

Those to Serve

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

January 25th

Noon Fellowship

February 1st

Mission Sunday

February 8th

Men's Business Meeting

February 14th

Valentine's Day

February 16th

President's Day

February 22nd

Noon Fellowship

March 1st

Mission Sunday

Happy Anniversary

February 14th

Vernon & Linda Houts

Happy Birthday

Lindy Burks Feb. 14th

Corey Tackett Feb. 20th

Eloisa Garza March 2nd

Rachel Flores March 3rd

Mattie Tackett March 12th

Prayer List:

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



*Sterling McDonald will be with us on **March 22nd** to talk with us about Camp Red Oak Springs church camp in Newton, TX. Corey and Mattie have been a part of the church camp for several years.*

Sterling McDonald is the director for Session 3 and also President of the Board of the camp.

Business office

Camp Red Oak Springs
P.O. Box 26

Mauriceville, TX 77626

Phone: 409- 617-2391
email:

thecampredoak@gmail.com

Edifier

Evant church of Christ

310 W Brooks Drive

Evant, TX 76525

254-471-5705

January 25, 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

www.evantchurchofchrist.org

You Can, But You Can't

We live in a time when people often say, "I can do whatever I want." In one sense, that's true. Especially in America, we've been afforded many freedoms. In religious practice, you can do a number of things. You can choose your habits, your priorities, and how you live in service to God. God created us with the ability to choose (**Joshua 24:15**).

You can ignore God's word, but you can't expect spiritual strength without it (**Matthew 4:4**). You can neglect worship, but you can't grow closer to God while drifting away from His people (**Hebrews 10:24–25**). You can live for the moment, but you can't escape eternity (**Hebrews 9:27**). You can sow to the flesh, but you can't reap peace and joy from it (**Galatians 6:7–8**).

You can believe any doctrine you choose, belong to the church of your choice, and worship God as you please. You have the right to make these choices, but you should understand, you can't please God while doing these things. "Whoever transgresses and does not abide in the doctrine of Christ does not have God. He who abides in the doctrine of Christ has both the Father and the Son." (**2 John 9**).

Satan has effectively convinced many that religion is determined by personal preference, not by God's will, and that self-satisfaction matters more than obedience to God. So, you can ignore God's warnings, refuse His blessings, and reject His great love, but you cannot go to heaven while doing so. "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?' And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!'" (**Matthew 7:21-23**)

The bottom line is this; you can't save yourself, but you can come to Christ in obedient faith. You can repent, confess your faith in Christ, and be baptized for the forgiveness of sins (**Acts 2:38**). You can walk in the light and live with hope (**1 John 1:7**). May we choose wisely, knowing that our choices determine our destination for eternity. -

by Josh McCord

Commands from Christ Are Not Optional

I recently read a Bible Q & A article written by a denominational preacher. In it he was asked, "Can you go to heaven if you 'trust' Jesus as your Lord and Savior but you are not yet baptized?" He began his answer by saying: "Yes. Baptism has nothing to do with salvation." Later in the answer he stated: "Baptism is an ordinance instituted by Christ until the 'end of the age'...Clearly this command was not only for the apostles who heard it but for His followers throughout the entire age." Finally, he concluded with: "One is saved without, apart from and before baptism. Those who are saved should desire baptism as a public profession of faith, but please realize that it is not necessary for salvation. If a person believes in Jesus as Lord and is never baptized, they will still be saved." I would like to analyze how this person answered this most sincere and important question about baptism and see if it really "holds water." I think it is very interesting that he admits that baptism is a command from Christ and then declares that it does not have to be followed for salvation. Imagine that – the command from Jesus Christ to be baptized is optional (or so he said)! Given this logic, I wonder what other commands from Christ would be optional? I guess all that are not in line with man's teachings!

All facetiousness aside, listen to what Jesus Himself said concerning what our attitude should be toward every command He gives:

- **John 14:15**, "If you love Me, keep My commandments."
- **John 14:21**, "He who has My commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves Me."
- **John 15:10**, "If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love"
- **John 15:14**, "You are My friends if you do whatever I command you."

Note that there is no room in these verses for options, opinions, or omissions. That's because Jesus is the One with all authority in heaven and on earth (**Matt. 28:18**). Whatever He has commanded, we'd better do. And Jesus commanded baptism as necessary for salvation (**Mark 16:16**) and declared it to be the process of how people become His disciples (**Matt. 28:19**). The apostles went about baptizing "in the name of" Jesus Christ (i.e. in the manner and for the purpose He authorized, see **Acts 2:38; 10:48**). They knew something we should never forget: If it's a command from Christ, it's not an option.

By Edd Sterchi