

Those to Serve

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

Something to Think On

A little boy asked his dad, "Dad, what is a " Christian?"

*The father replied, "A Christian is a person who loves and obeys God. He loves his friends and neighbors, and even his enemies. He prays often, and blesses God's Holy Name. He is kind and considerate, gentle and holy, and is more interested in going to heaven than in all earthly riches. Now **that** is a Christian!"*

To which the child responded, "Dad, have I ever seen one?"

Proverbs 26:17 NKJV

He who passes by *and* meddles in a quarrel not his own
Is like one who takes a dog by the ears.

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

February 14th

Valentine's Day

February 15th

Presidents Day

February 28th

Noon Fellowship

March 7th

Mission Fund

Happy Anniversary

February 14th

Vernon & Linda Houts

Happy Birthday

Mac Vann February 14th

Eloisa Garza March 2nd

Koh Stapp March 12th

Dennis Sheldon March 30th

Edifier

Evant church of Christ

310 W Brooks Drive

Evant, TX 76525

254-471-5705

February 14, 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

Email: wvann@yahoo.com

www.evantchurchofchrist.org

“Back to Basics”

A coach of a football team was being interviewed following his team's embarrassing loss to a much weaker team. He said that it was going to be necessary for his team to “get back to the basics” if they wished to be a winning team. The coach realized that the team had not built a winning tradition on the “razzle-dazzle” and “hot-dog” plays, but had done so by concentrating on the “basics” of good football. When the team forgot the “basics” and engaged in the “exciting” and the “unusual plays” they had momentary success (maybe one touchdown) and caused much excitement among the spectators. However this success was short-lived and the excitement did not last when the team was unable to win consistently with such play. They needed to get “back to the basics” if they were to have long-term success.

I believe there is a lesson in the above story for members of the body of Christ. It seems that many members (including some preachers) become bored with “the basics” when it comes to serving God. They decide that we need something new and more exciting. To simply preach the gospel of Christ and encourage men and women to abide in the teaching of God's word in all they say and do is just “too old fashioned” and boring to them. So, they come up with something “new” and exciting. They appeal to people with recreation and entertainment. They devise various social projects and make them the work of the church. They begin to sound like denominational theologians rather than preachers of the gospel of Christ. As a result of such actions these brethren meet with what they consider success. They attract attention and their numbers increase. There is “excitement” in their midst. They are “on the move.” However, the new soon wears off these “new” projects and it soon becomes apparent that there is no real and lasting value to these “new and exciting” ways. To have such lasting value we must get back to the basics.

We must realize that the long and lasting value is in doing that which will bring God's favor upon us. We can not turn away from “the basics” of His will and expect to please Him. We may receive some momentary “pleasure” or “excitement” from doing “our own thing” but we must remember that such pleasure is but “for a season” (Hebrews 11:25).

(Continued on next page)

“Back to Basics”

(continued)

Brethren, let us get back to telling men and women that "he that believeth and is baptized shall be saved" (Mark 16:16). Let's tell them that Christ has "all authority" (Matthew 28:18-20). Declare unto them that there is "one body, and one Spirit, ... one hope ..., one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God ..." (Ephesians 4:4-6). Let's encourage all men to "speak the same thing that there be no division" (1 Corinthians 1:10).

I realize that in doing this we will be accused of being "narrow-minded" and "tradition bound." Some will say that our teaching and practices are "out-dated" and are not relevant to the needs of modern man. Others will say that we believe that "only your little group" is going to be saved. However, there is something very notable about the things I suggested we should get back to teaching; they are found in the word of God.

May I ask, "What's wrong with just telling men and women what we find revealed in the word of God?" If men have not done what the Bible teaches one must do to receive the forgiveness of sin what right do I have to suggest to him that he is OK and is acceptable before God? If one who has been baptized into Christ sins what right to I have to tell him that so long as he was sincere or was ignorant of his sin he is justified? What is wrong with simply telling such a one that he should repent and confess his sins (Acts 8:22; 1 John 1:9)?

Something else may sound more appealing and may attract more people for the moment but if men and women are to be saved (have long term success) they must "get back to the basics" of God's word. We can not improve upon it. When we content ourselves with following "the basics" of God's word we will meet with eternal success, that home in heaven with God, Christ and the righteous of all time.

- by James Hahn

TAKE RESPONSIBILITY

TAKE RESPONSIBILITY (Phil. 2:12; 3:13, 14; 4:13)- Blaming others, parents, or the environment for one's difficulties or experiences in life is unreasonable (Ex. 32:22-24; Luke 14:28). Failing to accept the consequences of one's behavior is immaturity (cf. 1 Cor. 3:1-2; 13:11; 14:20). One should own up to taking responsibility for changing weaknesses into strengths. N.B. Hardeman said, "The best place to pray for potatoes is at the end of a hoe handle." What was his point? Prayer is more effective when coupled with action.