



Rockwood Church of Christ

The Proclaimer

December 30, 2012

P.O. Box 416
129 S. Chamberlain Ave.
Rockwood, TN 37854
865-354-0855

Elders:

Dana Carter
Kenneth Carter
Don Chandler

Deacons:

Bobby Bear
Kendall Bear
Larry Brackett
Roger Carter
Steve McCreary

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

Email:

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Rockwoodchurchofchrist.com

HIS NAME IS BILL...

He has wild hair, wears a T-shirt with holes in it, jeans, and no shoes. This was literally his wardrobe for his entire four years of college. He is brilliant. Kind of profound and vary, very bright. He became a Christian while attending college.

Across the street from the campus is a very conservative church. They want to develop a ministry to the students, but are not sure how to go about it.

One Sunday Bill decides to go there. He walks in with no shoes, jeans, his T-shirt, and wild hair. The service has already started so Bill starts down the aisle looking for a seat.

The church building is completely packed and he can't find a seat. By now, people are really looking a bit uncomfortable, but no one says anything.

Bill gets closer and closer to the pulpit, when he realizes there are no seats, he just squats down right on the carpet. By now, people are really uptight and the tension in the air is thick. About this time the minister sees that an elder is slowly making his way toward Bill.

This elder has silver-gray hair, and a three-piece suit. He is a godly man, very elegant, very dignified, very courtly. He walks with a cane and as he starts walking toward this boy, everyo-ne is saying to themselves that you can't blame him for what he's going to do.

How can you expect a man of his stature to understand some college kid on the floor? It takes a long time for the man to reach the boy.

The church is utterly silent except for the clicking of the man's cane. All eyes are focused on him. The minister can't even preach the sermon until the elder does what he has to do.

Everyone sees the elder drop his cane on the floor. With great difficulty, he lowers himself and sits down next to Bill and worships with him so he won't be alone.

Everyone chokes up with emotion. After the minister gains control, he says, "What I'm about to preach, you will never remember. What you have just seen, you will never forget."

Be careful how you live. You may be the only Bible some people will ever read.

Borrowed, Bulletin Digest

Something to think about as we start a New Year!

SCRIPTURAL NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS

The New Year is upon us, and many will be making resolutions of things that they wish to accomplish. It may be a bad habit that one wants to break, or a good habit that one desires to develop. As Christians, what better way to make resolutions than to dedicate ourselves to applying Scriptures to our everyday lives.

Paul wrote, *“These things, which ye have both learned, and received, and heard, and seen in me, do: and the God of peace shall be with you”* (**Philippians 4:9**) James said, *“But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves”* (**James 1:22**). Following are some suggestions that you may want to include among your own “New Year’s Resolutions.”

Pray every day. *“Pray without ceasing”* (**I Thessalonians 5:17**). *“I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men”* (**I Timothy 2:1**).

Be active in evangelism. *“Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature”* (**Mark 16:15**). *“And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also”* (**II Timothy 2:2**).

Attend every service of the church (even Wednesday!). *“And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works: Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching”* (**Hebrews 10:24-25**).

Work with the church in the unity of the Spirit. *“I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called, with all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love; Endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace”* (**Ephesians 4:1-3**).

Refuse to tolerate religious error. *“Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints”* (**Jude 1:3**). *“And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them”* (**Ephesians 5:11**).

Write the Scriptures on your heart. *“But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear”* (**I Peter 3:15**). *“Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth”* (**II Timothy 2:15**).

Obey the Lord in all things. *“If ye love me, keep my commandments”* (**John 14:15**). *“And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God, and the Father by Him”* (**Colossians 3:17**). *“For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments; and His commandments are not grievous”* (**I John 5:3**).

Make 2013 a better year for you spiritual life than 2012. *“But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ”* (**II Peter 3:18**).

Jason T. Carter