



# Rockwood Church of Christ

## The Proclaimer

August 17, 2014

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

**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 am

**Email:**

rockwdcc@gmail.com

**Website:**

Rockwoodchurchofchrist.com

## COMMITMENT

Commitment is the act of committing, pledging or engaging oneself. It is regarded as a pledge or a promise. When we become Christians, we commit ourselves to take up our cross and follow Christ daily. The commitment was for a lifetime. In Christianity there is no such thing as a temporary commitment or a partial commitment.

When the pilot of a giant airliner is speeding down the runway, there is a certain point where he cannot decide to remain on the ground. When he crosses that line, he is committed to the air. If he doesn't, the plane will crash disastrously. That pilot cannot change his mind when the plane is two-thirds of the way down the runway. He must make his decision from the beginning and stay with it to become airborne.

Many members of the church have obeyed the gospel, leaving the old man of sin; but they seem to sit at the beginning of the runway revving the engines but never moving. They have been saved but they have never gotten engaged in their faith. Christianity is not a spectator sport; everyone must compete against an enemy who is out to get their souls **(Ephesians 6:10-13; I Peter 5:8)**. This is not a competition where winning or losing does not matter. It is a competition with eternal consequences.

Jesus told the church at Smyrna, *"Do not fear what you are about to suffer. Behold, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison, that you may be tested, and for ten days you will have tribulation. Be faithful unto death, and I'll give you the crown of life"* **(Revelation 2:10)**. Our faith in Christ is a commitment with no end. Let's not spend our time gunning the engine on the runway. Let's get involved!

**Phil Sanders**

## PONDER BEFORE YOU POST

It's happened again. It happens all too frequently.

I've been online, and I'm wondering if anyone "out there" cares anything at all about basic morality and decency. I'm questioning whether those who say they believe in God really do. I'm wondering if there really is any difference between those who wear the name of Christ and those who deny Him.

No, I haven't been spending my time checking out questionable websites. I haven't been checking out the lifestyles of the rich and famous. I've not been investigating somebody widely known as a "religious huckster." From time to time (maybe way too often), I check out what is being posted on Facebook and the latest "tweets" from some of the people I follow on Twitter. For those who may be unfamiliar with either of these, you need to know a couple of things. When something is posted on Facebook, it is there for the world (even preachers) to see and/or read. Those doing the posting have the choice of allowing people to be their "friends," so they should not expect their posts to be private. On Twitter, you know who is "following" you. So, once again, there should be no expectation of privacy.

Many of my Facebook friends and people I follow on Twitter are my brother and sisters in the Lord. I worship with some of them every week. So, what could they do online that would cause concern? Basically, just telling about their lives and expressing their opinions. I've learned that:

Shopping trips are made, errands are run, and a lot of television is watched during times of worship and Bible study.

Language is used that is inappropriate anywhere and at any time.

Pictures of people in almost no clothing are posted. Years ago, only certain kinds of "celebrities" would have posed for those pictures – and would have expected to get paid. Now, people I see every week at church have their own pictures taken and posted for free and for the world to see.

People can feel wonderful and have a great time on Saturday, but be apparently at the point of death on Sunday (and on a regular basis, too).

Vacations are not planned with worship in mind.

A preacher can preach or write about a particular sin and find it being practiced by one or more of the members where he preaches within days – maybe hours.

Recreation is much more important than the Lord.

There is no clear understanding of God's plan of salvation or the distinctiveness of the Lord's church.

Material from every "brand" of religion is posted, tweeted, and lauded.

There's more, but that's enough. At least, it's all I care to handle right now. As some of you have heard me say before (with more than a touch of sarcasm), "I've had about all the fun I can stand."

I think you get the point. If I claim to be a Christian, I need to ponder before I post. Do I really want the world to know what I've been up to? Do I realize that God knows what I've been up to; whether I post it or not?

**Jim Faughn**