#### **Those to Serve**

- (B) Doug Pruett
- (FV) Mike Lovell
- (O) Jack Wall
- (A) Jorge Garza

1st prayer Judd Wall

2nd prayer Calvin Burks

Announcements: Mike Mallett

Singing: Kevin Grant

# Happy Birthday

Cindi Wall August 26th Vernon Houts Sept. 24th Judy Grant Sept. 28th Autumn Vann Sept. 29th Judd Wall October 10th Mike Mallett Oct. 21st Haley Day Oct 21st

### **Prayer List:**

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

September 3rd

Mission Sunday

September 4th

Labor Day

September 10th

Mens Business Meeting

Grandparent Day

September 23rd

Autumn Begins

September 24th
Noon Fellowship

### A Life of Faith

The Bible teaches that Jesus is God (John 1:1, 14). I know there are people who deny Jesus is God, but there will always be some who deny Bible teaching.

Jesus was called "God" by God in Hebrews 1:8. Jesus is omnipresent (Mt. 18:20) and He forgives sins (Mt.9:2-7). In John 10:30 Jesus said, "I an my Father are one."

There is nothing Jesus does not know. There is nothing Jesus cannot do. Why? Because He is God.

So, when we see Jesus in action and read His words in the New Testament, we see God and are listening to the words of God.

Far too many people just give Jesus lip service and call that faith. True faith is not lip service. True faith is "life service" (Matthew 15:7-9). A life of faith in Jesus as God will submit to the commands of God.

By Rob Albright

# Edifier

### **Evant church of Christ**

310 W Brooks Drive

Evant, TX 76525

254-471-5705

August 27, 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:** 

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

## Good Ol' Boys

As a Georgia native and automotive enthusiast who enjoys comedy without modern vulgarity, this writer recalls fond moments of watching Bo and Luke climb through the windows of their 1969 Dodge Charger and blast down the dirt roads of "Hazzard County." The 1979 sitcom is a classic, and its theme song is catchy and recognizable to many. It is my understanding that Waylon Jennings penned "Just the good ol' boys" specifically for the show, "The Dukes of Hazzard."

Now, let us be challenged. Bo, Luke, and their family were not good. They would probably "give you the shirt off their back," show respect to the elderly, help someone in need, and not steal from you. These are good qualities which find their roots in God's principles of goodness; however, they do not make a person wholly good. The Dukes were "in trouble with the law" for illegal manufacture and transportation of moonshine.

According to God, consumption of intoxicating beverages is not good. "Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging: and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise" (Prov. 20:1; cf. 23:29–35). Paul wrote, "Be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit" (Eph. 5:18). Peter said:

For the time past of our life may suffice us to have wrought the will of the Gentiles, when we walked in lasciviousness, lusts, excess of wine, revellings, banquetings, and abominable idolatries: Wherein they think it strange that ye run not with them to the same excess of riot, speaking evil of you: Who shall give account to him that is ready to judge the quick and the dead (1 Peter 4:3 –5).

I do not recall if Bo and Luke are ever depicted as consuming alcohol; however, they were "makin' their way" off of the consumption of intoxicating beverages.

Furthermore, despite their government's corruption—with which God also would not be pleased (cf. Prov. 14:34; Rom. 13:3–4)—the Dukes' endeavors were "just a little bit more than the law will allow." According to God, despising, disrespecting, and disregarding those in authority is not good.

Submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake: whether it be to the king, as supreme; Or unto governors, as unto them that are sent by him for the punishment of evildoers, and for the praise of them that do well. For so is the will of God (1 Pet. 2:13–15a; cf. 2:15b–17; Rom. 13:1–7; 1 Tim. 2:1–7).

By comparison, classics like "The Dukes of Hazzard" contain far less vulgarity than a great amount of modern offerings [the 2005 film—based on the show—is entirely vulgar]. How often, though, is our depiction of "good" people defined by the world's standards, rather than God's standards? How much of our society's degradation can be attributed to being loose on said standards? Where do we draw the line? When do we let God draw the line?

**By Clifton Angel** 

### Being An Enabler

In the field of civil law, there are sometimes people who "aid and abet" criminals, and there are also those who "contribute to the delinquency of a minor." To do either of these is against the law, and those who do it become criminals themselves. In the field of psychology, there are sometimes people who are identified as "enablers," because they enable others (often their own loved ones) to be involved in addictive behavior. "Enablers" are not necessarily people who would themselves participate in the addictive conduct; they may actually even oppose it. But by their actions they make it easy for the addict to continue in his addiction.

In spiritual matters, we also unfortunately have people who "aid and abet" evildoers, or who "contribute to the delinquency" of sinners, or who become "enablers" of those who are doing wrong! Now, you might be thinking of those who practice deeds that are "worthy of death," while also giving "hearty approval" to those who practice "such things" (Romans 1:32). But these are not the "enablers" we are talking about. The "enablers" we are talking about would not practice the sins that they "aid and abet." In fact, they would oppose and carefully avoid such practices in their own lives. And yet, they enable others (especially when the "others" are their own family or loved ones) to practice sinful behavior.

How does that happen? In what way do they "aid and abet" evildoers or "enable" those who are given to sin? Often, it is done by downplaying the person's sin or by even offering excuses for the "poor helpless sinner." More often than not, they enable sinners by their silence. Instead of lovingly confronting the sinner (Matt. 18:15) and exposing his crime (Eph. 5:11), they ignore the sin and pretend it isn't really happening. Even worse, they hamper the local church's efforts to correct the sinner by continuing to socialize and associate with the one who has been collectively disciplined by the group (1 Cor. 5:1-13). When will we learn that this does not help the sinner to correct his ways? It only enables him to continue in his evil deeds! Don't you dare be an "enabler" of sin!

Don't you dare "contribute to the delinquency" of one who is caught up in a trespass or "aid and abet" a sinner in the error of his way! Instead, be an encourager and "enabler" of that which is good, even if it means you must confront and oppose someone you love. If you really love someone in sin, you will not enable him to continue in the error of his way; you will, instead, do whatever you can to turn him back to God...to "save his soul from death" and to "cover a multitude of sins" (James 5:19-20).

by Rick Liggin