



# Rockwood Church of Christ

## The Proclaimer

April 10, 2022

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

**Elders:**

Kendall Bear  
Dana Carter  
Don Chandler

**Deacons:**

Larry Brackett  
Aaron Evans  
Larry Hill  
Steve McCreary

**Minister:**

Dale Barger

**Service Times:**

**Sunday**

Bible Study 10 am  
Worship Service 10:45 am  
Worship Service 6 pm

**Wednesday**

Bible Study 7 pm

**Email:**

rockwdcc@gmail.com

**Website:**

Rockwoodchurchofchrist.com

## A Big Name

When Walter P. Paepeke started a carton company and called it the Container Corporation of America, his attorney said it was “*a big name for such a small company.*” Mr. Paepeke’s reply was, “*We’ll take the name and grow into it.*”

That’s the task we have before us. We have taken a big name – the name of Christ. Now we must grow into it.

There was a wonderful promise given in **Isaiah 62:2**, “*Thou shalt be called by a new name, which the mouth of the Lord shall name.*” Think of it. A new name. Given by the Lord! We see the fulfillment of that promise in **Acts 11:26**, “*And the disciples were called Christians first in Antioch.*”

Under the name Christian we are to glorify God (**1 Peter 4: 16**). But we know that the name is too big for us. We are an unfinished product, slowly growing into that name. The Bible constantly calls upon us to become more and more like Christ, to “*Grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ*” (**Ephesians 4:15**).

Are we making progress? Do others recognize Christ in me? Do they find some grace, or receive a kind thought when in contact with me? Am I concerned about the welfare of all those about me? Am I ready to love all people without partiality? Do I show compassion, tenderness and concern? Am I willing to step out of selfishness into selflessness? Am I kind and gentle to those who are in distress?

John Gipson

Windsong church of Christ

Little Rock, AR

# Bulimic Christians

A couple of weeks ago I shared some observations from the book *Point Man* by Steve Farrar. The specific observation was dealing with Christians who are starving (anorexic) due to a lack of time spent in reading God's Word and in prayer. Mr. Farrar also observes that there are Christians battling spiritual bulimia. Spiritually speaking, bulimia is the inconsistent reading or hearing of the Word without personal application. He goes on to explain that spiritual bulimia is an aversion to applying the Scripture to our personal life. Scriptural facts may be in our minds, but we're not integrating them into our lives.

When people come to know Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, they are spiritual infants, spiritually ignorant. We encourage Bible study and Bible classes so they may grow from spiritual ignorance to spiritual knowledge. But is that really what is intended for new converts? What we really want is for these individuals to grow in knowledge so they become obedient to God.

James describes spiritual bulimia, "*But prove yourselves doers of the word, and not merely hearers who delude themselves*" (**Jas. 1:22**). The goal is doing the Word of God, not just knowing. Jesus said the same on several occasions, "*Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven will enter*" (**Mt. 7:21**). "*If you love Me, you will keep (do) My commandments*" (**Jn. 14:15**).

It is important that we spend time in the study of God's Word. But it is even more important that we faithfully apply the Scriptures to our lives. When we begin to live a life of obedience, the world will begin to see lives committed to Christ. And it truly is a different type of life from the way of the world.

Characters throughout the Bible demonstrated their obedience to God. Daniel resolved in his heart to not defile himself with the king's rich foods (**Dan. 1:8**). Abram was obedient to God being called to leave his homeland and go to a place he did not know (**Gen. 12:1-4**). By God's command, he would later take his "*only*" son to be sacrificed (**Gen. 22**). Scripture describes Ezra as one who was obedient. "*For Ezra had set his heart to study the law of the Lord and to practice it, and to teach His statutes and ordinances in Israel*" (**Ezra 7:10**).

May we be the same as these great examples, not only hearing the Word, but being diligent to obey every word.

Paul Mowrer  
Monticello church of Christ  
Monticello, AR