



Rockwood Church of Christ

The Proclaimer

December 18, 2011

P.O. Box 416
129 S. Chamberlain Ave.
Rockwood, TN 37854
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Elders:

Dana Carter
Kenneth Carter
Don Chandler

Deacons:

Bobby Bear
Kendall Bear
Larry Brackett
Roger Carter
Steve McCreary
Don Wicks

Minister:

Kirby Hinds

Secretary:

Susan Chandler

Service Times:

Sunday

Bible Study 10 am
Worship Service 10:45 am
Worship Service 6 pm

Wednesday

Bible Study 7:30 pm

Monday

Ladies Class 10 am

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CARING FOR PEOPLE – A MOST IMPORTANT JOB

“No one cares how much you know until they know how much you care.” Good proverb and good practice! We are often long on knowledge and short on compassion; correct on doctrine, offensive in nature!

We would do well to remember Jesus did not die for buses, budgets, and buildings; not for carpets, cooling, and committees. He died for people.

Here are some common sense rules in working with people:

Speak to people! There is nothing as nice as a cheerful word of greeting.

Smile at people! Smiling is the international language. It takes 72 muscles to frown but only 14 to smile. And it pays dividends!

Call people by name! The sweetest music to anyone’s ears is the sound of their own name. *“Greet friends by name” (III John 14).*

Be friendly! The best way to have a friend is to be a friend. Jesus was a *“friend of sinners” (Luke 7:34).*

Don’t put strings on your love! None of this, “I’ll love you if...” Jesus loves “because” and “in spite of.”

Be genuinely interested in people! It’s easy to treat people as if they are really worth something if you remember **THEY ARE!**

Be considerate of the feelings of others! The Golden Rule applies: *“Do unto others as you would have them do to you” (Luke 6:31).*

Be thoughtful of other’s opinions! There may be three sides to a controversy: yours, the other fellow’s, and the right side!

Be alert and give service! The “servants” and the “givers” are the ones on the way to “greatness” (**Matthew 20:26**). Jesus came to serve (**Matthew 20:28**).

In our efforts to be doctrinally right, organizationally right, and ministry rich, let’s not forget that we work with people – the most precious commodity in the world. Handle with care...Handle with prayer!

Tim Woodward

NO GOOD DEED GOES...

You know how the devil completes that line. He and those deceived by him consistently repeat, “No good deed goes unpunished.” And sometimes it seems like the devil is right.

A godly wife does all she can to live the truth of **I Peter 3:1-6**, but her husband doesn’t respond with love. He intensifies his cruelty and rebellion to God. Godly parents do all they can to live the truth of **Proverbs 22:6** and **Ephesians 6:4**, but their children neither appreciate nor internalize godly training.

Godly elders attempt to live up to the truth of **Hebrews 13:17**, but some brethren see them as meddlesome and overbearing.

Godly Christians do their best to apply **Matthew 18:15-17** and **Galatians 6:1-2**, but they are accused of being self-righteous and judgmental.

Faithful Christians take to heart the Great Commission of **Matthew 28:18-20**, but they are accused of trying to force their religion on others.

Sadly, all this happens. Even stouter examples could be added. And Satan gloats when he persuades some that righteousness costs far more than it pays.

Happily, Scripture countermands each of the devil’s lies. It’s just not true that “no good deed goes unpunished.” Rather, in this sin-damaged world, it’s more accurate to say that “few good deeds go unchallenged.” Satan opposes good, especially good that’s done in the name of Christ. Why? Because the devil knows the power of good deeds! Because the devil knows that good deeds honor God, help people, and mold Christian character.

What the devil opposes, God commends. In God’s divine grace and mercy, for the faithful we can say, “No good deed goes unnoticed” “No good deed goes unappreciated,” and “No good deed goes unrewarded.” We have God’s word on these truths.

Remember **Matthew 25:31-46**? Those who fed the hungry, gave drink to the thirsty, took in the stranger, clothed the naked, cared for the sick, and visited the prisoner heard these words from the King, “*Assuredly, I say to you inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me*” (**Matthew 25:40**). Remember **Titus 3:8**, “*...Those who have believed in God should be careful to maintain good works. These things are good and profitable to men.*” Remember **Hebrews 6:10** “*For God is not unjust to forget your work and labor of love which you have shown toward His name, in that you have ministered to the saints and do minister.*”

We have God’s word on it. Love the Lord and no good deed goes unrewarded!

Bill Bagents