

Those to Serve

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

Preaching Fear

One of the strange phenomena of our day is the spectacle of religion dropping the appeal to fear while other human interests have picked it up. Just look around. Everybody is preaching fear except the church.

We are being taught to fear everything from AIDS to radon, from the hole in the ozone to the cutting down of the rain forests. We see fear as a good thing - something worthwhile and productive.

We want people to fear except when it comes to religion. Then it becomes a "no, no." We are enjoined to talk exclusively about the love of God. Don't mention the wrath of God. Don't talk about hell. Don't warn the disobedient. So, we are told, don't preach the fear of God.

". . . Pass the time of your sojourning here in fear" (1 Peter 1:17). Living in fear! It's the right thing to do!

- by John Gibson

Prayer List:

Odell Mallett
Mark Kirby
Virginia Lovell
Janell Houts Hall
Odell Mallett
Dora Martinez
Letha Sheldon
Pray for our Nation
Our Troops
Law Enforcement
Rescue Personnel

October 31st

Noon Fellowship

November 7th

Mission Sunday

Daylight Savings Time Ends

November 11th

Veteran's Day

November 25th

Thanksgiving Day

November 28th

Noon Fellowship

Happy Birthday

Ruby Jones Oct 24th

Valerie Garza Nov. 1st

Tammy Burks Nov. 3rd

Jorge Garza Nov. 12th

Theresa Pruett Nov. 14th

Calvin Burks Nov. 26th

Linda Houts Nov. 28th

Edifier

Evant church of Christ

310 W Brooks Drive

Evant, TX 76525

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October 24, 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

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A Horror Story!

By Ron Thomas

I recently heard a horror story within a congregation of the Lord's people. There were children to be taught, but there was no teacher. A genuine horror story, if you ask me. You don't think that's a horror story? Think about it. Congregations desire children to come, so they plan and prepare for teachers, have the teachers in place, but for one reason or another the teacher or teachers can't be there. The children come, but there is no teacher to teach them.

What happened? Sickness? Travel? Whatever it might be, a most discouraging sentiment expressed, or something like it, would be "It's not my job!" Maybe someone might say, "I was not assigned to teach that age group, so why should I be expected to teach them?" How about this, "I am not comfortable with that age group; my personality just does not work." Even another one, "I am not a teacher!" You get the point.

Yes, I know; we have heard it a thousand times, in various contexts, "It's not my job!" Sometimes it is said with emphasis, sometimes it is said softly.

In the local restaurant, the head grill-master is unable to tend to his duties because he is sick; no one present has been taught to do his work, but one who is the deep-fryer on the food line. The manager asks her to help, but she refuses because she does not want to be embarrassed, humiliated, and she wants no grief from others because she could not keep up. We all appreciate those sentiments for sure. Because she would not, the frontline of the restaurant collapses. She can say, however, it was not her job.

A principal of a local school is hard pressed to get a substitute teacher to fill in for one who called in with a virus that will keep her down for days. None of the other teachers will fill in because they are not trained in the area she teaches, or they have a heavy workload of their own and cannot spare the time to help. The students flounder and are frustrated, they begin to be disruptive in other areas, but all the teachers fill justified in refusing because their own circumstances.

A soldier is in the field. His unit is on the verge of being overrun by the enemy. As a rifleman, he refuses to man the machine-gun (whatever reason or reasons he concocts in his head). His unit is no longer on the verge of being overrun, now they all lay spread out on the ground having entered eternity.

Perhaps I have amplified scenarios that are not really the case, but have I really?

There is not much good in those who use such expressions or actions to justify not doing something that needs to be done. If it needs to be done, the Lord's servant will do it; if it needs to be done, those who have a sense of moral and spiritual duty will do it. So, instead of making use of such an expression, please, for the sake of the children, for the Lord's cause, say it is your job. If you won't, why should others expect to count on you for help in difficult circumstances when you wouldn't in this one?

Making Time

If my car is broken down, I must find time to fix it. If the house needs painting, necessity demands that time be found to do it. If the weather and all other conditions are favorable, I will find time to go fishing.

All of this simply illustrates what has been said many times before - we find time, make time, arrange our schedules, and do what's necessary so that we can accomplish certain things. We will find a way to do the things that must be done, things that need to be done, and especially things that we want to do.

Think of the implications of this concerning our spiritual service to God. Faithful attendance is a must (Hebrews 10:25); regular Bible study is a need (2 Timothy 2:15); teaching others is an absolute essential (Matthew 28:19,20). Other acts of service could be added to this list, but our point is established.

Now, if we don't do these things, what is the problem? Could it be that we don't understand the commands that God has given? No. Do we fail to see the need for learning more about Him and serving Him faithfully? No. Have we failed to observe the things that are spiritually essential? Probably not.

The answer lies in what we want to do. Sir John Lubbock, English statesman of the last century said: "In truth, people can generally make time for what they choose to do; it is not really the time but the will that is lacking."

Jesus put it this way: "This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honoureth me with their lips; but their heart is far from me (Matthew 15:8)

Are you putting the Lord first? Are you making time for the things that must be done and for the things that need to be done? Do you really want to do the Lords will in all things? Think!

- by Greg Gwin