

### Those to Serve

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

**December 29th**

Noon Fellowship

**December 31st**

New Years Eve

**January 5th**

Mission Sunday

**January 19th**

Noon Fellowship

**February 2**

Mission Sunday

**Happy Birthday**

**Kevin Grant Dec 24th**

**Letha Sheldon Dec 25th**

**Will Vann Dec 26th**

**Jeffrey Burks Feb 7th**

### Prayer List:

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

### Guest Speaker

**December 29th**

**&**

**January 19th**

**Lynn Parker and  
Family will be visiting**



**New Years Eve Party at  
Lynette Vann's House  
Dec. 31, 2019**

### Quotes & Sayings

- In the end, it's not the years in your life that count. It's the life in your years. *Abraham Lincoln*
- *A father's a treasure;  
a brother's a comfort;  
a friend is both.*  
*Ben Franklin*

# Edifier

**Evant church of Christ**

310 W Brooks Drive

Evant, TX 76525

254-471-5705

**December 29, 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

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

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

## Worthy Resolutions

A song we often sing when an invitation to obedience is extended is, "I Am Resolved." It speaks of commitment to Christ and **verse 1** says, "I am resolved no longer to linger, charmed by the world's delight; things that are higher, things that are nobler, these have allured my sight."

**Verse 2** speaks of being resolved to turn to Christ, and leaving behind sin and strife.

**Verse 3** tells of daily, faithful service and obedience to the Savior, while in **verse 4**, the resolution is made to enter the Kingdom, choosing God and Heaven over sin and friends.

**What resolutions have you made – or plan to make – in 2020?** Some of the most popular ones are to: lose weight, save more money, stop cursing, spend more time with family, criticize others less, and read the Bible more.

While all of these are worthy goals (especially reading the Bible more), I want to suggest a few things that go beyond weight loss and saving money.

**1. Resolve to set spiritual goals.** "If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. 2Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth" (Col. 3:1-2). Some examples: Resolve to attend all the services of the Lord's church (Heb. 10:24-25). If you're not giving back to God at least as much as was required under the Old Law, resolve to increase your contribution (Lev. 27:30-33; I Cor. 16:1-2). Study your Bible more (II Tim. 2:15; II Pet. 3:18). Understand that fellowshiping denominations is sinful (Eph. 5:11) and study the Bible's teaching on that subject (I Cor. 1:10; II Cor. 6:17)

These are only three examples, maybe you can think of more, but the point is to set a spiritual goal for 2012. One thing is certain: if you aim at nothing, you'll hit nothing.

**2. Resolve to be right with God.** Are you sure of your salvation? If Jesus were to return in the next few seconds, would you have confidence of your eternal security? Have you obeyed the Gospel? Endless doom awaits those who haven't (II Thess. 1:6-9). What profit is there if you gain the whole world, but lose you soul? What would you give in exchange for your soul (Mt. 16:26)? Repent and be baptized if you've never done so (Acts 2:38). If you're a wayward Christian, repent and pray God's forgiveness (Acts 8:22). "It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God" (Heb. 10:26-31).

**3. Resolve to do more for others.** Be more of a peacemaker (Mt. 5:9). New Testament Christians live in a spiritually lost and dying world, so share the Gospel more (Mt. 28:19-20).

Focus more heavily on a stronger commitment to Christ (Mt. 6:33; Gal. 2:20). Encourage others and build them up (Rom. 14:19). If you think your congregation needs a better preacher or better elders or deacons, pray for them (I Tim. 2:8; I Tim. 2:1-3). Be an encourager, not a complainer.

As we begin this new year, let's not limit our resolutions to losing weight and saving more money, let's establish goals that are really important! Let's grow "in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ" (II Pet. 3:18). Resolve to put your faith in God and expect to do great things through His Son in 2012 (Phil. 4:13).

By R. W. McAlister

## Ripped Apart at Church

When was the last time, if ever, have you been ripped apart at church? I don't mean when some insensitive and ungodly person at church says some abusive or hurtful words to you. I don't mean a time when the church leaders announced some plans or decisions that shocked you to the core. What I mean is when was the last time your world has been totally destroyed or turned upside down by the preaching or teaching of the word of God? When was the last time you were so convicted by the word of God that you were compelled to make some life changes that rocked your world?

Most of us don't go to church to be ripped apart. Most of us go to church to be encouraged and uplifted. Most of us go to the church we do because we like it there, we enjoy being with the people; we enjoy the sermons and the classes and the style of music. Most of us like the way we feel when we leave to go home. If we didn't, we'd most likely start looking for a church we did enjoy.

Now, before you jump to the wrong conclusions, I do believe it is important to enjoy being with the church you attend. It's great to enjoy the people, the preaching, and the singing. It's great to enjoy being involved in the work of the church. As David, who had a heart like God, said, "I rejoiced with those who said to me, 'Let us go to the house of the Lord'" (Psalm 122:1). We are supposed to be a joyful people (Phil. 4:4, Gal. 5:22) and to love each other (Phil. 2:1-4). It's wonderful to have good relationships with church people.

However, Satan is coaxing us to be a consumer driven church. He has convinced many of us that if I don't enjoy church then something must be wrong with the church. It's not meeting my needs and expectations, and if they don't change, I will! Church should be all about pleasing me, about what I want.

Hold on. That's not what the Bible teaches, is it? The Bible teaches that the church is made up of people who have had their hearts ripped apart by the word of God. In fact, that's exactly how the church began. People were happy where they were doing their own thing. But Peter stood up before them and ripped their hearts apart by preaching the gospel of Christ's death and resurrection (Acts 2). The church began with people who were convicted of their sin, and the church grew as more and more people were convicted of their sins by the preaching of the gospel. The church in the New Testament was not about music styles and eloquent preachers and feel-good fellowships. It was about people whose lives were filled with sin being heart-broken and yielding to the grace of God through the preaching of the cross (1 Cor. 1:10-2:5). After obeying the gospel they went on with their lives rejoicing (Acts 8:39) and taking the heart-breaking, soul-saving gospel with them wherever they went (Acts 8:4). It's important to enjoy being with people who have experienced the same victory over sin as you have, and to enjoy worshiping and working together. But all the while we must be open to having our hearts ripped apart (when needed) by the preaching of the word of God (Heb. 4:12-13). By Joe Chesser