

### Those to Serve

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

#### **March 27**

Noon Fellowship

#### **April 1st**

April Fool's Day

#### **April 3rd**

Mission Sunday

#### **April 10th**

Business Meeting

#### **April 17th**

Easter

#### **April 24th**

Noon Fellowship

#### **May 1st**

Mission Sunday



#### **April 1st**

**Calvin & Tammy Burks**

#### **April 18th**

**Jack & Cindi Wall**

### Prayer List:

Windham Family  
David Neal  
Mona Lancaster  
Cheryl Burks  
Tammy Parker  
Sue Skelton  
Mike Mallett  
Mark Kirby  
Virginia Lovell  
Janell Houts Hall  
Dora Martinez  
Letha Sheldon  
Pray for our Nation  
Our Troops  
Law Enforcement  
Rescue Personnel

### Sentence Sermons

Life doesn't come with an instruction manual - that's why God gave us the Bible.

There is never a wrong time to do the right thing.

### Happy Birthday

**Anson Day March 28th**

**Doug Pruett April 1st**

**Steve Sugg April 6th**

**Connie Mallett April 30th**

**Jana Wall May 18th**

# Edifier

## Evant church of Christ

310 W Brooks Drive

Evant, TX 76525

254-471-5705

**March 27, 2022**



*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](mailto:wvann@yahoo.com)

[www.evantchurchofchrist.org](http://www.evantchurchofchrist.org)

## ***Joint Efforts Result in Conversion***

Naaman was captain of the Syrian army, a war hero. He was also a leper. His story is told in 2 Kings 5.

In Naaman's day Syria made frequent border raids against Israel. During one of those raids a young maiden was taken captive who later became Naaman's wife's servant. She told her mistress about the prophet Elisha, whom she was sure could cure Naaman's leprosy.

Leprosy was among the most dreaded diseases in Bible times. It begins with brownish-red spots on the skin which turn into hardened nodules, and in time become ulcers. As the disease progresses the muscles and nerves are affected, resulting in deformity and paralysis. Naturally, one with leprosy would seize any opportunity to be healed. Naaman was no exception. Laden with extravagant gifts, he proceeded to Elisha's house, thinking the prophet would come out to him and ceremoniously cleanse him. Instead Elisha sent a messenger to him, instructing him to go wash in the Jordan seven times.

Naaman reacted angrily. This procedure was illogical and humiliating. He might have returned home without complying had not his servants intervened. They wisely pointed out to him that he was prepared to do some great thing to be healed, so why not do something as simple as dipping himself in a river? Naaman reconsidered, obeyed, and his flesh was restored to a child-like purity.

This account illustrates several important lessons and is an oft-used sermon text. I want to make just one point from it: Naaman's cleansing resulted from the combined efforts of several people. The Israelite maiden initiated the process by telling him help was available through Elisha. Then Elisha, through a messenger, told Naaman what God required of him. Finally his own servants played the vital role of encouraging him to obey when he resisted. Each of these contributions was equally essential to Naaman's cleansing. Without any of them he would have gone to his grave a leper.

Those lost in sin need to be washed in Jesus' blood. Every effort at helping them is valuable; none should be demeaned. And there is something you can do. Some are like Elisha, who can effectively explain what God requires. Perhaps more of us are capable of this phase than we realize. But if you cannot be an Elisha you can be an Israelite maiden, telling others that cleansing is available and putting them in contact with an Elisha. Or maybe you are a good Naaman's servant, encouraging others to do what they know is right. Barnabas was a "Son of Encouragement"; we need more like him. Some plant, others water. These efforts come together, and God gives the increase (1 Cor. 3:6).

Friend, every effort, whether large or small, counts. Your own conversion was likely the culmination of combined efforts of people who loved your soul. Now do what you can, unto God's glory. **- by Frank Himmel**

## ***Train Up A Child***

Occasionally we hear a parent say, "I'm not going to force my children to go to church. I'll wait until they are old enough to decide for themselves about religion." This, of course, is pure folly! We don't wait until they are "old enough to decide for themselves" about things like personal hygiene or going to school. We instruct, encourage and insist that they make right choices in these important matters. Why would we wait until they are "old enough to decide for themselves" about their religious training – the MOST important thing in life?

Thankfully, there are many parents who understand the awesome obligation of "training up a child in the way he should go" (Proverbs 22:6). These are the ones who take seriously their responsibility to bring up their children "in the nurture and admonition of the Lord" (Eph. 6:4). We commend all such parents who are working hard to fulfill this incredibly important God-given job.

Still, though, it seems that some folks need to take this concept to an even higher level. There are some good parents - godly people in their own right - who continue to struggle with how and when to teach their children certain moral principles. An excellent example of this is in the area of modesty. It is not uncommon to see parents who wouldn't be caught dead in certain types of clothing (shorts, swimming suits, etc.) but they allow their children to wear them. The idea is (we suppose) that they expect their children will grow up and somehow realize that such clothes are not suitable for those who "profess godliness" (1 Tim. 2:9,10). But, how will they learn this if they are not taught? They need instruction - consistent and specific instruction from an early age - so that they will develop their own sense of modesty and shamefacedness. If we wait until they are "old enough to decide for themselves," it will be too late. By postponing this instruction we will make it very hard - nearly impossible - for them to decide correctly.

Parents, if we hope to raise a "Timothy," we'll have to be like Lois and Eunice (2 Tim. 1 :5) and teach God's moral principles to our children from childhood (3:14,15). We dare not wait or delay this important work. Think!

**- by Greg Gwin**