

### Those to Serve

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

Jorge & Valerie Garza where both baptized Wednesday night . Pray for them as they start their Christian walk and as Christian's to Christ's church

### Dates to Remember

**June 16th**

*Father's Day*

**June 21**

*First Day of Summer*

**June 30th**

*Noon Fellowship*

**Happy Birthday**

Mike Lovell July 16th  
Keith Stifflemire July 22nd

### Prayer List:

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

**HAPPY  
FATHER'S  
DAY!**

### Malachi 2:10 (NKJV)

10 Have we not all one Father?  
Has not one God created us?  
Why do we deal treacherously with one another  
By profaning the covenant of the fathers?

**Happy Anniversary**

**July 19th**  
**Mike & Connie Mallett**

**July 25th**  
**Jorge & Valerie Garza**

# Edifier

## Evant church of Christ

310 W Brooks Drive

Evant, TX 76525

254-471-5705

**June 16, 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**

**863-899-0987**

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

## A Father's Greatest Responsibility

By Joe Chesser

A man can be a great leader and at the same time be a lousy father. A man can be an outstanding prophet, priest, or king, and still be a failure as a parent. It's such a common problem that there are jokes floating around about preachers' kids and elders' kids. To me, that's tragic. But, even more significant, God thinks it's tragic, too.

Eli was a priest serving the Lord at Shiloh. As faithful as he was in performing his duties to God and the people, his performance as a parent was awful. It was said of his two sons that they were wicked and that "they had no regard for the Lord" (1 Sam. 2:12). They had the nerve to take the fat portions of the sacrifices that belonged to God and keep them for themselves. Eli didn't stop them, even though "the sin of the young men was very great in the Lord's sight, for they were treating the Lord's offering with contempt" (1 Sam. 2:17). Eli neglected his greatest responsibility – to correct his sons and teach them to be obedient to the Lord and to himself. Finally, the Lord sent a man of God to Eli with a prophecy of his accountability: "Why do you honor your sons more than me ... ?" (1 Sam. 2:29). Eli was faithful in performing the duties of a priest, but was unfaithful in his greatest responsibility – teaching his children to be faithful to God.

Unfortunately, Eli's example was not unique. Samuel, the prophet who grew up under the mentorship of Eli, turned out the same way. He was personally faithful as a servant of the Lord, anointing both Saul and David as kings, but his sons were very wicked. In fact, it was because his sons were so corrupt that Israel sought to have king (1 Sam. 8).

Even David, the best king Israel ever had, would not have won "Father of the Year." In 1 Kings 1:6 it says of David regarding his rebellious son Adonijah, "His father had never interfered with him by asking 'Why do you behave as you do?'" As a result, Adonijah set himself up as king over Israel when he thought David was too old to do anything about it.

The New Testament teaches that a part of the qualifications of a man who is to be appointed as an Elder of the church is that he must have proven that he can "manage his own family well and see that his children obey him with proper respect" (1 Tim. 3:4). In a similar way, deacons are also to be able to manage their families well (1 Tim. 3:12). It is the responsibility of fathers to teach and train their children in the ways of the Lord (Eph. 6:4).

In this brief study it is clear what God views as one of the greatest responsibilities of fatherhood – to teach and train their children in the ways of God and to expect obedience and respect. Children are not obedient and respectful because they are commanded to be, but because a loving and caring father has consistently trained them in God's ways and demonstrated that kind of life before them day after day.

What greater privilege and responsibility does a father have?

## What Would They Say?

Suppose that what others think and say about us would be the determining factor as to where we spend eternity? What would others say about you?

1) What would your children say? Parents have grave responsibilities in bringing their children up in the admonition of the Lord (Eph. 6:4). Would your children put in a good word for you at the judgment if it were needed? Would they say you spent time with them in "training them in the way they should go"? (Prov. 22:6). Do your children think you set a good example for them (Matt. 5:13-16)? Would you go to heaven or hell if what your own children say about you decided it?

2) What would your spouse say? Husbands and wives must have the proper love and respect for each other (Eph. 5:22-31). How husbands and wives treat each other may well determine their eternal destiny! If what your spouse thinks and says of you in judgment is considered, how would it go? Husbands and wives need to live as to be "heirs together of the grace of life..." (1 Pet. 3:7).

3) What would your employer say? We are commanded to work (Eph. 4:28; 1 Thess. 4:11-12). We need to put in a honest day's work for an honest day's pay! Many employees sleep on the job, steal from the company, and work as little as possible to get by. If your employer's check sheet determined your eternal destiny—where would it be?

4) What would your parents say? Young people must accept responsibility for themselves. The young need to be taught to honor, respect and obey their parents (Eph. 6:1-3). What do your parents really think of you? Have you brought shame and disgrace on them? If, in judgment, the word of your parents decided your fate, what would it be?

5) What would your neighbors say? The Lord used the relationship of a neighbor to teach a lesson (Lk. 10:36). Do you treat your neighbors as you wish to be treated? Have you tried to teach them the gospel? What would they say of you in judgment?

6) What would God say? The most important thing will be, what will God say? We will be judged by the word of God (Jn. 12:48; Rom. 2:16).

- by Johnie Edwards