

**Those to Serve**

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

**Prayer List:**

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

**March 9th**

Daylight Savings Begins  
Men's Business Meeting

**March 16th**

Noon Fellowship

**March 17th**

St Patrick's Day

**March 20th**

Spring Begins

**April 6th**

Mission Sunday

**April 13th**

Men's Business Meeting

**April 20th**

Easter Sunday

**Will Vann and his Family will be in Florida next weekend holding a gospel meeting,**

**Our Guest Speaker for March 16th will be**

***Lynn Parker***

**Our Noon Fellowship has been moved to**

**March 16th**

***Happy Anniversary***

***April 1st***

***Calvin & Tammy Burks***

***April 18th***

***Jack & Cindi Wall***

***Happy Birthday***

***Koh Stapp March 12th***

***Anson Day March 28th***

***John Jones March 28th***

***Doug Pruett April 1st***

***Steve Sugg April 6th***

***Carman Sugg April 9th***

***Denise Wall April 11th***

***Michele Jones April 12th***

***Rachel Houts April 22nd***

***Connie Mallett April 30th***

# *Edifier*

**Evant church of Christ**

*310 W Brooks Drive*

*Evant, TX 76525*

*254-471-5705*

**March 9, 2025**



*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**

## ***The Importance of Reputation***

A recent Wall Street Journal interview with Google CEO Eric Schmidt revealed some disturbing realities about privacy and reputations in the digital age.

The Google CEO says you may have to change your name to escape your past.

The Internet-search-engine-giant's CEO stated, "I don't believe society understands what happens when everything is available, knowable, and recorded by everyone all the time." Because records are kept of all of your internet activity including internet searches, websites visited, and social networking posts, the indiscretions within the cyber world will scar your reputation and follow you throughout life. It is well known that many employers today will check social networking sites (such as twitter, Facebook, and MySpace) to evaluate the character of a prospect before serious consideration for hire. Google's CEO stated that the only way to "escape" such a wounded reputation in the future will be to legally change your name!

Rather than trying to do "reputation damage control" after the fact, it would be far better to guard your reputation from being ruined in the first place. Scripture teaches us the importance of having a good reputation. The writer of Proverbs gives the true life-principle, "A good name is to be chosen rather than great riches, and favor is better than silver or gold" (Proverbs 22:1).

The Preacher of the book of Ecclesiastes seconds this advice, "A good name is better than precious ointment" (Ecclesiastes 7:1). As Christians we must care about our reputations. We should put a high priority upon the value of our reputations.

We all make mistakes in the days of our youthfulness that we regret. David prayed to God, "Remember not the sins of my youth or my transgressions..." (Psalm 25:7). However, there is no excuse for "sowing wild oats" because we are young. God does not excuse the indiscretions of youth.

Accountable young people must realize there are consequences to their choices--even choices made on-line. The young man Joseph is elevated in Scripture as a young man who continued to seek God when in a foreign land (Genesis 39:9).

Likewise the young men Daniel, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego realized that they were accountable to God even when not around their parents (Daniel 1:8).

Actions have consequences. We reap what we sow (Galatians 6:7). We are to "sow for yourselves righteousness" (Hosea 10:12). If you sow to the wind, you can expect to reap a whirlwind (Hosea 8:7). May we all, both young and old, realize the importance of our reputations. **By Jonathan B. Jones II**

## ***A Combination that is Difficult to Beat***

One of my favorite books in the Old Testament is the book of Nehemiah. It, of course, provides the reader with details concerning the rebuilding of the walls of Jerusalem. From an historical perspective, that makes it interesting. However, that is not the only thing that intrigues me about this book. There are a number of lessons that are still useful for us today. Without going into detail, I would suggest, for example, that present-day leaders could learn a great deal from the qualities, personality, strategies, etc. of Nehemiah himself. We can also learn a lot from the people who "...had a mind to work" (Neh. 4:6). A recent reading (again) of Nehemiah reminded me of one possibly overlooked verse. It would be helpful for God's people today to read and consider it.

The context of the verse has to do with the opposition and ridicule on the part of those who were enemies of the people of God and their project. In the words of Nehemiah 4:8, "And they all plotted together to come and fight against Jerusalem and to cause confusion in it." Please notice carefully the response to that: "And we prayed to God and set a guard as a protection against them day and night" (Neh. 4:9)

There are three very important components in that verse.

Prayer (they prayed to God)

Action (they set a guard)

Persistence (the guard was in place day and night --- It could be said that they "never let down their guard.")

They did not depend upon any one of these three by itself. They did not just pray. They did not just take action. They did not just persist in building the walls without taking defensive measures. They persisted in that as well. It should go without saying that God's people are under increasing attacks today. The number of people who are opposed to us and to what we are trying to accomplish for Him is seemingly growing daily. It is not now, nor has it ever been, the time to "throw in the towel" and give up. Neither is it the time to do only one of the things that the people of Nehemiah's day did. It is now, and it always has been, the time to pray, act, and persist. Great things can still be done!

By Jim Faughn