

# You Will Be Missed

“Then Jonathan said to David: Tomorrow is the new moon and thou shalt be missed because thy seat will be empty” (1 Sam. 20:18). These are words of remonstrance spoken by Jonathan to David when he learned that his friend planned to be absent at the time of one of their solemn feasts. It brings to our minds the problem of empty seats in the church house.

Each time you are absent from a religious service in which God is worshipped in truth and in which His word is taught, you are missed. Since God commanded us to assemble, He misses us when we are absent. How it must grieve God for us to trample His commands under our feet! Take up your Bible and read again Hebrews 10:25. And, too, Christ misses us when we are absent. He has promised to be present when we meet in His name (Matt. 18:20). When we miss the assembly we miss an appointment with Jesus! He sees and knows.

The world and the enemies of the church miss you when your seat is empty. They take particular note of it and make capital of it. They make jesting remarks about how little your religion means to you. Your influence is greatly diminished by irregular attendance. You cannot convince a person that the church can be something of great importance to him unless you show him by your actions that it is of great importance to you. How Satan must “laugh up his sleeve” when a member of the body of Christ wilfully absents himself from the services of the church!

Your fellow Christians miss you when your seat is empty. They enjoy the services, but their enjoyment would be increased if you were there worshipping with them. Jonathan's enjoyment of the feast of the new moon would have been greater if David had been present.

But the greatest tragedy is not that you are missed but that you MISS some-thing of great importance ... something you badly need . something you must have if you are to grow. Don't stay away!

# Edifier

**Evant church of Christ**

310 W Brooks Drive

Evant, TX 76525

254-471-5705

**April 17, 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**

## Do Not Be Deceived

In an article I read several years ago entitled *The Truth About the Homosexual Rights Movement*, by Ronald G. Lee (a former practicing homosexual), I found a tautology, sin is sin no matter how it is masked. Mr. Lee begins his explication of how the homosexual movement was attempting to convince people of its acceptability. Writing of a bookstore in Austin that catered to homosexuals he stated, "It all looked so innocuous and disarmingly bourgeois. But if you went inside to browse, before long you noticed another section, behind the books, a section not visible from the street. The pornography section. Hundreds and hundreds of pornographic videos, all involving men, but otherwise catering to every conceivable sexual taste or fantasy. And you would notice something else too. There were no customers in the front." The intent of the proprietors was to make money off of the sale of pornographic materials and had nothing to do with books. As Mr. Lee explained though, the bookstore front was not for nothing. "The money spent on books wasn't wasted. It was used to purchase a commodity that is more precious than gold to the gay rights establishment. Respectability. Respectability and the appearance of normalcy." All sin, not just homosexuality, is the same in that it attempts to gain the appearance of respectability. The apostle Paul said of this, "And no wonder! For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light" (2 Cor. 11:14).

He concludes his introductory thoughts by saying that there were two types of people that looked into the window of the bookstore. First, those who had no intention of ever setting foot inside, but were influenced by the seeming normalcy of homosexuality. Second, the ones who wanted to test the waters and see what it was all about. Of these Mr. Lee said, "Eventually, they will find their way back to the porn, with the rest of the customers. And like them, they will start rooting through the videos. And, gentle reader, that is where most of them will spend the rest of their lives, until God or AIDS, drugs or alcohol, suicide or a lonely old age, intervenes." This article was not written merely to confront the problem of homosexuality, but as a reminder of what sin really is! "Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap. For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life" (Gal. 6:7,8).

Will Vann

## Those to Serve

(B) Calvin Burks FV) Jack Wall

(O) Jeffrey Burks (A) Keith Stifflemire

1st prayer Mike Mallett 2nd prayer Doug Pruett

Announcements: Judd Wall Singing: Judd Wall

**Prayer List:** Naomi Wall , Mildred Lovell , Gene Payne, Lloyd Crownover, Ruby Jones , Mark Kirby , Pray for our nation, our Troops and Law Enforcement

## Ephesians 4:4-6 (KJV)

**4 There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling;**

**5 One Lord, one faith, one baptism,**

**6 One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.**

*Happy Anniversary*

April 18th

Jack & Cindi Wall

*Happy Birthday*

To

Emma Lee Burks 28th

Connie Mallet 30th

**Philippians 4:13(KJV)**

**I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.**

## Dates to Remember

**April 24th**

Family & Friends Day

Noon Fellowship

**May 1st**

Mission Sunday

**May 8th**

Mother's Day