

Those to Serve

(B) Calvin Burks

(FV) Jack Wall

(O) Doug Pruett

(A) Kevin Grant

1st prayer Mike Mallett

2nd prayer Jorge Garza

Announcements: Keith Stifflemire

Singing: Judd Wall

Where Will We Be When COVID Is Gone?

COVID-19 has been an unwelcome intruder to human society in general, but to the church of the Lord in particular. We have significant challenges ahead recovering as a society, but churches will forever be affected by this trouble, too. We may not yet know all the ways the pandemic and our response to it may have affected us, but we can be sure that the Devil will see to it that it will harm us spiritually, if He can. We need to be thinking now of how we will recover what we have lost, and restore what has been lacking. Of course, we have learned some valuable lessons along the way about ourselves. Our strengths have been made obvious, but so have some weaknesses. Virtual meetings can never replace physical meetings. They are about as effective as a virtual doctor visit. It may get the job done somewhat, but there is nothing like the real thing. When this trouble has passed, where will you be? What effect will COVID have had on you spiritually? Trouble never leaves us where it finds us. - by Mark White

Prayer List:

David Jones

Virginia Lovell

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

December 31st

New Years Eve

January 1st

New Year's Day

January 3rd

Mission Sunday

January 31st

Noon Fellowship

Happy Anniversary

Doug & Theresa Pruett

January 26th

Happy Birthday

Kevin Grant Dec 24th

Letha Sheldon Dec 25th

Will Vann Dec 26th

Edifier

Evant church of Christ

310 W Brooks Drive

Evant, TX 76525

254-471-5705

December 27, 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:

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

www.evantchurchofchrist.org

Are You Upset & Concerned? Do You Have Questions?

Do you wonder why things are done the way they are done? Do you have questions about the work, worship or operation of the congregation? Does it seem that there are things going on that you don't understand? Are there issues floating around that trouble you? Are there times when you don't really agree with the decisions that are being made?

If so, join the club! We all face the kind of questions and concerns that we've just described. The big question is not: Will such issues arise? The question is: How will YOU deal with these things when they happen?

Let us offer some do's and don'ts for handling these potentially difficult situations.

DON'T...

- Don't get angry and upset before you have gathered all the facts.
- Don't gossip or backbite. This doesn't help, and it is a sin (Proverbs 6:19).
- Don't complain if you don't intend to get busy correcting the problem. Typically, churches have way too many fault-finders, and 'not enough problem solvers.
- Don't immediately assume the worst about your brethren. Too often we hear harsh judgmental words about the elders, the preacher, or other members before the facts have all been sorted out. True love demands better than this (1 Cor. 13:4-7).

DO...

- Ask for information. Very often any disagreement or controversy can be quickly cleared up this way.
- If there is a problem, go directly to the source. Speak to the one(s) involved and work for a solution.
- Pray for wisdom in dealing with the problem, asking for God's help to do and say the right things (Jas. 1:5).
- Maintaining sound doctrine is the highest priority (Gal 1:8,9), but maintaining peace must also be an important goal for every member (Eph. 4:1-3). - by Greg Gwin

A Man Who Had Plenty

Only Luke records Jesus' story of the rich man and Lazarus (16:19-31). Scholars debate whether this was a parable or a historical account. Since parables are true-to-life illustrations, it makes little difference. The story is addressed to the Pharisees, who were lovers of money (v. 14). Their money and outward show of religion impressed men (v. 15). Perhaps folks viewed their wealth as an indication of God's approval. Jesus knew better. The story is about a man who had plenty. We ought to be able to relate to that.

He had plenty of money. The man is not named. (Some folks refer to him as Dives, based on Jerome's Latin word for rich.) He was just "a certain rich man." He could be anyone with plenty of money. Who is that? Doesn't rich always describe folks who have more than we? It shouldn't. Most of us have plenty, far more than is essential to life. Plenty of money was not the man's problem. It was what he did with it. "He habitually dressed in purple and fine linen, gaily living in splendor every day" (v. 19). He consumed it all. It all went to self. And that was inexcusable because...

He had plenty of opportunity to help others. "And a certain poor man named Lazarus was laid at his gate, covered with sores, and longing to be fed with the crumbs which were falling from the rich man's table..." (v. 20-21). Sometimes we console ourselves that we would do more if only we had opportunity. Beware. The problem is rarely lack of opportunity; it is unwillingness to see it. This man couldn't see it lying at his gate! Neither will we if we, like him, are always looking in a mirror. That focus on self later became unbearably painful because...

He had plenty of torment. In Hades, the realm of the dead. The man who had been so comfortable in life was now indescribably miserable in death. Instantly, he became the beggar. "Father Abraham, have mercy on me...I am in agony in this flame" (v. 24). Now he could see clearly. It was too late. All that remained was an eternity of agony. And it was his own fault because...

He had plenty of instruction. At the end of the story the rich man pled with Abraham to send Lazarus back from the dead to warn his brothers. "But he said to him, 'If they do not listen to Moses and the Prophets, neither will they be persuaded if someone rises from the dead'" (v. 31). The Bible that the rich man had so long ignored contained all the instruction, evidence, promises and warning that anyone would need. If that won't move us, what else would?

Are you living daily in service to the Christ who was crucified for you? - by Frank Himmel