

Those to Serve

(B) Keith Stifflemire
(FV) Jack Wall
(O) Doug Pruett
(A) Jorge Garza
1st prayer Judd Wall
2nd prayer Calvin Burks
Announcements: Jack Wall
Singing: Mike Mallett

Prayer List:

Tammy Parker
Mike Lovell
Letha Sheldon
Ruby Jones
Loyd Crownover
Pray for our Nation
Our Troops
Law Enforcement

Happy Birthday

Jack Wall August 20th
Cindi Wall August 26th

August 15th

First Day of School Lampasas

August 19th

First Day of School Evant

September 1st

Mission Sunday

September 2nd

Labor Day

September 8th

Noon Fellowship

September 8th

*Friends & Family
Day.*

*Please make plans
to attend and stay
for the noon
Fellowship.*

Church Directory

We have three new family's to add to our directory, now is a good time to make any corrections or changes if any needs to be made. If you have a new phone number, e-mail address or whatever please let Vernon & Linda know.

Edifier

Evant church of Christ

310 W Brooks Drive

Evant, TX 76525

254-471-5705

August 18, 2019



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:

9:30 am Bible Study

10:20 am Worship

12:30 pm Afternoon

Wednesday Night

6:00 pm

Will Vann, Preacher

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Watering The Grass

By Will Vann

Last week I decided to start watering the grass in front of the building. It, like all the grass in Evant, had been burnt to a crisp over the past few weeks of no rain and near 100 degree days. I watered in the evenings after the sun was down for around 30 minutes with a handheld nozzle on the water hose. Even after that it was hard to tell that I had done anything because the ground was so dry that it rapidly soaked up all the moisture. After four days of this I noticed what little grass was still alive had started to look a little greener and there was a little new growth, but it was minimal. In fact, it was so minimal that by the afternoon all of the 'progress' I had made appeared to have once again burnt up. That was until Sunday morning. Sunday morning, just before daylight, it rained!

The total time I spent in the evenings watering was around two hours, about the same amount of time it rained that morning. However, the result of my efforts and that of God's was vastly different. After one short morning of rain the yard in front of the building looked far better than it did even after several days of me attempting to revive it. Was my labor in vain? I was beginning to think that it was. In fact, if it hadn't rained I would have given up because what I could do alone was not going to make a noticeable difference. But, my labor was not in vain.

The apostle Paul wrote, "*Who then is Paul, and who is Apollos, but ministers through whom you believed, as the Lord gave to each one? I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the increase. So then neither he who plants is anything, nor he who waters, but God who gives the increase*" (1 Cor. 3:5-7). I observed several things in regard to my efforts. I was using only what God had provided to begin with, water and water was the only thing that would have worked. Second, the almost negligible improvement that resulted from my efforts were not nearly as noticeable until God took part in that effort. After it rained the grass that I had been working on looked better than the grass I hadn't even though it got rain as well. Lastly, almost a week later, it still looks better than the grass that I did nothing to. Without God my labors would have truly been in vain, but by using what God had already provided I was able to prepare the front yard to truly benefit from the rain that it received. All I had to do was to get out there and water the grass!

"Neither Cold Nor Hot"

It seems that every congregation struggles to achieve a 'happy medium' when it comes to the thermostat setting in the church auditorium. Some are perpetually cold, while others are simultaneously too hot. One will be shivering and wearing a heavy coat and lap blanket, while another sitting nearby will be employing one of those 'funeral home fans' that are invariably located in the pews.

What we hope to do is find a temperature setting that is acceptable to the majority of folks, resulting in worshippers that are "neither cold nor hot." But despite our best efforts, everyone must realize that those whose sensitivities are at the extremes of the hot and cold spectrum will still wish for higher or lower settings on the thermostat. We beg for patience and a longsuffering attitude on the part of everyone.

On the other hand, the spiritual temperature chart is completely different. We absolutely do not want to find Christians in the in-between, "lukewarm" range. Do you recall what the Lord said to the Laodiceans?: "I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot. So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth." (Revelation 3:15-16)

We fear that there are too many of God's people today who would be described as "lukewarm." These are the ones who want a measure of religion, but not too much. They want an association with God's people, but they also want to be accepted by their friends in the world. They know they should be faithful in attendance, but their secular activities demand a lot of their time. In short, they want it both ways. God's Word says it can't be done: "No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon" (Matthew 6:24).

Christian, are you "neither cold nor hot"? Are you "lukewarm"? Think! - by Greg Gwin