

Those to Serve

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

Ten Commandments of Friendship

1. Speak to people; speak first.
2. Smile at people.
3. Call people by their name.
4. Be friendly and helpful.
5. Be pleasant.
6. Be genuinely interested in people.
7. Be generous with praise.
8. Be considerate of their feelings.
9. Be thoughtful of their opinions.
10. Be alert for opportunities to give service.

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

January 3rd

Mission Sunday

January 31st

Noon Fellowship

February 7th

Mission Fund

February 14th

Valentine's Day

Happy Anniversary

January 26th

Doug & Theresa Pruett

February 14th

Vernon & Linda Houts

Don't let people pull you into their storms. Pull them into your peace.

unknown

Edifier

Evant church of Christ

310 W Brooks Drive

Evant, TX 76525

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January 3, 2021



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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Struggles Of The Christian

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

New Year's Resolutions

Yes, it's that time again. It is the time of year when we usually commit ourselves to several worthy goals. We do this because we want to make our lives and faith better. We want to improve and that is a worthy goal. I have noticed that most of our resolutions revolve around money, health, and family.

While these are worthy goals, what would it look like if you could set the resolutions for the church or your family? I would venture to say that we would set a much more rounded, holistic set of resolutions. As I reflected on this question, I came up with a list that I think is a good start. It is not perfect by any means but these are the things I would like to see myself and others focus on.

- Pray more – 1 Thessalonians 5:17.
- Invest in your God given talents – 1 Timothy 4:14-15; Matthew 25:14-30.
- Get more intentional about evangelism – 1 Corinthians 9:19-23.
- Care for yourself spiritually – Philippians 3:12-16; Mark 6:31; Exodus 20:8-11.
- Be willing to make the tough decisions – Acts 20:22-24.
- Confront the sin in your life – Heb. 12:1-2.
- Be forgiving of others and myself – Matthew 6:14-15.
- Love people without boundaries – 1 Corinthians 13:1-3.
- Quit comparing myself to others – John 21:20-23; 2 Corinthians 10:12.
- Read more – 2 Timothy 4:9, 13.
- Make family a priority – Colossians 3:18-21.
- Stay focused on the Lord and his church – Acts 2:42-47.
- Continue to grow – Ephesians 4:15-16; 2 Peter 3:17-17
- Treat others like I would like to be treated – Matthew 7:12; Isaiah 1:16-17.
- Seek heavenly things above all else – Colossians 3:1-2.

This is a difficult list that could take a lifetime to master and yet, we are called to be Christ-like in every aspect of our life. Let's use our resolutions to ensure that we become the best Christian possible.

By Jeff Arnette