

### Those to Serve

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

### *Happy Birthday*

**Cassidy Stapp June 2nd**

### *Happy Anniversary*

**June 14th  
Will & Autumn Vann**

### **May 26th**

*Evant High Graduation*

### **May 29th**

*Memorial Day*

### **June 4th**

*Mission Sunday*

### **June 18th**

*Father's Day*

*Lynn Parker, preaching*

### **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

### **'Almost' is Not Enough**

It is sometimes said of an individual who has not yet obeyed the gospel, "I believe he is almost ready to be baptized", or that "she is close is becoming a Christian".

Friend, are you one of those people? Can we not somehow impress upon you

that "almost" is not sufficient to make one a Christian;

that being "close" is not the same thing as being "in Christ";

that you are still in a LOST condition; and

(4) that Christ is coming in judgment one day? It is essential for you to note the words of Paul in **2 Thessalonians 1:7-9** where he states that those "who obey not the gospel will be punished with everlasting destruction ... " We URGE you to take a serious look at your life, your need of salvation, and the hope that can be found only -in - Christ. Obey the gospel TODAY!

- by Barney Keith

# Edifier

**Evant church of Christ**

*310 W Brooks Drive*

*Evant, TX 76525*

*254-471-5705*

**May 28, 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**

## ***Some Items to Remember on Memorial Day***

This is Memorial Day weekend. During this time of year, we pause to remember. We remember the ones who died for our nation's freedom. We remember the loved ones in general who have gone on before. The basic idea of remembering is to look back. We are looking back this weekend. Let us go through some biblical accounts and take a look back. All these will begin with word "remember" or "remembrance" and are in no particular order.

Remember the Word I have spoken: **John 15:20**: There is an idea here that Jesus not only wants us to remember but also to do. Jesus's word will judge us (**John 12:48**). How is our spiritual memory? Many people have a memory problem. Sometimes we remember what the scripture says, but we don't believe it applies to us. Let us remember the following from the Word of God: The wonderful works of God (**Rom. 11:33**); the death of Christ (**1 Cor. 11:25-26**); the teachings of the gospel (**Rom. 1:16**). To remember Christ's words would include obeying them and incorporating them into your life. The words of Christ are very important to salvation (**John 12:48, John 14:24, 1 Tim. 6:3, Matt. 24:35**).

Remember Me: **Luke 23:42**: This is the statement of the thief on the cross. We often focus on the statement made by Jesus in response to the thief: "Today you will be with me in paradise"; but the statement the thief made is very important. What does this statement say? He wanted to do what pleased Jesus. He wanted to be where Jesus was. He wasn't afraid to confess something about Christ even while facing certain death. He had an attitude of repentance. Certainly, we want the Lord to remember us when the crowns are handed out. (**1 Cor. 9:25; 2Tim. 4:8; Rev. 2:10**). We cannot be saved like the thief on the cross. He didn't have to believe anything about Christ's death. I do! (**Rom. 10:9**) He couldn't be baptized into the death of Christ; (**Rom. 6:3**); I must be. The thief on the cross lived and died under the Law of Moses. That law was nailed to the cross and taken out of the way. (**Col. 2:14**). When God "remembers" us He looks back at what we have done.

Remember that Jesus was raised from the dead: **2 Tim. 2:8**: This gives us hope beyond the grave (**1 Cor. 15:14**). Some in New Testament times thought that the resurrection had already past (**2 Tim. 2:18**). The Sadducees said there was no resurrection of the dead. (**1 Cor. 15:12**) The whole basis of the Christian experience is based in large part, not only on salvation, but on the hope of a resurrection someday. The Lord's Supper is to be taken every Sunday for this purpose. (**1 Cor. 11:24, 25**)

Certainly, there are other passages that contain the word "remember." These three are significant and should get our attention as we remember this weekend. **By Bill Brandstatter**

## ***When to Shake Off the Dust***

A number of years ago—in another location—I preached a sermon that I believe was titled, "The Hardest Work You'll Ever Try to Do." It was a very personal sermon, but one that I knew needed to be preached at that time.

The point of the sermon was to encourage Christians to put forward the effort to try to not just win the lost, but to also try to encourage those who had slipped away in their faith. And, in many ways, that second one can be harder.

For me, it is something I have a heart for, but my struggle is one that is really simply stated: I never know when to shake the dust from off my feet.

That imagery, borrowed from Jesus's "limited commission," has become synonymous with knowing when to realize our efforts are not welcome and, so, moving on to another opportunity. I know the concept; I'm just terrible at doing it, and that is especially true with those who once were faithful in their walk but have now seemingly walked away.

Why is it so hard? Because you already love that person! They are your spiritual family. You have a heart to help them. You want that spiritual family to be whole again. So you do all you know to do and, with every rebuff, you struggle more, but you also want to do more.

When texts go unanswered; when visits become brief and obviously awkward; when calls aren't received...but you just don't know to stop because you love that person so much. It hurts.

I was recently asked by someone when to shake the dust of their feet concerning a situation like this where they worshiped. I had to confess that I was probably not the person to ask because I am terrible at it. It really isn't that I am patient; it's that I want so badly for this person or family to come back that I can't think of not trying over and over again.

But, at some point, I have to ask myself this question: what opportunities am I letting go by while I do that? Again, I may not be the person to answer that question, but it is one I have been trying to think through more and more. There are still many people who want to know Jesus. There are those who have walked away, but who can be reached.

Maybe I need to stop thinking of the dust on my feet and, instead, (to mix metaphors) think of the size the net I am casting. May God help us all have eyes to see opportunities instead of becoming so laser focused on one thing that miss them.

...but may He help us to still send a text every so often, just in case...

AUTHOR: Adam Faughn