



# Rockwood Church of Christ

## The Proclaimer

November 11, 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

## THE DUTIES OF CHRISTIANS

### From Acts 11:19-30

In **Acts 11:26**, we see that *“the disciples were first called Christians in Antioch.”* Could it be that God wanted to mark this point in time to give His people the new name He promised in **Isaiah 62:2** because it was then and there they were doing everything He wanted of His followers? Let’s take a look at the text to see what they were doing:

**Acts 11:19-21**, *“Now those who were scattered after the persecution that arose over Stephan traveled as far as Phoenicia, Cyprus, and Antioch, preaching the word...preaching the Lord Jesus. And the hand of the Lord was with them, and a great number believed and turned to the Lord.”* Here we see them **evangelizing**.

**Acts 11:22-24**, *“Then news of these things came to the ears of the church in Jerusalem, and they sent out Barnabas to go as far as Antioch. When he came and had seen the grace of God, he was glad, and encouraged them all that with purpose of heart they should continue with the Lord...And a great many people were added to the Lord.”* In this section **edification and encouragement** take place.

**Acts 11:25-26**, *“Then Barnabas departed for Tarsus to seek Saul. And when he had found him, he brought him to Antioch. So it was that for a whole year they assembled with the church and taught a great many people. And the disciples were first called Christians in Antioch.”* It is obvious here that **fellowship and worship** is taking place here.

**Acts 11:27-30**, *“...there was going to be a great famine throughout all the world, which also happened in the days of Claudius Caesar. Then the disciples, each according to his ability, determined to send relief to the brethren dwelling in Judea...”* And finally, we observe them **helping others** who are in need.

This was their service to Christ: telling others about Him, building brethren up in Him, bowing down to Him, and doing benevolent acts in His name. So, Christian, are you keeping up with your duties?

**Edd Sterchi**

## “IS THAT A GRUDGE IN YOUR HAND?”

*“Love...does not take into account a wrong suffered.” I Corinthians 13:5*

Herman Melville wrote one of the classic novels of all time, The Whale, but from the second printing on, it has been titled, Moby Dick. The tale is about the obsession and monomania of Captain Ahab. He had such an obsession with the whale that he could not turn it loose. He eventually lost everything because of it.

We have all experienced a difficulty or conflict sometime in the past. From time to time, we have seen a person who cannot let go of that difficulty or conflict. It remains the subject of every conversation. The pain is relived again and again. The grudge builds into an immovable barrier in their life. They cannot get around it to move on. Life seems paralyzed.

Peter asked the Lord how many times he had to forgive someone who offended him. Peter gave a number that he thought might be enough. Seven? But the Lord told him seventy times seven. Rather than stop at 490, Jesus really meant, “Don’t keep count.”

Then the Lord told a parable about some debtors. A master forgave a slave a major debt. That slave however was unwilling to forgive a fellow slave of a small or minor debt. *“Then summoning him, his lord said to him, You wicked slave, I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not also have had mercy on your fellow slave, in the same way that I had mercy on you? And his lord, moved with anger, handed him over to the torturers until he should repay all that was owed him. My heavenly Father will also do the same to you, if each of you does not forgive his brother from your heart” (Matthew 18:32-35).*

God has forgiven us so much. We should, in turn, forgive each other of the small offenses we have between us. So often we don’t because we don’t remember how much God has forgiven us. And because we don’t forgive, we stay stuck in the past, holding on to a grudge.

Captain Ahab could not turn loose and he lost everything. If we can’t turn loose of the past, forgive and forget, we will lose everything also.

**Gerald Elliott**