

Those to Serve

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

Prayer List:

Theresa Pruett
Wanda Kitchens
Jorge Garza
Joyce Windham
Anita Adams
Pray for our Nation
Our Troops
Law Enforcement
Rescue Personnel

Happy Anniversary

December 31st
Steve & Carmen Sugg
January 1st
Judd & Denise Wall

December 21st
Winter Begins
December 25th
Christmas Day
December 31st
New Year Eve
January 5th
Mission Sunday
January 12th
Men's Business Meeting

Happy Birthday

Virginia Lovell Dec. 19th
Kevin Grant Dec. 24th
Will Vann Dec. 26th
Joy Payne Jan. 3rd
Sandra Rusk January 10th

New Year's Eve Party

At Lynette Vann's home
December 31st at 6 pm.
Please bring finger food
and games.

A Day with a View

A thought worthy to start each day:

"This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it." Psalm 118:24 (NIV)

These beautiful words so simply stated cap a complex, profound truth that reaches from Judah all the way to the great Messiah who owns the scepter of power. This same Messiah is the cornerstone that the builders rejected. He commands us to be a city on a hill that is the light of the world. From the top of this hill, we can see all the way to eternity. God's final covenant is in place. This is the setting the Lord has given us. Each day we arise comes with great blessings and great opportunities. Irrespective of our physical situation or responsibility levels, for our great Messiah, let our hearts

RISE AND SHINE!
By Grady Troute

Edifier

Evant church of Christ

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December 22, 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:

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

If I Were the Devil

This speech was broadcast by legendary ABC Radio commentator Paul Harvey on April 3, 1965:

If I were the Devil ... I mean, if I were the Prince of Darkness, I would of course, want to engulf the whole earth in darkness. I would have a third of its real estate and four-fifths of its population, but I would not be happy until I had seized the ripest apple on the tree, so I should set about however necessary to take over the United States. I would begin with a campaign of whispers. With the wisdom of a serpent, I would whisper to you as I whispered to Eve: "Do as you please." "Do as you please." To the young, I would whisper, "The Bible is a myth." I would convince them that man created God instead of the other way around. I would confide that what is bad is good, and what is good is "square". In the ears of the young marrieds, I would whisper that work is debasing, that cocktail parties are good for you. I would caution them not to be extreme in religion, in patriotism, in moral conduct. And the old, I would teach to pray. I would teach them to say after me: "Our Father, which art in Washington" ...

If I were the devil, I'd educate authors in how to make lurid literature exciting so that anything else would appear dull and uninteresting. I'd threaten T.V. with dirtier movies and vice versa. And then, if I were the devil, I'd get organized. I'd infiltrate unions and urge more loafing and less work, because idle hands usually work for me. I'd peddle narcotics to whom I could. I'd sell alcohol to ladies and gentlemen of distinction. And I'd tranquilize the rest with pills. If I were the devil, I would encourage schools to refine young intellects but neglect to discipline emotions ... let those run wild. I would designate an atheist to front for me before the highest courts in the land and I would get preachers to say "she's right." With flattery and promises of power, I could get the courts to rule what I construe as against God and in favor of pornography, and thus, I would evict God from the courthouse, and then from the school house, and then from the houses of Congress and then, in His own churches I would substitute psychology for religion, and I would deify science because that way men would become smart enough to create super weapons but not wise enough to control them.

If I were Satan, I'd make the symbol of Easter an egg, and the symbol of Christmas, a bottle. If I were the devil, I would take from those who have and I would give to those who wanted, until I had killed the incentive of the ambitious. And then, my police state would force everybody back to work. Then, I could separate families, putting children in uniform, women in coal mines, and objectors in slave camps. In other words, if I were Satan, I'd just keep on doing what he's doing. Paul Harvey, Good Day.

All Things That Pertain To Life and Godliness

Have you ever spent Christmas Eve feverishly trying to assemble that last gift? Perhaps you waited until the last moment thinking it wouldn't be a big deal or difficult. It only required some assembly, after all. Then you notice that the instructions are not clearly written, and the diagrams are small and ambiguous as to which side of the frame the screws are supposed to be inserted. Don't you wish that you had all that pertains to how to put this thing together?

God's instructions for us are not like that. They are neither unclear, nor ambiguous. Peter tells us that God, through His magnificent ability and divine power, "has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue" (**2 Peter 1:3 NKJV**). He has given us all the things that we need in order to know how to live a godly life. He has left nothing to chance. He has given us no reason to wonder what it is that He wants. Through God's written word, the Bible, mankind can have all the information and instruction necessary to live a life that pleases the Lord. We can read and understand what God wants us to know (**Ephesians 3:3-5**). We can understand the will of the Lord (**Ephesians 5:17**). We can have the knowledge of Him and His will so that, "you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God" (**Colossians 1:10**).

Of course, many choose to ignore the instructions. Sometimes our pride gets in the way. I know how to put this thing together. Hours later, we begin to look for where we laid those instructions. When all else fails, consult the instructions. However, it would be better to start with the instructions so that we can arrive at the desired end. Our desired end ought to be heaven. Our desired end ought to be having a relationship with our Lord and Savior. We can say, "I don't need the instructions, I know what I am doing," but that path will not lead us to know God as He wants to be known. He has given us all things for living a godly life in His inspired words. Let us look to those basic instructions before leaving earth so that we will get to be where we want to go.

By Dale J. Babinsky