

### Those to Serve

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

**September 13th**  
*Grandparents Day*  
**September 22nd**  
*Autumn Begins*  
**September 27th**  
*Noon Fellowship*  
**October 4th**  
*Mission Sunday*  
**October 12th**  
*Columbus Day*  
**October 25th**  
*Noon Fellowship*

**Happy Birthday**

Vernon Houts Sept 24th  
Judy Grant Sept 28th  
Autumn Vann Sept 29th  
Judd Wall Oct. 10th

### Prayer List:

Virginia Lovell  
Dennis Sheldon  
Janell Houts Hall  
Odell Mallett  
Dora Martinez  
Mona Lancaster  
Willis Hughes  
Letha Sheldon  
Ruby Jones  
Pray for our Nation  
Our Troops  
Law Enforcement  
Rescue Personnel

### Quotes & Sayings

- ***Being happy doesn't mean that everything is perfect. It means that you've decided to look beyond the imperfections.*** Gerard Way
- ***Happiness doesn't depend on what we have, but it does depend on how we feel toward what we have. We can be happy with little and miserable with much.*** William D. Hoard
- ***Progress is impossible without change; and those who cannot change their minds cannot change anything.*** George Bernard Shaw

# Edifier

**Evant church of Christ**

310 W Brooks Drive

Evant, TX 76525

254-471-5705

**September 13, 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**

## Struggles Of The Christian

By Mike Riley

*The following is a story of nature demonstrating the fact that struggles are a necessary part of growth and development for the Christian in this life. God places these struggles (or trials) before us to prepare us for that perfect home in heaven with Him.*

### *The Man And The Cocoon*

*One day a small opening appeared on a cocoon. A man sat and watched for the butterfly for several hours as it struggled to force its body through that little hole. Then it seemed to stop making any progress. It appeared as if it had gotten as far as it could and could go no further. The man decided to help the butterfly so he took a pair of scissors and snipped off the remaining bit of the cocoon. The butterfly then emerged easily but it had a swollen body and small, shriveled wings. The man continued to watch the butterfly because he expected that, at any moment, the wings would enlarge and expand to be able to support the body, which would contract in time. Neither happened! In fact, the butterfly spent the rest of its life crawling around with a swollen body and shriveled wings. It was never able to fly.*

*What the man in his kindness and haste did not understand was that the restraining cocoon and the struggle required for the butterfly to get through the tiny opening was God's way of forcing fluid from the body of the butterfly into its wings so that it would be ready for flight once it achieved its freedom from the cocoon.*

*As Christians, struggles (or trials) are exactly what we need in our life in order to grow and develop properly. If God allowed us to go through our Christian life without any obstacles, it would cripple us spiritually. We, like the butterfly, would not be as strong as what we could have been. We could never fly!*

### *Conclusion*

*Brethren – Let's thank God for our daily struggles (trials) and display the same attitude toward trials as the Apostle Paul. The great Apostle said in 1 Peter 4:12-13 – NKJV:*

*"Beloved, do not think it strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you; but rejoice to the extent that you partake of Christ's sufferings, that when His glory revealed, you may also be glad with exceeding joy."*

By Mike Riley

## How Much Time Is Left?

A man's house was burning. At the first sign of smoke he had rushed out to buy a fire extinguisher. Before he returned, the roof and walls had collapsed, destroying all his furnishings.

A man's doctor warned him of a bad heart condition. From the doctor's office he went immediately to the insurance salesman, but he was refused in his attempts to provide financial protection for his wife and children.

A man was endowed by God with a strong, healthy body. Because his appetite was stronger than his moral convictions, he squandered his powers until dissipation brought him to weakness. Then disease struck and without a normal reserve of strength, he could not be cured by the surgeon of what would ordinarily have been a minor ailment.

A man had a Bible, knew the church was interested in him, had friends who regularly encouraged him to live more with God. With consistency, he made reasons not to, while his conscience grew fainter, and the black wrong and white right faded into medium gray. When the critical temptation came, he was only faintly aware of it, and certainly he had no moral reserve to resist it.

David said it this way: "For this cause everyone who is godly shall pray to You in a time when You may be found; surely in a flood of great waters they shall not come near him" (Psalm f2:6). Jesus said the same thing in describing the five foolish virgins (Matt. 25:1-1f).

When the operation begins, it is too late to take vitamin pills. When the battle begins, it's too late to train the troops. When the flood waters rise, it's too late to find a rock foundation. When Satan attacks, they can only resist who have put on their armor.

Memorize that verse now; when you need it, you won't have time. Worship God this Lord's Day; when you need that strength, you won't have time. Repent of that sin now; when Christ comes, you won't have time. Renew your broken connection with the Lord now; at your funeral, you won't have time. Become a Christian now; in the judgment day you won't have time. Don't be almost persuaded, but lost -- obey the Lord and be saved!

- by James Cooper