

Those to Serve

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

Prayer List:

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

December 21st

Winter Begins

December 25th

Christmas Day

January 1st

New Year's Day

January 7th

Mission Fund

January 14th

Guest Speaker Lynn Parker
&
Men's Business Meeting

Happy Birthday

Virginia Lovell Dec. 19th
Kevin Grant Dec. 24th
Letha Sheldon Dec. 25th
Will Vann Dec. 26th

Happy Anniversary

January 1st
Judd & Denise Wall
January 26th
Doug & Theresa Pruett

Lord Make Me Good – Period

Many people who want a relationship with God often add qualifiers to the mix. They want the Lord to make them good, but with a stipulation added. Here are a couple of examples:

* "Lord, make me good, but not yet." These people want to live in sin as long as possible. They want to be able to sow their "wild oats" and then for God to save them before they die.

* "Lord, make me good, but not completely." These folks want to have the "best of both worlds". They want to be saved, but also still want to hang on to certain sins.

But we should simply say to God "Lord, make me good." (Notice the period at the end.) We should say that with no modifiers and with the attitude of doing what God wants us to do and fully trusting Him to make us good and righteous. "For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him." (2 Cor. 5:21) By Edd Sterchi

Edifier

Evant church of Christ

310 W Brooks Drive

Evant, TX 76525

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December 17, 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.evanchurchofchrist.org

Wednesday Night

6:00 pm

Little Things

I was preaching in a gospel meeting at a rural church in southern Oklahoma, and staying in the nice farm house of an elder of that church, and his good wife. One morning while I was awaiting the arrival of the local preacher so we could make some visits in the community, I was enjoying a cup of coffee with my hostess. I asked her if she had been reared in the Lord's church and she said she had not. Then she volunteered the story of her conversion.

When she was a little girl, probably five or so, a neighbor lady asked her mother if she might take her to Bible school with her. Her mother didn't mind her going to church but she did not want to be inconvenienced by it. So this good neighbor would keep her Saturday night, bathe and dress her, take her to church Sunday morning, and feed her lunch before returning her to her home that afternoon. This continued until one or the other moved away after several months, or maybe years.

After this she said she joined her family in a religionless life, and later married a man who was also disinterested in spiritual things. But when their first child was born, her husband decided he did not want to rear their child a heathen, and he suggested they start going to church somewhere. He had no preference and asked her if she did. She told him about the good Christian neighbor who was so kind to her, and had taken her to the church of Christ in their little community. He was impressed by her story and they decided to visit the local church of the Lord. They found a group of good, friendly people who took an interest in them. They studied the Bible and were eventually baptized into Christ. Now her husband was an elder, and they were the backbone of that church at which I was holding the meeting. They had several sons who were deacons in churches elsewhere, and daughters whose families were faithful workers for the Lord.

All this was the result of a good Christian woman showing love and concern for the soul of a little neighbor girl. And the woman never knew her efforts had turned out. This story convinced me that I should never underestimate the value of doing little things for the Lord, and then leaving it up to the Lord to make them big. "I have planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the increase." (1 Corinthians 3:6)

By Bill Smith

Worthy Resolutions

A song we often sing when an invitation to obedience is extended is, "I Am Resolved." It speaks of commitment to Christ and **verse 1** says, "I am resolved no longer to linger, charmed by the world's delight; things that are higher, things that are nobler, these have allured my sight."

Verse 2 speaks of being resolved to turn to Christ, and leaving behind sin and strife.

Verse 3 tells of daily, faithful service and obedience to the Savior, while in **verse 4**, the resolution is made to enter the Kingdom, choosing God and Heaven over sin and friends.

What resolutions have you made – or plan to make – in 2013? Some of the most popular ones are to: lose weight, save more money, stop cursing, spend more time with family, criticize others less, and read the Bible more.

While all of these are worthy goals (especially reading the Bible more), I want to suggest a few things that go beyond weight loss and saving money.

1. Resolve to set spiritual goals. "If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. 2Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth" (Col. 3:1-2). Some examples: Resolve to attend all the services of the Lord's church (Heb. 10:24-25). If you're not giving back to God at least as much as was required under the Old Law, resolve to increase your contribution (Lev. 27:30-33; I Cor. 16:1-2). Study your Bible more (II Tim. 2:15; II Pet. 3:18). Understand that fellowshipping denominations is sinful (Eph. 5:11) and study the Bible's teaching on that subject (I Cor. 1:10; II Cor. 6:17)

These are only three examples, maybe you can think of more, but the point is to set a spiritual goal for 2012. One thing is certain: if you aim at nothing, you'll hit nothing.

2. Resolve to be right with God. Are you sure of your salvation? If Jesus were to return in the next few seconds, would you have confidence of your eternal security? Have you obeyed the Gospel? Endless doom awaits those who haven't (II Thess. 1:6-9). What profit is there if you gain the whole world, but lose you soul? What would you give in exchange for your soul (Mt. 16:26)? Repent and be baptized if you've never done so (Acts 2:38). If you're a wayward Christian, repent and pray God's forgiveness (Acts 8:22). "It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God" (Heb. 10:26-31).

3. Resolve to do more for others. Be more of a peacemaker (Mt. 5:9). New Testament Christians live in a spiritually lost and dying world, so share the Gospel more (Mt. 28:19-20).

Focus more heavily on a stronger commitment to Christ (Mt. 6:33; Gal. 2:20). Encourage others and build them up (Rom. 14:19). If you think your congregation needs a better preacher or better elders or deacons, pray for them (I Tim. 2:8; I Tim. 2:1-3). Be an encourager, not a complainer.

As we begin this new year, let's not limit our resolutions to losing weight and saving more money, let's establish goals that are really important! Let's grow "in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ" (II Pet. 3:18). Resolve to put your faith in God and expect to do great things through His Son in 2012 (Phil. 4:13).

By R. W. McAlister