

### Those to Serve

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

**January 11th**

Men's Meeting

**January 25th**

Noon Fellowship

**February 1st**

Mission Sunday

**February 16th**

President's Day

**February 22nd**

Noon Fellowship

**March 1st**

Mission Sunday

James Lovell was baptized

Sunday afternoon,  
Jan. 4, 2026.

Please encourage him, prayer  
for him and welcome him as a  
member to God's church.

*Happy Anniversary*

January 26th  
Doug & Theresa Pruett  
February 14th  
Vernon & Linda Houts

### Prayer List:

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

### Quotes & Saying

- "Now more than ever the people are responsible for the character of their Congress. If that body be ignorant, reckless, and corrupt, it is because the people tolerate ignorance, recklessness, and corruption." ~ James A. Garfield
- "I know that the Lord is always on the side of the right. But it is my constant anxiety and prayer that I and this nation should be on the Lord's side." ~ Abraham Lincoln
- "We can complain because rose bushes have thorns, or rejoice because thorn bushes have roses." ~ Abraham Lincoln

### Happy Birthday

Lindy Burks Feb. 14th  
Corey Tackett Feb. 20th  
Eloisa Garza March 2nd  
Rachel Flores March 3rd  
Mattie Tackett March 12th

# Edifier

**Evant church of Christ**

310 W Brooks Drive

Evant, TX 76525

254-471-5705

**January 11, 2026**



*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**

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## Stop Complaining

The story is told of a circus owner walking into a restaurant and seeing everyone crowded around a table. On the table was an upside down pot that had a duck tap dancing on top of it. The circus owner was so impressed that he offered to buy the duck from its owner and after some negotiations he agreed to pay \$10,000 for the duck and the pot.

Three days later the circus owner returned to the restaurant in anger demanding his money be returned. He told the restaurant owner that his duck was a rip off because he had put him on that pot before an audience and he had not danced one bit. It was then that the duck's former owner asked him if he had remembered to light the candle under the pot.

While that may be one reason someone would put a lighted candle under a pot; that is not really what candles are for. In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus said that candles are meant to be used to provide light to all who are in the house. That is what a light source is for, to provide illumination in the dark.

In like manner, our lives as Christians were intended not to be hidden under a pot, but rather to shine before all men so that they may see clearly the way to our heavenly Father. We are supposed to be a positive influence on all those around us—Mt.5:13-16. The problem is that at times we spend too much time complaining and grumbling about life's circumstances that our lives are anything but a shining light to those around us.

In an appropriate text for this time of year, the Apostle Paul exhorts us "to do ALL things without complaining/grumbling and disputing." (Ph.2:14). It is the complaining part that I want to focus on today. Paul says to "do all things without complaining" so that we might become blameless and without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse world. And to "do all things without complaining" so that our lives might serve as a shining light to those living in darkness.

Jesus said, "We are the salt of the earth" and the "light of the world." Thus, all of us whether we realize it or not, have a degree of influence in the lives of others. We are all being watched by others who see what we do and hear what we say, especially if they know we are professing Christians. The question then is not are we influencing others; it is how are we influencing others? How is the way I live life, specifically when it comes to how I deal with less than pleasant circumstances, affecting those around me?

What Paul says in essence is that our light or influence is enhanced or diminished by the way we deal with life's circumstances. How do you react to daily life and living? Life has its share of difficulties and hardships for all men; do we grumble, complain and look to find fault? Or do we, as Paul elsewhere exhorts, "rejoice always", "giving thanks in all things"—Ph.4:4, 1 Thess.5:18. The manner in which we influence others depend upon how we answer this question.

What does it say to an unbelieving world when Christians are no better at handling the challenges of life without complaining than they are? It says that our relationship with God through His Son doesn't really have the positive effect in our lives that we claim it does. So regardless of what life throws at you "do all things without complaining" and you just might be the light that leads some lost soul out of the darkness. By Brian Mitchell

## Is Your Heart Right With God?

We have a very simple question to ask: Is your heart right with God? As you think about your answer to this most important of all questions, we'd like you to consider these observations:

You might as well be honest about this, because "if our heart condemn us, God is greater than our heart, and knoweth all things" (1 Jn 3:20). So then, if you have never obeyed the gospel, or if you are unfaithful in your service as a Christian, you ought to own up to the reality of your dangerous spiritual condition — after all, you can't hide these things from God.

Judgment is as certain as life itself. "It is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment" (Heb 9:27). "So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God" (Romans 14:12).

In light of these facts, perhaps you should begin right now thinking about a good excuse that you can use on the judgment day. A few favorites will surely be: "I was too busy", "I didn't feel well", "I had family obligations", "My work demanded so much of my' time", "The people at church were unfriendly", "I didn't like the preacher, or the elders, or the teachers, or ..." Feel free to pick one of these, or perhaps you can come up with one of your own that seems more appropriate to your own particular situation.

We must warn you, however, that the excuse you choose, no matter how good it seems, will not be good enough. (Read Mt 7:21-23 and 25:31-46) The truth of the matter is that "we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad" (2 Cor 5:10).

So our best advice then is to get right with God. It is ultimately important, and excuses just won't get the job done - not now, and certainly not in judgment.

Greg Gwin