

### Those to Serve

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

### August 7th

*Mission Sunday*

### August 9th

*First day of School-Evant*

### August 14th

*Men's Business Meeting*

### August 28th

*Noon Fellowship*

### September 4th

*Mission Sunday*

### September 5th

*Labor Day*

### September 11th

*Grandparent Day*

### September 25th

*Noon Fellowship*

### *Happy Birthday*

**Jack Wall August 20th**

**Cindy Wall August 26th**

**Vernon Houts Sept. 24th**

**Judy Grant Sept. 28th**

**Autumn Vann Sept. 29th**

### Prayer List:

Diane Savage (Virginia's niece)  
Cheryl Burks  
Mark Kirby  
Virginia Lovell  
Dora Martinez  
Letha Sheldon  
Pray for our Nation  
Our Troops  
Law Enforcement  
Rescue Personnel

### By Faith Alone?

By Rob Albright

A few years back, I entered a men's baking contest. It was all desserts. I found a recipe that I liked so I started putting all the ingredients together. I also took into account how long I was to cook. It was all spelled out in the recipe. I thought I made a good cake – at least some people could eat it.

In the matter of salvation there are different ingredients. The Bible teaches us we are saved "by grace, through faith" (Eph. 2:8); by "works" (James 2:24; by "calling on the name of the Lord" (Rom. 10:13; Acts 22:16); by "obedience" (Heb. 5:8-9) by "baptism" (Mk. 16:16) by "belief" (Acts 16:31); and other things as well.

Here is my point: Just as the ingredients of the recipe must be combined to make a cake, so must the ingredients of salvation be combined. You do not have salvation by faith alone. Just like you cannot take just one ingredient and claim to make a cake, you cannot just pick one ingredient and have salvation. The ingredients must be combined to get the desired results. You cannot produce a cake on flour alone and you cannot have salvation by faith alone..

# Edifier

**Evant church of Christ**

310 W Brooks Drive

Evant, TX 76525

254-471-5705

**August 7, 2022**



*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**

**Will Vann, Preacher**

**863-899-0987**

**Email: wvann@yahoo.com**

**www.evantchurchofchrist.org**

## ***Faith & Doubt (#1) - What is Faith?***

“There is no way the Bible can be accurate!” Do you really expect me to believe that Jesus came back to life after he died? Give me a break!”

Comments such as these can cause one to doubt his faith. Doubt can lead someone to think he has become an unbeliever because he has lost his faith. There is nothing wrong with “honest” doubt. There are some things that doubt is not.

1) Doubt is not skepticism. While there is nothing wrong with honest doubt, there is much wrong with “dishonest doubt,” which is nothing more than skepticism. Skepticism is simply the willful decision to doubt everything deliberately, virtually rejecting what is highly probable.

2) Doubt is not unbelief. Unbelief is the decision not to have faith, which is a far cry from what doubt is. Doubt may amount to nothing more than difficulty in understanding something. There is no reason to feel guilty about honest doubt. Faith and doubt are not mutually exclusive. However, faith and unbelief are mutually exclusive.

Everyone has some sort of faith. Even a die-hard atheist has faith that there is no God. They may not think of it as faith, but the fact that no one has “proved” the non-existence of God means that they accept their belief in no God by faith.

The Atheist would challenge our faith by saying ours is not a reasonable faith because there is nothing to substantiate it. We will look at evidence that demonstrates that not only is our faith reasonable, it is the most likely probability.

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## ***Faith & Doubt (#1) - What is Faith?***

(continued)

I do want to make a point before continuing. People rarely come to faith with resolved doubts. Francis Bacon said, “If you start with total certainty, you will end up with doubt, but if you start with doubt, you will end up with certainty.” Faith is not going to be faith solely because of the evidence we will be looking at. Notice the following passage:

“Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen (Heb 11:1).”

Our faith is not based on the ability to prove or disprove. If we could prove 100% that our belief is true, then our faith would no longer be faith. So when we engage in a defense of our faith, we are showing “evidence” that our faith is “reasonable.” However, the bottom line is that we accept our Lord by faith.

Our faith comes from hearing, not necessarily from proving (Rom 10:17). While proving can remove obstacles to faith and strengthen it, faith is ultimately a decision. The Greek word for faith carries the idea of trust and obedience. James discusses this in James 2:19. Real faith is not merely mental assent, or even acceptance of some facts. It is an active trust in our Lord.

Next, we will look at how to handle doubt, and then look at evidence for the reasonableness of our faith.

### ***Hebrews 11:6***

***But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.***