

### Those to Serve

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

#### July 10th

*Men's Business Meeting*

#### July 31th

*Noon Fellowship*

#### August 7th

*Mission Sunday*

#### August 19th

*First day of School-Evant*

#### August 28th

*Noon Fellowship*

#### September 4th

*Mission Sunday*

### *Happy Anniversary*

#### July 10th

**Judy & Kevin Grant**

#### July 25th

**Valerie & Jorge Garza**

### *Happy Birthday*

**Mike Lovell July 16th**

**Keith Stifflemire July 22nd**

### Prayer List:

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

### Sentence Sermon

- *Always forget your troubles and re- member your blessings.*
- *The religion of some people is present in word, but absent in action.*
- *There is no free tuition available for the school of life.*
- *Where a persons goes after death is determined by where a person goes before death.*
- *The Lord knows the way through life's wilderness; you just need to trust him and follow him.*

# Edifier

## Evant church of Christ

310 W Brooks Drive

Evant, TX 76525

254-471-5705

**July 10, 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**

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## The Best Defense Is a Good Offense

"The God of Heaven will prosper us" (Nehemiah 2:20)

When trouble and opposition came to the builders, Nehemiah went on the offensive. He developed a powerful and positive strategy for battle against discouragement, danger, derision, discord, distraction, defamation and dismay. The antagonists were overcome and the builders succeeded because they applied five powerful principles that need to be implemented by the builders of the Kingdom today.

1. They prayed. The battles we fight must be bathed in the prayers of the saints. Satan levels the arsenal of hell against the builders of truth and righteousness. Prayer releases the power of God in our struggles. We cannot win alone! (Phil. 4:6; I Pet. 4:7; Eph. 6:18; Col. 4:2; James 4:2)

2. They were alert. Prayer must always be coupled with watchfulness. We must be aware of the enemy - his deception and cunning. His devices are clever and manipulative. (I Pet. 5:8; II Cor. 2:11) As builders, we cannot afford the luxury of apathy or indifference. (Matt. 26:41)

3. They were prepared. As they worked, they were prepared for battle. Nehemiah put a sword in one hand and a tool to build in the other. (Neh. 4:16-20) Build and battle at the same time. As builders, we must be suited up in our armor at all times. Put on the "whole armor of God" (Eph. 6:10-18). Satan is always looking for an opportunity to infiltrate. By keeping "all" the armor on at "all" times we'll be ready when the attack comes.

4. They were united. They worked with organization, cooperation and coordination. The phrase "and next to him" is repeated about 30 times in Nehemiah chapter three and suggests that the builders were a close-knit team. So, the body of Christ is "joined and knit together" which results in edification and growth. (Eph. 4:16)

5. They were determined. They would not be sidetracked or distracted by intimidation from without, or dismay from within. They had "a mind to work." With a focused, determined leader in Nehemiah, the builders persevered and in 52 days the walls were completed.

Read Nehemiah chapter 4 and note these five principles. The church will stand strong against the enemy when we apply these steadfast principles. Remember, a good offense is the best defense!

By Clarence DeLoach

## Truth and Error: How to Tell the Difference

We learn about a thing by experiencing it. Babies learn sweet from sour, hot from cold, and wet from dry by experiencing these things. Even so, we learn spiritual truth by experiencing it in God's word, which is truth (John 17:17). Our use of God's word enables us to readily distinguish between truth and error. Haddon Robinson relates the following story that illustrates this point:

A Chinese boy who wanted to learn about jade went to study with a talented old teacher. This gentleman put a piece of the stone into the youth's hand and told him to hold it tight. Then he began to talk of philosophy, men, women, the sun, and almost everything under it. After an hour he took back the stone and sent the boy home. The procedure was repeated for weeks. The boy became frustrated-when would he be told about jade?-but he was too polite to interrupt his venerable teacher. Then one day when the old man put a stone into his hands, the boy cried out instantly, "That's not jade!" (Biblical Preaching, p. 102).

In Hebrews 5:12-14, the inspired writer is addressing Christians who were not mature enough to tell the difference between right and wrong. He admonishes them with these words:

"For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you again the first principles of the oracles of God; and you have come to need milk and not solid food. 13For everyone who partakes only of milk is unskilled in the word of righteousness, for he is a babe. 14But solid food belongs to those who are of full age, that is, those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil."

There are two words in the text that shed much light on our current topic. The first is the word "unskilled" and it means "inexperienced." The Hebrew Christians had not progressed and developed because they did not have enough experience in the word. As a result, they were like children who cannot discern right from left; they were spiritual babes who could not tell right from wrong. The second word to consider is the word "exercised." It comes from the Greek word "gymnazo" from which we get our word "gymnasium" - the place where athletes practice and train. Those who regularly use God's word have their senses trained to "discern both good and evil."

Why is it that some brethren don't seem to be able to identify obvious error when they hear it? Why are so many Christians bogged down in their spiritual lives by moral relativism and compromises with the world? Can we not tell the difference between good and evil? Could the root of the problem be that we have had no meaningful experience with the "word of righteousness"?

My friends, may we this day resolve to hold God's word in our hearts - to study it, meditate on it, and practice it -- so that when we're given something else we will be able to simply exclaim, "That's not truth!"

- by Steve Klein