

Those to Serve

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

March 17th

St. Patrick's Day

March 20th

Spring Begins

March 22th

Noon Fellowship

April 5th

Mission Sunday

Easter

April 15th

Tax Day

April 26th

Noon Fellowship

Happy Anniversary

April 1st

Calvin & Tammy Burks

April 18th

Jack & Cindi Wall

Happy Birthday

Doug Pruett April 1st

Steve Sugg April 6th

Carmen Sugg April 9th

Denise Wall April 11th

Michele Jones April 12th

Connie Mallett April 30th

Prayer List:

Valerie Garza
Virgina 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.

"Selah"

Often, when reading in the Psalms, we come across the word, "selah." In fact, the word appears 71 times in the Psalms. (It is also found 3 times in Habakkuk.) What does this word mean? Why is it there? Is it important?

Most scholars agree that this term had a meaning in the musical nomenclature of the Hebrews. What that meaning was, though, has been lost and now it is a matter of pure conjecture. Some think the word was used to indicate an interlude -- a pause in the voices as they recited or sang the particular Psalm. - Greg Gwin

Edifier

Evant church of Christ

310 W Brooks Drive

Evant, TX 76525

254-471-5705

March 15, 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

Father, Forgive Me: Understanding Divine Mercy

Gratitude toward the Lord is deeply connected to recognizing His forgiveness and mercy. Many struggle to fully grasp the completeness of God's forgiveness, often feeling burdened by past mistakes even after seeking forgiveness. Sometimes, people swing between extremes—wanting to forgive everyone regardless of their repentance, or refusing to forgive those who have wronged them, believing they've missed their chance.

Jesus addresses these personal relationships in **Mat. 18**, teaching about the process of reconciliation: confronting faults, repentance, and forgiveness, with church discipline as a last resort. The disciples, curious about the frequency of forgiveness, ask, "How often do I forgive my brother?" Peter suggests seven times, thinking it generous since rabbis taught three strikes was the limit (**Amos 1:3, Amos 1:6, Amos 1:9**). Jesus, however, calls for much more—77 or even 490 times—emphasizing that forgiveness should be continual, not counted. He illustrates this with the parable of the Unmerciful Servant.

In **Mat. 18:23-27**, Jesus tells of a servant who owed an unfathomable debt—billions by today's standards. The king, moved by compassion, forgives the entire debt, showing mercy to a penitent servant. This represents God's willingness to forgive all our sins, debts we could never repay. God's grace, provided through Jesus, is greater than any sin, and He releases us from spiritual bondage when we sincerely seek forgiveness. However, penitence is necessary for this gift.

Luke 17:3-4 highlights that God's forgiveness requires repentance—"if" the brother repents, forgiveness follows. The parable continues in **Mat. 18:28-35**: the forgiven servant refuses to forgive a minor debt owed to him, showing harshness and hypocrisy. His lack of mercy leads to punishment, illustrating that God expects us to forgive others as we have been forgiven. If we are not merciful, God may revoke our forgiveness (**John 8:24, Prov. 21:13, Mat. 6:12-15, James 2:13**).

Forgiveness and repentance must come from the heart—insincere apologies or forgiveness are ineffective (**Mat. 18:35, Mat. 5:7, Eph 4:32, Col. 3:13**). God forgives us as we forgive others, and His gift can be revoked if we do not "walk in the light." Willingness to forgive is essential to maintaining God's forgiveness.

The parable of the Unmerciful Servant teaches that if we desire forgiveness, we must be willing to forgive others. God forgives the greater debt; we should forgive the lesser. If you're struggling with forgiveness or burdens after becoming a Christian, remember that prayer and support are always available. Just as Peter and others prayed for Simon the Sorcerer (Acts 8), the church family can help by praying for us. The invitation to forgiveness is always open.

By Dale J. Babinsky

When is "The Truth" the Truth?

Some investigations are going on about classified documents. One investigation concerns former President Donald Trump. The other one concerns current President Joe Biden. Both claim they did nothing wrong; however, others are claiming they did. What is the truth?

The truth is what is known. Jesus stated, "You shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." (**John 8:32**) Every person can know that saving truth the same way. There can be no doubt about it. We have it in writing. God desires that all men be saved and come to knowledge of the truth. (**1 Tim. 2:4**). In our world of relative morality, we can know for certainty that there is a standard that is reliable. We must use the right authoritative standard in determining what is known.

The truth is what is proclaimed. Often, we don't want to hear the truth. When Felix heard the truth from Paul, he trembled. Later Paul wrote, "Have I therefore become your enemy because I tell you the truth?" (**Gal. 4:16**) Paul was just a messenger. Today we need to proclaim the truth in love. (**Eph. 4:15**) We need to love God and love our fellow man enough for the message of truth to reach their hearts.

The truth is what is written. This follows the other two points quite well. This is a well-known fact. "Put it in writing" is often a statement made to ensure security. When we buy anything, it is always good to put it in writing. I still request this today when I get a call of solicitation. God wanted His Word written down. Paul assures us of the veracity of that which was written before in **Rom. 15:4**. God had the Old Testament written for "our admonition." (**1 Cor. 10:11**) Peter assured his listeners that what was written by the prophets was truthful and was being fulfilled. (**Acts 3:24**) Jesus mentioned that the prophecies written about Him were being fulfilled. In **Luke 24:44** our Lord stated, "All things must be fulfilled that were written in the Law of Moses, and the Prophets, and the Psalm concerning me." (NKJV). The written truth must be looked at and used correctly. Paul told Timothy the truth must be divided correctly. (**2 Tim. 3:15**) Often today the truth on any matter may be shaded to fit a particular platform or agenda. Could that happen with the Bible as well?

We can know the truth about our salvation and what God's will for us is today. We need not trust any source other than the word of God. God wants us to know it. We don't need to doubt it. It can save us and put us in eternity with Him. Jesus said "Sanctify them by your truth. Your word is truth."

(John 17:17 NKJV)

By Bill Brandstatter