

Those to Serve

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

Guest Speaker

January 19th

Lynn Parker

Quotes & Sayings

- Be not overcome by evil but repay evil with good.
Bible
- God gives every bird its food, but He does not throw it into its nest.
J.G. Holland
- *It's hard to beat a person who never gives up.*
Babe Ruth
- *The dictionary is the only place that success comes before work. work is the key to success, and hard work can help you accomplish anything*
Vince Lombardi

Prayer List:

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



January 26th

Doug & Theresa Pruett



Adree Stapp Feb 4th

Jeffrey Burks Feb 7th

Avery Vann Feb 11th

Mac Vann Feb 14th

January 19th

Noon Fellowship

February 2

Mission Sunday

February 14th

Valentine's Day

Edifier

Evant church of Christ

310 W Brooks Drive

Evant, TX 76525

254-471-5705

January 19, 2020



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

12:30 pm Afternoon

www.evantchurchofchrist.org

Wednesday Night

6:00 pm

Grains of Sand

by Sam Stinson

"But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. For he himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility by abolishing the law of commandments expressed in ordinances, that he might create in himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace, and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby killing the hostility" (Ephesians 2:13-16).

A popular contemporary wedding tradition is the sand ceremony. A speaker, usually the officiant of the wedding, points out two glass jars which are filled to the brim with sand. The two vessels each respectively represent the lives of the bride and the groom. A third vessel, empty, sits in between these. The speaker pours the two vessels of sand together into the empty vessel, filling it. Just as now it would be impossible to separate the individual grains of sand back into their original vessels, so now the lives of these two are forever joined in one vessel, the covenant of marriage. When one tries to separate what God has joined, one faces a seemingly impossible task. Throughout Scripture, the imagery of sand appears, as the multitude of stars in the heavens, to demonstrate that which seems infinite in number: God's people are represented as these grains. God blessed Abraham saying, "I will surely bless you, and I will surely multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of his enemies" (Genesis 22:17). Solomon's breadth of mind given to him by God was deemed uncountable as the grains of sand on a beach (1 King 4:29).

In Christ, we are each joined one to another. Our lives are added by God in a holy union under Christ's covenant, a new covenant in our hearts (Jeremiah 31:33). In Scripture, there was a time when some were excluded from God's priesthood as unclean since their lineage to Aaron or Levi could not be confirmed (Ezra 2:62; Nehemiah 7:64). But now there is no special priesthood, no distinction: all who are in Christ are chosen (Revelation 1:6). As Paul explained to the Ephesians, both Jews and Gentiles are brought together in one vessel, in one Lord. Those in Christ no longer face a dividing wall of hostility separating East Berlin from West Berlin because Jews who are in Christ died to the law of commandments that separated the Jews from the Gentiles by design, as Peter was commanded to no longer call common what God has made clean (Acts 10:15; 11:9; cf. Leviticus 10:10).

But what of those today who attempt to make factions among God's grains along racial, cultural, or familial lines? Let him consider: "A stone is heavy, and sand is weighty, but a fool's provocation is heavier than both" (Proverbs 27:3).

You Can Understand the Bible for Yourself

One of the greatest misconceptions about the Bible is that it is a locked book. The average person is believed to be shut out from comprehending its message. It is thought to be too mysterious, too difficult for the common man or woman to understand.

Nothing could be further from the truth. The apostle Paul was one of the individuals who was chosen to write down the message of Christ for the New Testament. The word of Christ was revealed to Paul by the Holy Spirit. The gospel had been hidden for years like a mystery, but it was now being unveiled for all to see and know. Speaking of the gospel, Paul wrote, "how that by revelation He made known to me the mystery (as I wrote before in a few words, by which when you read, you may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ)," (Ephesians 3:3-4).

The Bible was not written to stump man or frustrate him in any way. Certainly there are sections of it that are challenging and even parts that leave most of us at a loss as to what it is about. Yet, the vast majority of what is found in the Bible is understandable for anyone.

God's supreme intelligence makes the Bible understandable. He knows how we reason and communicate and He has constructed it in such a way that we can comprehend it. It is filled with narrative, illustrations, and colorful language that makes it easier for us to relate to what is being said. Though He is so far above us, God has always been able to connect with man if man was willing to listen.

You don't have to have some special teacher to unlock the secrets of the Bible for you. You may benefit from another's assistance, but you can read the Bible for yourself. You do, however, have to make an effort and invest some time into studying the Bible in order to understand it. Like learning anything new, you will struggle at first. Yet, if you are committed and stick to it, you will soon begin to see it come together. You will discover that the Bible is fascinating and enlightening. You will find that it is understandable and that it is the word of eternal life (John 6:63).

by Phillip Mullins