



# Rockwood Church of Christ

## The Proclaimer

August 24, 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

## TREASURE HUNTER

I have for years been fascinated with treasure hunting. As a young boy I'd venture out into nearby fields with a metal detector in hand in hopes of unearthing some priceless treasure. I never found anything of great value, but I enjoyed the adventures nonetheless.

Jesus, in His Kingdom parables, made reference to treasure hunting (**Matthew 13:44-46**). In those parables the Master teacher likens the kingdom of heaven (church) to a priceless treasure or gem, and He points out that to obtain such would demand great sacrifice.

We learn a very important lesson relative to the treasure God wants man to be in search of. The church of our Lord should be sought above all else (**Matthew 6:24-33**). Why? Because it is most precious! It's precious because of the One who built and purchased it (**Matthew 16:18; Acts 20:28**). It's precious because there is none other like it (**Ephesians 4:4**). It too is precious because it's truth (**I Timothy 3:15**). And it's precious because it's the only treasure with eternal value (**Matthew 6:20**).

To obtain this priceless treasure, man must be willing to sacrifice everything. Both men, when finding their treasure, sold all that they had in order to obtain it. What are we willing to sacrifice for Christ and His church? Would we be willing to sacrifice our family (**Matthew 10:34-39**), occupation (**I Thessalonians 1:9**), worldly goods (**Matthew 19:16-22**), even our physical well-being (**Matthew 20:22**) to acquire it? Jesus said, "If any man will come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily, and follow me" (**Luke 9:23**).

What treasure are you in search of? If it's not Christ and His church, you're in search of the wrong thing!

**Terry R. Townsend**

## LOOKS AREN'T EVERYTHING

You wouldn't think to look at him as mighty. When the man of God came to town, he wasn't even invited to eat with the rest of his family. Sure he was good at what he did. He was trusted to handle the families' sheep. He was a musician. He was young. He was characterized as ruddy faced and beautiful, but not mighty. He wasn't even old enough to go to war. No one had yet sung songs of his glory. He had not yet won any glory for himself.

But he was chosen of God. The man of God had looked at all of his brothers. He had seen potential in them. God had other plans. God chose the shepherd. The nation was in need of a new king. The one they had had not followed the counsel of God. Their king was going mad. They needed a man who would stand up and be the king they envisioned. The man of God thought surely one of the boy's older brothers would fit the ticket. But God chose him. From a position of humility God pulled His next king.

An unusual choice to be sure, but this boy was different. While guarding his flock he defeated not only a bear but also a lion. When the king was troubled he soothed him with his harp. When the God of the nation was being blasphemed by a veritable giant, he stood and asked why? Why would the nation allow such slander toward the God that delivered them. He stood before the king, refused to wear armor he had not tested. He stood before a giant with a sling and some stones. He stood for God when an army, a nation, and a king would not. This was the choice of God. The man of God could not see the promise of this boy. He saw not what God saw. *"But the Lord said to Samuel, 'Do not look at his appearance or at the height of his stature, the Lord does not see as man sees, for man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.'"* (I Samuel 16:7).

This boy had the heart. The heart for God required to succeed. And Goliath was dead before he pulled his sling. Let us have such a heart.

**James Bennett**