

Happy Birthday

Steve Sugg April 6th
Denise Wall April 11th
Connie Mallett April 30th
Coryell Day May 7th
Jana Wall May 18th

Happy Anniversary

April 18th
Jack & Cindi Wall

Choosing Friends

Someone once observed:
"Fate made your relatives;
choice makes your friends."
Those whom you choose to be
your closest friends indicate
what your attitude is toward
spiritual things. It is a psycho-
logical fact that we are drawn to
those who share our interests.
Devoted Christians will want to
associate with the spiritual and
godly; those who are not inter-
ested in spiritual matters will se-
lect the ungodly as their friends.
Beware when your best friends
are those who are not interested
in the Lord's church (your asso-
ciates tell on you). Further, "Evil
companionships corrupt good
morals" (I Corinthians 15:58). -
by James E. Cooper

Those to Serve

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

April 7th
Mission Sunday
April 15th
Tax Day
April 28th
Noon Fellowship
May 5th
Mission Sunday
May 12th
Mother's Day
May 26th
Noon Fellowship

Prayer List:

Letha Sheldon
Jorge Garza
Joyce Windham
Dora Martinez
David Jones
Tammy Parker
Anita Adams
Pray for our Nation
Our Troops
Law Enforcement
Rescue Personnel

Edifier

Evant church of Christ

310 W Brooks Drive

Evant, TX 76525

254-471-5705

April 7, 2024



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

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Forgiveness

(4th in a series)

Under instructions to forgive others “just as God in Christ also hath forgiven you” (Eph. 4:32), we have observed that God is 1) willing to forgive, 2) anxious to forgive, but 3) He forgives only when we have met His conditions of forgiveness, including repentance. We continue our study with some additional and important points about God’s forgiveness.

It is clear that when God forgives it is an absolute and total form of forgiveness. To often men never really get over something. Past wrongs and offenses remain an issue and are allowed to fester like an open wound. People are heard to say things like, “I’ll never forget what he did to me.” But, thankfully, God is not that way, and we need to imitate Him. The Psalmist wrote (103:8-12): “The Lord is merciful and gracious . . . He hath not dealt with us after our sins; nor rewarded us according to our iniquities. For as the heaven is high above the earth, so great is his mercy toward them that fear him. As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us.” We should be extremely grateful for His absolute forgiveness, and we should treat others the same way.

Furthermore, God’s forgiveness is permanent. Once forgiven, He never calls up our past sins again. The Hebrew writer quoted the promise made by the prophet Jeremiah: “This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, saith the Lord, I will put my laws into their hearts, and in their minds will I write them; and their sins and iniquities will I remember no more.” (Hebrews 10:16-17). Too often we will tentatively ‘forgive’ someone who wrongs us, but are quick to dredge up these old sins if that same person ever crosses us again. It is not that way with God, and it cannot be so with us.

(continued next week) -

by Greg Gwin

The Need for Distinctive Preaching

The role of the teacher is to hold back nothing profitable, but to teach the whole purpose of God (Acts 20:20,27). That is the key to faithfully fulfilling the work of an elder or evangelist, i.e., that we hold back nothing that is profitable to the people.

Preaching on the love of God is not going to help the young women of the congregation when they fail to hear a sermon directed toward their immodesty. Preaching on grace is good, but not if you fail to preach on how folks frequently absent themselves from worship in favor of their favorite sports or recreational activity. Preaching on mercy is wonderful, but sometimes people need to hear a lesson on social drinking or dancing (prom). Forgiveness is a grand theme, but sometimes brethren need to be warned of encroaching false doctrines and practices.

I believe there is a justifiable cause for concern today, not just because of what is preached from some pulpits, but even more because of what is not being preached! One of my heroes in the faith once observed, “If we don’t preach on certain subjects, it won’t be long before we can’t preach on those subjects because people will not put up with it.” He was right and, in my opinion, we are seeing the fruit of that in our time. Again, the key to faithfully fulfilling the work of an elder or evangelist is to hold back nothing that is profitable. It is not always easy to properly assess and preach to the needs of the people, but by all means do it!

The “old Jerusalem gospel” has a distinctive ring about it. It is a message flooded with Scripture and practical application. It is not always popular, but it is always right when presented with the best interest of the hearers in your heart and on your lips (Eph.4:15). -

by Jim Deason