hope to God's people in every generation. They help us to endure, even in and through suffering.

This verse serves as an answer to modern Christians who ask, why even bother to read the Old Testament? Regardless of age, those writings remain the revelation of the heart of God. The fact that we have been freed in Christ from following the law does not stop those 39 books from being the Word of God, full of truth, wisdom, history, and great encouragement for believers. Paul insists that we place value on those Scriptures and seek out encouragement and hope from them.