Those to Serve

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

Happy Birthday

Jack Wall August 20th Cindi Wall August 26th Vernon Houts Sept. 24th Judy Grant Sept. 28th Autumn Vann Sept. 29th Judd Wall October 10th Prayer List: Lynn Parker Kadence Payne Anita Adams Virginia Lovell Letha Sheldon Pray for our Nation Our Troops Law Enforcement Rescue Personnel

August 27th Noon Fellowship September 3rd Mission Sunday September 4th Labor Day September 10th Grandparent Day September 23rd Autumn Begins

The Mailman Vs. God

Read Psalms 23

I just want to let you know there is no one or nothing like our marvelous Father in Heaven. He is always faithful. He'll never forsake us. The bible speaks to us numerous times about this. He's even with us, I should say, He's especially with us when we go through dark valleys. Why did I think of this today? Well...let me just say our mailman isn't quite so reliable. You might know the phrase, "Neither snow nor rain nor heat nor gloom of night stays these couriers from the swift completion of their appointed rounds." This phrase is inscribed on the James Farley Post Office on Eighth Avenue and 32nd Street in New York City. This was never the motto for the postal service. It was merely a phrase the architect of the building admired and thought appropriate, maybe it was wishful thinking. Unlike our mailman who was today prevented from making his appointed rounds by a dog on the loose, God is always faithful.

By Brian Humek

Edifier **Evant church of Christ** 310 W Brooks Drive Evant, TX 76525 254-471-5705 August 20, 2023 HURCH OF CHRIST

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: wvvann@yahoo.com www.evantchurchofchrist.org

The Necessity of Confessing Faith in Jesus

One of the most important aspects of being a Christian is confessing faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. This means publicly acknowledging that Jesus is the Son of God who died for our sins and rose again from the dead. Confessing faith in Jesus also means living according to his teachings and commands and following his example of love and service.

The Bible tells us that confessing faith in Jesus has eternal consequences. In Matthew 10:32-33, Jesus says: "Whoever acknowledges me before others, I will also acknowledge before my Father in heaven. But whoever disowns me before others, I will disown before my Father in heaven." This shows us that confessing faith in Jesus is not optional, but essential for our salvation. For example, in Acts 4:12, Peter declares: "Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved." Confessing faith in Jesus is the only way to be saved from sin and death.

The Bible also tells us that confessing faith in Jesus has spiritual benefits. In 1 John 4:15, John writes: "If anyone acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of God, God lives in them and they in God." This shows us that confessing faith in Jesus is not only a verbal declaration, but a personal relationship with God. Confessing faith in Jesus allows us to experience God's presence, power, and love in our lives. For example, in Romans 8:16-17, Paul writes: "The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children. Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ." Confessing faith in Jesus makes us part of God's family and gives us a glorious inheritance.

Therefore, confessing faith in Jesus is not something we should be ashamed of or afraid of. It is something we should be proud of and eager to do. Confessing faith in Jesus is a way of honoring him, trusting him, and loving him. Confessing faith in Jesus is a way of expressing our gratitude for his grace, mercy, and forgiveness. Confessing faith in Jesus is a way of witnessing to others about his goodness, truth, and beauty.

By Jeff Arnette

The Transformative Power of Baptism: Forgiveness and Renewal

Baptism is a sacred act and foundational to the teachings of Jesus. In it we find the forgiveness of sins and the transformative power of faith. Two key passages, Acts 2:38 and Romans 6:3-4, shed light on the profound significance of baptism.

Forgiveness through Baptism: Acts 2:38 states, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins." Here, Peter addresses a crowd on the day of Pentecost, urging them to repent and be baptized. This passage underscores the inseparable link between baptism and the remission of sins. Baptism signifies a repentant heart and a turning away from sinful ways, inviting God's forgiveness and grace into one's life.

Through baptism, believers participate in the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. By immersing themselves in water, they identify with Christ's sacrificial death, where their sins are washed away. The act of baptism, therefore, becomes a tangible expression of faith in God's redemptive work and an acknowledgement of personal transformation.

Renewal through Baptism: Romans 6:3-4 further elucidates the transformative nature of baptism, stating, "Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life."

In these verses, the apostle Paul highlights the profound symbolism of baptism as a burial and resurrection. Just as Christ died and was raised to new life, believers, through baptism, enter a spiritual union with Christ. They die to their old selves, leaving behind the power of sin and embracing a new life in Christ. Baptism signifies a radical transformation, an inner rebirth, and the indwelling of the Holy Spirit.

Baptism holds immense significance for Christians, representing the forgiveness of sins and the transformative power of faith. Acts 2:38 emphasizes the connection between baptism and the remission of sins, while Romans 6:3-4 speaks to the spiritual rebirth that occurs through baptism. As believers enter the waters of baptism, they identify with Christ's death, burial, and resurrection. This act of faith signifies a turning point in their lives, as they leave behind their old selves and embrace a new life in Christ. Baptism unites believers with Christ, offering forgiveness, renewal, and a fresh start on their spiritual journey. By Jeff Arnette