

Those to Serve

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

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

January 11th

Men's Meeting

January 25th

Noon Fellowship

Happy Birthday

Sarah Flores Dec. 7th
Crystal Vann Dec. 11th
Lynette Vann Dec. 14th
Brady Vann Dec. 18th
Virginia Lovell Dec. 19th
Kevin Grant Dec. 24th
Joy Payne Jan. 3rd

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

**We would like to thank
Michele Jones for hosting
the Christmas Party at home.
Fun was had by
everyone present and its
Always great to fellowship
with Fellow Christians**



TRAIN

Monday

Dec. 8th

**at Ruby Jones home at
10:00 am.**

**Lady's you know
what to bring**

Edifier

Evant church of Christ

310 W Brooks Drive

Evant, TX 76525

254-471-5705

December 7, 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

Controlling Our Temper

by R. J. Evans

Brother John Clark once related a story about a woman who told a preacher she had a bad temper, but that it was over in a minute. "So is a shotgun blast, but it blows everything to pieces," was the preacher's reply. And far too many of us who are Christians are triggered by the least little incident, frequently losing our temper. When we lose our temper, we usually do and say things in anger which we later regret. "He that is soon angry dealeth foolishly" (**Proverbs 14:17**).

It has been said that "anger is like rain, which breaks itself upon that whereon it falls." For example, anger usually culminates in bitter words, insults, the revealing of secrets, or in the breaking off of relations between two parties. Of the aforementioned, insults are probably the most frequent cause of anger. Most of us had rather be injured physically than insulted. There is something about an insult that makes us want to repay with a worse insult. How many of us possess the magnanimous spirit of Abraham Lincoln when he was insulted? It is reported that when he was told that one of his cabinet members, Edwin Stanton, called him a fool, he replied, "If Stanton says I am a fool, I had better look into the matter, for he is a wise man." No doubt that worked much better than if he would have retaliated by losing his temper, setting off a chain reaction with much more bitterness and resentment to follow. Incidentally, after Lincoln was killed, it was Stanton who remarked in subdued tones of respect, "There lies the greatest leader this country has ever known."

The Bible teaches us the importance of practicing self-control. It is listed as the "fruit of the Spirit" in **Galatians 5:22-23**, and among what we sometimes refer to as the "seven Christian graces" in **II Peter 1:6**. Self-control is one of the Christian's weapons against the world. And practicing self-control involves controlling our temper. We must follow after Christ's example - "Who, did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth: Who, when he was reviled, reviled not again; when he suffered, he threatened not; but committed himself to him that judgeth righteously" (**I Peter 2:22-23**). The person who continually loses his temper is like an undefended city or one in ruins. The wise man Solomon said, "He that hath no rule over his own spirit is like a city that is broken down, and without walls" (**Proverbs 25:28**). What a sign of weakness when we constantly lose our temper! And it is certainly a poor reflection of Christ in our lives when we "fly off the handle."

Christians must learn to be calm and serious. James said, "Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath" (**James 1:19**). This brings to mind the motto: "Think twice before you speak. Losing your temper, blurting out angry words, and speaking your mind excites strife. "A soft answer turneth away wrath: but grievous words stir up anger" (**Proverbs 15:1**).

*Angry words! O let them never
From the tongue unbridled slip;
May the heart's best impulse ever
Check them ere they soil the lip.*

*Author Unknown
First appeared in Sunday School Teacher, 1867*

Exercise Wisdom with Benevolence

"So then, as we have opportunity, let us work that which is good toward all men, and especially toward them that are of the household of the faith" (**Galatians 6:10**).

The topic of benevolence is a difficult one that brings up many questions. Does opportunity equal obligation? Is benevolence something we do when convenient? When does encouraging through benevolence become enabling? Are there times when it is proper to say, "No"?

There are limits of benevolence, regardless of whom one feels is an eligible candidate. When **Galatians 6:10** tells us that we should help "all men," this doesn't include those who are called the "idle" in **2 Thessalonians 3:10-12**: "For even when we were with you, this we commanded you, if any will not work, neither let him eat. For we hear of some that walk among you disorderly, that work not at all, but are busybodies. Now them that are such we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ, that with quietness they work, and eat their own bread."

And just as wisdom is to be applied to the phrase "all men," so, too, is wisdom to be applied when we are told to "Give to him that asks of you" in **Matthew 5:42**. This doesn't mean that we "Take the children's bread and cast it to dogs" (**Matthew 15:26**). In other words, we don't give to others if our giving is going to be depriving our own dependents of what they need. We don't want to be too narrow in our benevolence, but neither should we be too broad in whom we decide to help.

We have no authority to extend benevolence that would help immoral living, such as would be the case of fornication, drug abuse, or giving money to a woman to have an abortion performed. We should never be guilty of enabling sin or sinful practices and lifestyles. As Paul wrote to the church at Thessalonica, Christianity prescribes starvation for those who refuse and shirk work. The purpose is that their hunger, hopefully, will drive them to seek and find work for themselves.

We also must consider what is our ability to perform benevolence, both at the personal as well as the congregational level. As stated previously, one should never deprive one's own to help another. As the old proverb states, charity begins at home. So just as we should try to teach the gospel to as many people as possible, we should also assist in benevolence as many people as we possibly can, as God has prospered and blessed us. Wisdom is required, and God has promised to grant wisdom generously to those who seek it (**James 1:5**).

May the Lord bless and prosper you!

By David R. Ferguson