

## Obsession or Option?

To view some Christians, they live their lives like they are obsessed with pleasing God. They come to worship and every gathering of the church that they possibly can. They even come when they don't feel all that well. It is as if they are compelled to come. They also volunteer and work every time a need arises in the church. What makes them that way? It is as if they are preoccupied with serving God and honoring Him. They even seem obligated to tell others about Jesus.

Pleasing and honoring God is all they can think about. They literally act like God is in complete control of their lives. To look at other Christians and their lack of attendance, service, and enthusiasm, one would get the idea that they feel that pleasing God is optional. Oh, they may try to do it at times, but those times seem few and far between. They come to worship when it suits them, volunteer when it's convenient, and generally do as they please concerning the Lord and His church. It is almost as if they feel like pleasing God is an elective act. As a result, they rarely mention Jesus to others. They literally act like they are in control of God and only allow Him into their lives when they wish.

Christian, take a close look at your life and what all you do. Could it be labeled as one in which pleasing God appears to others as an obsession or option?

"I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me" (Gal. 2:20).

*Edd Sterchi*  
*Broadway church of Christ*

# Edifier

## **Evant church of Christ**

*310 W Brooks Drive*

*Evant, TX 76525*

*254-471-5705*

**January 24, 2016**



*Attending church services regularly is like making a path through the forest: the more often you use it, the less obstruction you find in the way."*

**Sunday Worship:**

**Will Vann, Preacher**

**9:30 am Bible Study**

**863-899-0987**

**10:20 am Worship**

**Email: [wvann@yahoo.com](mailto:wvann@yahoo.com)**

**12:30 pm Afternoon**

**[www.evantchurchofchrist.org](http://www.evantchurchofchrist.org)**

**Wednesday Night**

**7:pm**

## Be Not Conformed To This World

Paul wrote in Romans 12:1 & 2, "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God."

This instruction given to the saints at Rome is sorely needed by Christians today. We live in a world which subjects us to various pressures, calling upon us to "conform." Because "every one else" dresses immodestly, uses vulgar language, is involved in the mad pursuit of material things, is intent on the things of this life that are pleasurable, etc., etc., Christians are under heavy temptation to do likewise.

When many encourage such activities, excuse sin by saying; "when in Rome, do as the Romans do," remember that Paul wrote to those who were in Rome and told them to not do as the Romans do. He said, "Be not conformed to this world." It doesn't matter how popular and widespread sin and ungodliness may be. It doesn't excuse sinful conduct nor make such practices more acceptable.

Christians are called upon by Titus 2:12 to deny ungodliness and worldly lust and to live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world. This we must do, regardless of what those about us do, and regardless of what they say. Jesus said in Matthew 5:14 & 16, "You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven."

The life of the Christian is to be different - a pure, clean, wholesome kind of difference that others may see. It's sad indeed when our conduct can't be distinguished from that of the worldly people around us. How about you? Are you careful to conduct yourself correctly in all your relationships in life? Do you keep your life clean and your practice pure? Do you know what God has said about living our lives here on earth in preparation for the hereafter?

## Those to Serve

(B) Vernon Houts FV) Jeffrey Burks

(O) Keith Stifflemire (A) Kyle Stifflemire

1st prayer Calvin Burks 2nd prayer Mike Mallett

Announcements: Jack Wall Singing: Judd Wall

**Prayer list:** Mildred Lovell, Darrell Debo, Naomi Wall, Gene Payne, Evelyn Conner Family, Lloyd Crownover, Pray for our nation, our Troops and Law Enforcement

## Joseph Story

**U. S. CONGRESSMAN; U. S. SUPREME COURT JUSTICE**

**One of the beautiful boasts of our municipal jurisprudence is that Christianity is a part of the Common Law. There never has been a period in which the Common Law did not recognize Christianity as lying at its foundations.**

*Happy  
Anniversary  
January 26th  
Doug & Theresa  
Pruett*

**If there are any teachers that are needing a break or those that would like the opportunity to teach a bible class please contact one of the men of the congregation.**

**I have examined all religions,  
and the result is that the  
Bible is the best book in the  
world.**

**JOHN ADAMS**

## Dates to Remember

Jan 31st Fellowship Meal

Feb 7th Mission Sunday