



Rockwood Church of Christ

The Proclaimer

May 6, 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

Email:

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Rockwoodchurchofchrist.com

DADDY, HAVE I EVER SEEN ONE?

I heard a story once about a family of church members discussing the importance of “going to church.” You see, the father did not always attend with the rest of the family and this caused the wife and mother considerable consternation. The little boy was begging to “stay home with daddy,” but the mother was insistent that he go with her, and was urging the father to get ready to go also. The conversation was beginning “to stir the ire” of both parents. Picking up on the reluctance of his father to go, the little boy spoke up, “why do we have to go to church anyway?”

The father, unhappily arising out of his seat “to get ready to go” in order to please his wife, responded to his son with raised voice, “Because we’re Christians, that’s way!” Catching the father by surprise, the little boy inquired of his father, “What is a Christian?” The father, still out of humor, replied to his son, “A Christian is one who believes in Christ and always does what is right.” The little boy thought for a few seconds, looked at his father and asked, “Daddy, have I ever seen one?”

First of all, “going to church” should not be an issue that has to be decided anew from week to week. The decision once made by an individual to be a Christian should settle the matter once and for all...**YES, I AM GOING TO ATTEND THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CHURCH** (Note **Hebrews 10:25**)! And I am going to really try to be a genuine Christian in attitude, word, and deed! Within a Christian family, the husband and father should “take the lead,” as head of his household, in putting Christ first (Consider **Ephesians 5:22-24; I Peter 3:5-7; Matthew 6:33**, etc.) The wife and mother should cooperate fully with him in this, that the children might learn from them that Christ and His cause is to have **NUMBER ONE** priority!

Maxie Boren

MY TRIP TO THE PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE

It was my senior year in High School, and as was my custom, I had arrived early so as to mingle with my friends in the cafeteria before going to class. On this particular morning, my twin brother and I had gotten into a bit of a scuffle on our drive to school. We had a disagreement over who was going to buy gas on the commute home later that day (we shared a vehicle). Our disagreement continued and intensified as we assembled in the cafeteria with our peers. It wasn't long until our classmates were voicing their opinions on who should and shouldn't buy gas. With lines having been drawn, neither one of us were going to budge. We were both poised to win the argument, no matter the cost. My friends stood with me, while his friends stood with him. It wasn't long until a fight pursued. Punches were thrown (none of which landed) and words were said. As my brother and I wrestled to the floor amidst the divided mob, I remember a hand grabbing my back and catapulting my brother and me straight into the principal's office. It was Mr. Cook, our High School football coach. He wasn't what I'd call a physically fit man, but he was surprisingly strong. We were made to sit down with the coach standing directly behind us. We'd never seen the inside of the principal's office before. I was scared! Mr. McKinley (our principal) was known for his disciplinary actions; in particular, his application of the rod of knowledge to the seat of understanding. Sitting there awaiting the final verdict was the longest few minutes of my life. Fortunately, because of our "unblemished record" he made us reconcile and promise that we'd both pay a little on the gas. I look back on that incident now and think to myself, *"Boy, how stupid to have allowed something so insignificant (a few dollars in gas) to come between us!"*

Tragically, there will be many folks stand before God in Judgment and answer for the strife they allowed to come between them and fellow human beings. Strife that existed between husbands and wives, parents and children, neighbors, co-workers, and yes, even brethren, will undoubtedly be called into question on that day. Sobering, thought, isn't it? That's why it's imperative that we reconcile any differences we might have with fellow human beings while we have opportunity. With eternity in view, we must ask ourselves, "Is the strife between us really worth losing our soul over?" May our attitude be as Abram's, who said to Lot, *"Let there be no strife, I pray thee, between me and thee...for we be brethren"* (**Genesis 13:8**). And if we find ourselves amidst some strife or disagreement, may we heed the words of Jesus: *"...if thou bring thy gift to the altar, and there remembers that thy brother hath aught against thee; Leave there thy gift before the altar, and go thy way; first be reconciled to thy brother, and then come and offer thy gift"* (**Matthew 5:23-24**).

Terry R. Townsend