



# Rockwood Church of Christ

## The Proclaimer

November 4, 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:**

rockwdcc@earthlink.net

**Website:**

Rockwoodchurchofchrist.com

## PROPER MANAGEMENT

We are all keenly aware of the fact that proper management is necessary in our homes, business and our service to the Lord. *“As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God” (I Peter 4:10).* *“Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful” (I Corinthians 4:2).* Even when we have given a portion of our livelihood to the Lord we are still responsible for what remains. The word “steward” referred to a “house manager, overseer” in the New Testament. God has given us many things to oversee. How well are we doing? One of the reasons some may not have more to give to the Lord is because they are not good stewards. There are many ways that we can waste the resources that God has provided for us.

1. Lottery tickets or any other form of gambling.
2. Tobacco or any other product known to cause cancer, heart disease, etc.
3. Clothing that leads others to lust or think less of us.
4. Music and movies that glorify what God has condemned.
5. Supporting financially those who hold views contrary to God’s will such as pro-abortion or same-sex “marriages.”
6. Alcohol or any other product that harms the mind, the body and one’s influence.
7. Any service or product that sounds too good to be true.

It isn’t just what I give each Lord’s Day that matters to God but rather what I do with all that I have. When decisions are made as to how we spend our money let’s always ask how this reflects on our relationship to God. Is God pleased with my decisions?  
**Gary Puryear**

## **SING!**

Worship of God has always been a natural outpouring from the heart of those who love the Lord. From Genesis to Revelation we have examples of people worshipping God and we have God's instructions about the kind of worship He wants and approves of. As the New Testament church, our goal should be to worship the Lord in accordance with both His wants and approval. To that end, our worship assemblies are conducted without the use of mechanical instruments. Simply put, the language of the New Testament clearly commands this style of worship and every New Testament example upholds this practice. It is also pertinent to note that this was the common and accepted practice for all of Christendom for nearly the first seven hundred years of Christianity. Notably, the term "acappella" is a Latin phrase which simply means "in the manner of the church." When the organ was first introduced into the worship of the Catholic Church around 670 A.D., it was met with great opposition by the people.

Today however, the exclusion of instruments from our worship assembly is considered odd by the vast majority of people. The idea of exclusively vocal worship seems to most as quaint, uninspiring, boring, and lackluster. The understanding of Scripture's definition of what God-sees as acceptable worship has been relegated to the closet of things not considered as important. But it is important. It is important because God's Word shows us it is important. Therefore, if it is important to God, it should be important to us as well. So, brethren, sing!

Sing from the heart. Sing to the Lord. Sing to one another. Sing from your soul.

Those who criticize our worship as dull and uninspiring are only accurate if we fail to lift our hearts in worship through song to our Heavenly Father as He commanded. You don't have to be talented or gifted or even in tune for your vocal offerings to be pleasing to God's ears; you just have to let your love for your Father and your gratitude for His blessings and your awe for His glory and majesty fill your heart and overflow from your lips in honest and sincere worship. So sing brethren, sing! Cast aside your fear and self-doubting and worship the Lord!

**Joel Shelton**