

Those to Serve

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

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

Sentence Sermons

- Secular education without God is like a ship without a compass.
- With the right character, you can take the stumbling blocks of life and turn them into stepping stones.
- Blaming our faults on others still does not remove our responsibility for our actions.
- It is more important to weigh your words than to count your words.

Happy Birthday

Linda Houts Nov. 28th
Lynette Vann Dec. 14th
Virginia Lovell Dec. 19th
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

November 28, 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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Gossip and the Sewing Machine

Gossip is condemned in James 3:6; 1 Tim. 5:13, and a number of other places in the Bible. Many times gossip is harmful because a word is misunderstood or taken out of context. Several years ago the California Newspaper Publisher's Association told of a typographical error in a small-town newspaper which caused much turmoil. The ad in the classified section read like this:

(Monday). "FOR SALE — R.D. Jones has one sewing machine for sale. Phone 948-0707 after 7 P.M. and ask for Mrs. Kelly who lives with him cheap."

(Tuesday). "NOTICE — We regret having erred in R.D. Jones' ad yesterday. It should have read: One sewing machine for sale. Cheap. Phone 948-0707 and ask for Mrs. Kelly who lives with him after 7 P.M."

(Wednesday). "NOTICE — R.D. Jones has informed us that he has received several annoying telephone calls because of the error we made in his classified ad yesterday. His ad stands corrected as follows:

FOR SALE — R.D. Jones has one sewing machine for sale. Cheap. Phone 948-0707 and ask for Mrs. Kelly who loves with him."

(Thursday). "NOTICE — I, R.D. Jones, have no sewing machine for sale. I smashed it. Don't call 948-0707 as the telephone has been taken out. I have not been carrying on with Mrs. Kelly. Until yesterday she was my housekeeper, but she quit."

You Tell On Yourself

A poem which, I think, falls right in line with Matthew 7:20 "Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them."

You tell on yourself by the friends you seek,
By the very manner in which you speak,
By the way you employ your leisure time,
By the use you make of dollar and dime.

You tell what you are by the things you wear,
By the spirit in which you burdens bear,
By the kind of things at which you laugh,
By the records you play on the phonograph.
You tell what you are by the way you walk,
By the things of which you delight to talk,
By the manner in which you bear defeat,
By so simple a thing as how you eat.

By the books you choose from the well-filled shelf:
In these ways and more, you tell on yourself.
— Author Unknown

Opportunity

Opportunity. The word comes from the Latin phrase "ob portus". "Ob" means "toward, or in the direction of. "Portus" means "port, harbor." It was a phrase used by ancient sailors who had to wait for just the right wind and tide conditions to direct their ships into the harbor. If they missed an opportune moment, it could mean a lot of waiting for the next one.

Paul writes, "Walk in wisdom toward them that are without, redeeming the time" (Colossians 4:5). The word translated "time" is not necessarily "clock time." It might better be translated as "opportunity" or "season." The word translated "redeem" is the idea of going into the marketplace and buying up the best deals. It makes me think of going into the store Bargain Hunt, or Essex. You're looking for the best deals you can find. It also reminds me of my wife in the Kroger clearance aisle, buying up ALL the deals (Disclaimer: My wife approved this statement of jest). The ASV has a footnote at Colossians 4:5 that says, "buying up the opportunity."

Paul, how can we be sure to take advantage of the opportunities God affords us? Paul says, "Walk in wisdom toward them that are without" (Colossians 4:5). To the church in Ephesus, he said it this way: "See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, Redeeming the time, because the days are evil" (Ephesians 5:15–16). Furthermore, "Let your speech be alway with grace, seasoned with salt, that ye may know how ye ought to answer every man" (Colossians 4:6). Therefore, if we expect to "buy up the opportunities" God gives us, we need: 1. Wisdom; 2. Preparation. Let us be growing in wisdom and preparation in our daily lives. Such requires that we rely on God and His Word. We must be praying (James 1:5; 5:16), studying (2 Timothy 2:15; 3:16–17; James 3:17), and making application (James 1:22; 2:14–26; Ephesians 2:10). How do we speak to others? What words do we use? What do we say/share on social media platforms? Do we live in such a way that others see Christ in us, or is it difficult making distinctions between Christians and the world?

Jesus said, "I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work" (John 9:4). Paul wrote to the churches of Galatia, "Let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not. As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith" (Galatians 6:9–10).

Are we "buying up the opportunities" God gives us in our relationships with others

By Clifton Angel