

September 13, 2026

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; Sister Vernelle; Sister Fannie Kelley; Sister Diane Wortman, Brother Smith, Sister PeeWee, Sister Emily, Brother Vince, Brother Sullivan, Brother Hook, Sister Felecia Foughty; Sister Mary

Prayer requests from Last Lord's Day: Sister Elizabeth for missing bible study, and for her coworker Theresa who had a death in the family, to praise God publicly, also for her household; Sister Carmen sin, and to stay focused on bible study, family; Sister Linda for her health and upcoming doctor appointments and for strength; Brother Elmo to do the things he has put off; Sister Roby for missing bible class, and for anger issues; Sister Sue for her giving; Brother Butler for sin, and Sister Butler's health, and his family, also for safe travels as they are leaving Oct 7th for vacation; Sister Shayron for sin and anger and to watch her words and her household, also for her health and for a fracture shoulder and healing; Sister Geronica for sin and struggles and to read bible during times of hardship, and leave it to God; Sister Ceil for missing last week and for her health; Sister Josie for strength; Sister Laila for sin and for her parents and brother who are sick, for college credits and school; Brother Ellis thanked the church for prayers; Brother Sam for sin and for being late, also for career opportunities and decisions, and to find a church if they move; Sister Londyn for her grandmother; Sister Holly for upcoming travel; Brother Moses for the mission

Announcements:

- A congregation meeting will be held today after morning worship to go over the meal service for the week of the Central Arizona Lectureship.
- A men's training class and Ladies Bible class will be held on September 13 at 2:30. The meeting will be the last meeting for the ladies before the Ladies Day on September 26.
- The next Fundamental Friday class will be September 18 at 7:30. Meal provided
- The next Arizona Lectureship meeting will be on September 19 at Tonto
- There will be a building clean up on September 19 beginning at 9 am. The building will need a good thorough cleaning before the Central Arizona Lectureship. No Fellowship meals will be held after the clean-up to keep the building ready for the Ladies Day and Central AZ Lectureship.
- There will be a teacher's meeting on September 20 after morning worship
- The Eloy Ladies Day will be held on September 26 beginning at 9 am
- The Central Arizona Lectureship will be held September 27 through October 1st. (with rest day on September 28)
- The 41st Arizona Lectureship will begin on October 11 through 15, 2026 at the Tonto Street Church of Christ. The theme: Equipped for Every Work, 2 Timothy 3:16-17. See bulletin board for details.
- 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
- Copies of the sermon slides, notes and videos are available on the church website: elychurchofchrist.org.

*****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: Edgar Ellis: Acts 4:12 (NASB)

¹² And there is salvation in no one else; for there is no other name under heaven that has been given among men by which we must be saved.”

Memory verse leader next week: Rashaud Fain - Hebrews 12:2 (NASB)

² fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

MINISTER’S NOTES ***Being Different from the World***

These days, it is difficult to see the difference between Christians and non-Christians. If you listen to the way some talk, it is no different than those in the world. If you look at how they dress, it is the same as those in the world. If you see what kinds of jokes entertain them, it is no different than what entertains the world. Many Christians today have lost their distinctiveness. But that is not how Christians are to live. Christians are to be distinctive and different from the world. In 2 Corinthians 6:14-16, Paul lists several things that are not the same, and for each pair he asks the Corinthians how can fellowship exist between the two. The answer is, of course, it cannot. Then he tells the Corinthians in verse 17, “Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you...”. Since we are no longer of the world, we are to be separate from it; we are to be different from the world. In 1 Peter 2:9, we’re described as being a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, and a peculiar people. Each of these terms shows how different we are.

Each point to the fact that we’re not like the rest of the world. We once were part of the world, but we’re not any longer. We’ve come out of the world and now we’re separate. And that is how we must remain.

Sadly, some Christians do not want to be different. They don’t like sticking out or doing things that bring attention to them. They want to hide and be a Christian in secret and act like their friends out in the world. They believe that they can do everything they used to do and still be a Christian. They think they don’t have to come out and be separate. In Matthew 5:14-16, Jesus compares us to light. We are to stand out in this world and be noticed. We’re not doing it for our glory, but to show people the way to God. This world is a very dark place. If we hide our lights, how can we direct them to the truth? Too many Christians are hiding their lights under bushels instead of raising them high for the world to see. If we care about people, we will be different in order to lead them to God.

As Christians, we must learn to become different from the world. We must think of it as a good thing, something that is important and necessary. We, being different, are lights to the dark world. If we become dark like the world, how can anyone come to the truth? If the world cannot see our light, they will remain lost. Let’s shine our lights brightly for God!