



Rockwood Church of Christ

The Proclaimer

April 5, 2015

P.O. Box 416
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Rockwood, TN 37854
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Elders:

Dana Carter
Kenneth Carter
Don Chandler

Deacons:

Kendall Bear
Larry Brackett
Roger Carter
Steve McCreary

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 10:00 a.m.

Email:

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Website:

Rockwoodchurchofchrist.com

DOWN IN THE DUMPS?

Are you feeling alone? Forgotten? Neglected? No one seems to come around anymore?

Well, then quit wasting your time brooding and do something about it! Get up and call someone on the phone. Inquire about their health, offer a word of encouragement or just chat for a while. If you can drive, get up and go to the hospital and visit your fellow Christians who are sick. Or go to the rest home and lift the spirits of those who are too often forgotten.

Don't wait for others to think of you! Think of them first! I can almost guarantee you they will show more interest in you as a result of this than you ever imagined. Don't knock others for doing just as you have done in the past – nothing. Don't judge their motives. If you want a particular person to come see you, call and invite that person to come. What's wrong with offering an invitation every once in a while?

Don't leave everything up to the other fellow. That's a mistake we often make. He/she has to speak first...He/she has to call first...He/she has to make the effort first...Whatever is done in the way of showing mutual love, he/she has to take the lead...Why? Why not ME?

One of the faults many have is that of expecting others to do all the giving, and doing, and then feeling hurt if they fall below our expectations. How childish!

We would be happier if we expected more of ourselves and less of others. We have no control over their actions; we do our own.

The next time you are tempted to become miffed because you feel you have been neglected, take control of the situation. Do something to make others want to remember you! The results may be surprising and heart-warming, for everyone!

"Many of today's troubles result from the duties we failed to perform yesterday."

**Bulletin Digest,
via Coahoma Church of Christ, Coahoma TX**

“LEAD ME TO SOME SOUL TODAY”

Matthew 9:36-38 says *"And seeing the multitudes, He felt compassion for them, because they were distressed and downcast like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to His disciples 'the harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Therefore beseech the Lord of harvest to send out workers into His harvest.'"*

I like this verse for several reasons. **Verse 36** says Jesus had "compassion" for them. I know we talk quite a bit about **John 3:16**. We see it more and more flashed across TV screens when watching sporting events. I wonder sometimes if people realize what they are putting on those posters. God "so loved" us that He sent His Son to die for our sins. I believe if we look at one of the messages behind that phrase, we can say He felt like Jesus did in the Scriptures above.

He felt compassion for us. It was strong enough that He sent His Son to die for us. Another message he shares in this passage is "why" there was compassion for them. **Verse 36** says they *"distressed and downcast, like sheep without a shepherd."* Many in the world today are looking for answers to problems in their life. We all have trials and tribulations we must deal with. The answer lies in our relationship with God. The Bible teaches us that if we will put our trust in God, He will supply us with all that we need to make it through this life. We need to realize that our friends and family are watching how we deal with what life throws at us. The best evangelistic tool you have available is showing others you put your trust in God when it comes to the difficult times in your life.

Finally, I believe we are given a challenge in this passage. He tells us that *"the harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few."* We must meet the challenge set before us today. The world is filled with many lost souls. We as Christians have the greatest message to help them. The message cannot be spread if we are not sharing it. We sing a song in our songbooks that has a verse that says, *"Lead me to some soul today."* I believe He is telling us in this passage that all we have to do is look around us. He leads us to those souls in our workplace, the convenience store, where we buy our groceries, etc. I want to encourage you this week to talk with someone about their salvation. It is the greatest gift you can give someone.

Ken Williams