



Rockwood Church of Christ

The Proclaimer

February 26, 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
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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Rockwoodchurchofchrist.com

ARE YOU LISTENING?

The story is told of Franklin Roosevelt, who often endured long receiving lines at the White House. He complained that no one really paid any attention to what was said.

One day, during a reception, he decided to try an experiment. To each person who came down the line and shook his hand, he murmured, "I murdered my grandmother this morning." The guests responded with phrases like, "Marvelous! Keep up the good work. We are proud of you. God bless you, sir."

It was not until the end of the line, while greeting the ambassador from Bolivia, that his words were actually heard. Not quite knowing what to say, the ambassador leaned over and whispered, "I'm sure she had it coming."

How many times have you ever heard someone say, "**Nobody ever listens to me!**" And how many people go through life frustrated because there truly is nobody who will take the time to really listen to what they have to say? Everybody wants to talk, but so few want to listen!

Benjamin Franklin once said, "A pair of good ears will drink dry a hundred tongues."

The Bible has much to say about the value of listening. Take to heart this instruction: "*Let every man be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath*" (**James 1:19**).

May I encourage you today to put down the newspaper, turn off the television set, and take the time and effort to listen to those around you. It will show that you care, and who knows, you might even learn something in the process!

Alan Smith

WILL YOU FOLLOW THROUGH?

I can still hear the voice of a coach from junior high basketball days: “Follow through on your free throws! Follow your shot!” These two commands and others with similar instruction sprang from a principle of athletics that says what you do after an action or decision is just as important as the action or decision to begin with. Follow through in arm motion can affect the direction of a shot or pitch. Following a shot may help a player get an important rebound, etc.

Spiritually, the principle of following through is just as vital. God wants us to do something just as surely as we hear and commit to it (**James 1:22**). And, God wants works that cooperate with our faith (**James 2:19-26**). So, let us think of some practical ways this principle can be applied in all aspects of our lives, and let’s do that by asking some important questions.

Will you follow through by confessing Jesus as your Lord everyday, by the life that you live (**Matthew 10:32-33**)?

Will you follow through by remaining faithful to your spouse for as long as you both live (**Matthew 19:6**)?

Will you follow through by raising the children God has given you (to train and mold) in the discipline and instruction of the Lord (**Ephesians 6:4**)?

Will you follow through by teaching someone the Gospel that was taught to you and resulted in your salvation (**Romans 1:16**)?

Will you follow through by paying the financial debts that you have accumulated and pledge to pay (**Ecclesiastes 5:4, 5**)?

Will you follow through by working hard to support yourself and your family (**II Thessalonians 3:10**)?

Will you follow through by giving back to God a rightful portion of that which He has so richly blessed you (**II Corinthians 8:7**)?

Will you follow through by preparing yourself to be able to answer anyone who asks you a reason of your hope (**I Peter 3:15**)?

Will you follow through by being a friend at all times and encouraging your brothers and sisters (**Proverbs 17:17; Romans 12:15**)?

Will you follow through by praying to God regularly (**I Thessalonians 5:17**)?

Will you follow through by being willing to die for God’s cause (**Revelation 2:10; 12:11**)?

Well...Will you?

Lance Cordle