### **Those to Serve**

(B) Jorge Garza

(FV) Judd Wall

(O) Doug Pruett

(A) Jack Wall

1st prayer Mike Mallett

2nd prayer Mike Mehaffey

Announcements: Jack Wall

Singing: Kevin Grant

#### **November 27th**

Thanksgiving Day

**December 7th** 

Mission Fund

Pearl Harbor Day

**December 14th** 

Men's Business Meeting

**December 21st** 

Winter Begins

**December 25th** 

**Christmas Day** 

**December 31st** 

New Year's Eve

**January 4th** 

Mission Sunday

## Happy Birthday

Calvin Burks Nov. 26th
Wanda Kitchens Nov. 27th
Linda Houts Nov. 28th
Terry Day Nov. 30th
Sarah Flores Dec. 7th
Crystal Vann Dec. 11th
Lynette Vann Dec. 14th
Brady Vann Dec. 18th
Virginia Lovell Dec. 19th

## **Prayer List:**

David Hamby
Vicki Moore
Valerie Garza
Virgina Lovell
Vernon Houts
Wanda Kitchens
Jorge Garza
Pray for our Nation
Our Troops
Law Enforcement
Rescue Personnel

## Happy Anniversary

December 31st
Steve & Carmen Sugg
January 1st
Judd & Denise Wall
January 26th
Doug & Theresa Pruett



December 6th
5:30 PM
Christmas Party
at Michele Jones
home in Hamilton.
We will be having a Mexican
stack up. There will be a sign
up list in the foyer.
Also, each person please bring
a \$10 gift for the Chinese

Christmas exchange.

# Edifier

## **Evant church of Christ**

310 W Brooks Drive

Evant, TX 76525

254-471-5705

November 23, 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:** 

9:30 am Bible Study

10:20 am Worship

12:30 pm Afternoon

**Wednesday Night** 

6:00 pm

**Corey Tackett, Preacher** 

903-851-1094

Email: corey.tackett96@gmail.com

www.evantchurchofchrist.org

## The Danger of Bitterness

Bitterness is one of those sins that we tend to overlook or excuse. It often hides deep within the heart, but its effects are deadly and far-reaching. God's Word warns plainly: "Looking diligently lest any man fail of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble you, and thereby many be defiled" (Hebrews 12:15). Please observe a few important truths about this destructive attitude:

#### 1. Bitterness Causes Harm to Ourselves

When a person harbors bitterness, it eats away at his own heart. Instead of peace, there is turmoil. Instead of joy, there is misery. The bitter person often thinks he's hurting the one who he imagines has wronged him — but in reality, he's only destroying his own spiritual well-being. **Proverbs 14:30** says, "A sound heart is the life of the flesh: but envy the rottenness of the bones." Bitterness is spiritual poison. It robs us of the "peace that passes understanding" (**Philippians 4:7**) and separates us from the joy of serving Christ.

## 2. Bitterness Destroys Relationships with Others

Bitterness cannot stay hidden for long. It eventually shows itself in harsh words, cold attitudes, and an unforgiving spirit. Paul wrote, "Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamor, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice: and be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you" (Ephesians 4:31–32). When we hold grudges or bitterness, our relationships — in our families, friendships, and among brethren — will inevitably suffer. Love cannot flourish where bitterness reigns.

#### 3. Bitterness Produces Strife in the Local Church

Churches have been torn apart because someone refused to let go of resentment. One bitter heart can infect others. **Hebrews 12:15** warns that "many" can be defiled by one root of bitterness. Instead of unity and peace, there will be factions, gossip, and distrust. Satan delights in such situations. He knows that when brethren are consumed with personal grudges, they lose focus on their mission of preaching the gospel and edifying one another (Philippians 2:2–4). Brethren, we must be on guard! A church cannot thrive spiritually where bitterness is allowed to grow unchecked.

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## **The Danger of Bitterness**

(continued)

## 4. If We Continue in Bitterness, It Will Cost Us Our Souls

This is the most serious point of all. The one who clings to bitterness is walking in darkness and cannot have fellowship with God (1 John 2:9–11). To continue in bitterness is to live in open rebellion against the very heart of the gospel — the grace and mercy that God has shown us through Christ. Unless we repent, bitterness will drag us down to eternal ruin.

Bitterness is a root that must be pulled up — completely and immediately. Don't let it take hold in your heart. Remember the mercy you've received from God, and extend that same mercy to others. Let us strive to be a people who are "kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven" us **(Ephesians 4:32).** - by Greg Gwin

## **Obstacles**

In ancient times, a king had a boulder placed on a roadway. Then he hid himself and watched to see if anyone would remove the huge rock. Some of the king's wealthiest merchants and courtiers came by and simply walked around it. Many loudly blamed the king for not keeping the roads clear, but none did anything about getting the big stone out of the way.

Then a peasant came along carrying a load of vegetables. On approaching the boulder, the peasant laid down his burden and tried to move the stone to the side of the road. After much pushing and straining, he finally succeeded.

As the peasant picked up his load of vegetables, he noticed a purse lying in the road where the boulder had been. The purse contained many gold coins and a note from the king indicating that the gold was for the person who removed the boulder from the roadway.

The peasant learned what many others never understand. Every obstacle presents an opportunity to improve one's condition.

By James C. Guy