

Those to Serve

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

Happy Birthday

Cassidy Stapp June 2nd

Happy Anniversary

**June 14th
Will & Autumn Vann**

June 4th

Mission Sunday

June 11th

Mens Business Meeting

June 18th

Father's Day

Lynn Parker, preaching

June 21st

First Day of Summer

June 25th

Noon Fellowship

Lynn Parker, preaching

July 2, 2023

Mission Fund

July 4th

Independence Day

Prayer List:

Kadence Payne
Anita Adams
Virginia Lovell
Letha Sheldon
Pray for our Nation
Our Troops
Law Enforcement
Rescue Personnel

Victory in Jesus

Challenges and struggles affect all Christians during this journey we are on. Once a person becomes "in Christ" through baptism (**Romans 6:1-4**) the journey and walk with Jesus is just starting. If we are going to have "victory in Jesus," we must be in Jesus and continue to live faithfully to Him by living according to God's will.

Yes, there will be those temptations and cares of the world that challenges us and keep us away from Bible study and increasing our faith. We become weak and a target for Satan. So, we must be studious and grow stronger in our faith and be ready to handle those attacks from Satan (**Hebrews 5:14; Hebrews 12:1-2**).

Ultimate victory will come to the steadfast (1 Cor. 15:58). There is a reward. There is the crown of righteousness (**2 Timothy 4:7-8**). So, we must "keep on, keeping on."

By Rob Albright

Edifier

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June 4, 2023



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:

Will Vann, Preacher

9:30 am Bible Study

863-899-0987

10:20 am Worship

Email: wvann@yahoo.com

12:30 pm Afternoon

www.evantchurchofchrist.org

Wednesday Night

6:00 pm

The Creep of Pride

Tomorrow (June 1) is the beginning of “Pride Month” in the United States. The month is meant to celebrate the LGBTQ+ community. However, there are a couple of things about this “celebration” that Christians need to be keenly aware of, and that need to be said loudly and clearly.

First, simply consider the irony of calling all this “pride.” Considering that “pride” is the sin behind all other sins, it is tragically befitting of this month. All the way back in the Garden of Eden, the serpent gave the temptation (basically) to be equal with deity and the pride that temptation led to was not overcome by Eve. Ever since, pride has been behind every sin.

Each time a person sins, it is—at least in part—because he or she thinks they know better than God. That is the very concept behind pride. And, now, we have an entire month on our calendar celebrating people who think they have human sexuality figured out better than the One Who created it. Each time we see the rainbow flag (which just keeps adding colors), we are reminded that these are people who are proud...of pride. It is a symbol of sin, backed by the sin that is behind all other sins.

But the other thing I want us to consider is how pride continues to creep. I am old enough to remember when there were random “pride nights” held by various groups (maybe a ball team or a student group). Now, though, we have an entire month. But, has anyone noticed that all the symbolism started in the middle of May (if not earlier)? Just like people buy pumpkins for Halloween decorations in September, now we have pride displays weeks before “Pride Month.” (And I’m willing to say that several companies and organizations will “just happen” to forget to change back to their normal logos and branding on July 1.)

This creeping of sin, though, is no surprise, because that’s how all sin works, and it is especially how pride works. Once it gets a foothold, if it is not repented of, it grows. We begin to think we can get a little more power, a little more control, a little more...and more...and more.

So, it is no wonder that “Pride Month” now basically starts a few weeks early. Oh, and don’t forget that October is now also an LGBTQ+ month (history month). So, we are now force-fed these sins for 1/6 of our calendar...and growing.

When will Christians wake up? When will we say something much stronger than “enough is enough.” When will we say that any sin is too much?

We must stop ceding ground. We must speak clearly. This is sin. Period. And sin is nothing to take pride in.

And we must not continue to let it creep in around us, or eventually there will be nothing left for it to overtake.

Oh...and pride? It goes before a fall (**Proverbs 16:18**). I’d rather not experience that fall.

AUTHOR: Adam Faughn

Planting Seeds

With the recent warmer weather comes thoughts of springtime. Springtime is planting time. We all are planting seeds of some sort. Some of us may be planting seeds in the minds of our children. Others may be planting seeds in the minds of Bible students. Whatever kind of seeds we plant; there are some general principles that apply. Let us make some observations about the planting the Word of God.

First, the seed must be the right seed. So much seed is sown today wrongly labeled as “God’s seed.” The true seed, however, is the Word of God. (**Luke 8:11**) We have all of God’s word we need. (**2 Pet. 1:3**) We are not to alter, change, or modify it. (**Gal. 1:6-10; Rev. 22:18, 19**) This seed is described as incorruptible. (**1 Pet. 1:23**) When God’s pure seed is sown on good ground, only good results will come. Is your heart ready for the pure seed of God’s word? Faith is produced by the word of God. (**Rom. 10:17**) Faith does not come from emotions or feelings, but in obedience and in compliance with the Word and the Will of God.

Second, seed must be planted in the right soil. If the soil is not right even the best seed won’t germinate correctly. Spiritually, we must have our hearts willing and ready to receive the Word. Those Peter preached to “gladly received the word.” (**Acts 2:41**) The word is to be implanted within us. (**James. 1:21**)

Third, the seed must be watered and nurtured. Sometimes seed is planted but nothing more happens. Paul explains how the process is to work. Paul planted seed. He stated, “I planted, Apollos watered, and God gave the increase.” (**1 Cor. 3:6**) Some people today might be seed planters. Others are good at watering, but let us always let God provide the increase. Paul writes to fathers to bring up children in the “nurture and admonition of the Lord.” (**Eph. 6:4 KJV**) Throughout the coming years those seeds will need to be watered so that the plants will develop. Further nurturing will need to be done before harvest in the fall. In the Bible, the seed is the Word of God. (**Luke 8:11**)

The word of God must be planted in the heart and mind in order to save a person. Jesus told his apostles to “Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not will be condemned.” (**Mark 16:15, 16**) The Bible tells us, “The Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved. (**Acts 2:47 NKJV**)

By Bill Brandstatter