



Rockwood Church of Christ

The Proclaimer

April 15, 2018

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Elders:

Dana Carter
Kenneth Carter
Don Chandler

Deacons:

Kendall Bear
Larry Brackett
Roger Carter
Steve McCreary

Minister:

Todd Houston

Secretary:

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Service Times:

Sunday

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

Wednesday

Bible Study 7:30 pm

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YOUR NEXT HOME

By Allen Jones

Financial experts tell us our homes are our largest asset. An average house in 1973 was 1,600 sq. ft., while in 2015 an average house was 2,687 sq. ft. Numerically, families continue to decrease in size compared to previous decades. Our homes are very important due to values, not needs. We are blessed to work, plan, and prosper while choosing a home that fits our goals. We may even be thinking of remodeling or relocating. How often do we ponder our eternal home? Heaven deserves all the attention we give our earthly homes, and more!

Heaven is a literal place. Hebrews 11:16 says, *“But now they desire a better, that is, a heavenly country. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for He has prepared a city for them.”* Our hope of Heaven exceeds any dwelling we may come in contact with here. Do you desire a better place?

Heaven provides rest for the weary. Hebrews 4:9 says, *“There remains therefore a rest for the people of God.”* We all have worked long hours to the point of being too tired to sleep. We understand fatigue, pain, and suffering. None of this exists in Heaven. Do you want to find rest from your labor?

Heaven will last forever. I Thessalonians 4:17 says, *“Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord.”* We leave the comfort of our homes frequently but we will forever be with the Lord if we do His will. Do you desire a place of permanent security?

Heaven is a better home, provides rest, and will last forever. Are you preparing for your next home?

FOUR THOUGHTS ON BEING A TEEN

After having my 30th birthday this year, I took the chance to look back and think about the things that I wish someone had told me when I was younger. I came up with these few things...

Be yourself. There are so many people telling you what to be or how to be it that you can almost kill yourself chasing down every fad or trend. Explore what is out there, but you need to learn who you are first. Each of us is *“fearfully and wonderfully made”* (**Psalm 139:14**) by God, and God has sculpted us in such a way that we are unique and individual. We must search ourselves out and find that uniqueness that God has placed in each of us.

Use your emotions. At no greater time in your life are you as passionate, on fire, crazy, or in love with everything in life. Use this to your advantage, and take the time to fall in love with God. It seems that God can be so distant at times, but a love for Him can be strengthened through serious study and dedication during this time. Christ pointed to the fact that loving God is the first and greatest of the commandments (**Matthew 22:37; Mark 12:30; Luke 10:27-28**). If you can figure this out during your youth, you can create a long and strong relationship with God.

Do not sell yourself short. *“Let no one despise you for your youth”* (**I Timothy 4:12**). As teenagers, you hear plenty about what you cannot do, but do not let this deceive you into thinking that you are unable to accomplish great things. You are at a point in your life that you have so many options and possibilities that can be rewarding to you and glorifying to God in the same breath. There are countless examples of teens that wanted to make an impact in the world around them and undertook something that many believed they were unable to conquer. Dedication and a clear goal create a winning attitude that makes you unstoppable at this point in your life.

You are an example. *“Let no one despise you for your youth, but set the believers an example in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, in purity”* (**I Timothy 4:12**). The biggest thing that I did not realize in my teenage years was the impact that I had on those around me. People became more excited about something when I became more excited about something. Put that to use for God. I also didn't realize how many people were watching me for cues on how to live life. We never truly know the scope of our impact until we see it in action. You are someone's example. Are you setting a good one? You have an opportunity to lead others just by the way that you live.

Kyle Macon