



# Rockwood Church of Christ

## The Proclaimer

Dec 18, 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

## The Opportunity to Do Good

We live in the land of opportunity. Every person has the opportunity to do an extremely vast number of things each day. We have choices when it comes to employment. We have choices when it comes to living. We have choices when it comes to entertainment. We have so many choices that usually we have a hard time choosing what we are going to do.

Many times, if we are honest, we have so many choices that we are distracted to what is really important. Notice **Galatians 6:9-10**: *“And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not. As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith.”* I believe there are four important words in this passage: if, not, opportunity, do.

**IF:** The truth is that not one person is forced to be a Christian and live the Christian life. *“If”* we are willing to live the Christian life we can do good.

**NOT:** If we are willing to do good and if we are willing to faint not then we can be people who follow after Christ. The not means that we must be willing to never give up.

**OPPORTUNITY:** Each of us have the opportunity to do good in our lives. It is right in front of us and we must be willing to open our eyes.

**DO:** We must be willing to do good. Not wait for someone else to do good but willing to find people to help.

The truth is that we have so many opportunities. Opportunities to invite someone to church services. Opportunities to help someone who is hurting. Opportunities to change lives if we are willing to do good. Someone is depending on you!

Jonathan Burns  
Findlay church of Christ  
Sparta, TN

# ‘Do Right’ or ‘Waste Good’

Former Arkansas Razorbacks coach Lou Holtz was a strong proponent of the “*do right*” rule for athletes and inspired his athletes to follow the rule as they interacted with others on and off the athletic field. I agree with Coach Holtz’s “*do right*” concept as regards Christianity. We can look to God’s word to find that rule of thumb as Paul said “*As we have opportunity, let us do good to all, especially to those who are of the household of faith*” (**Gal. 6:10**). This verse reminds Christians to “do right” as we go about doing good always.

Following are some ways Christians can “*do right*” by doing good. The first God-given mission for a Christian is “*Go and teach all nations, baptizing them...teaching them to observe all things I have commanded you*” (**Matt. 28:19, 20**). It’s not possible for a Christian to literally go into all the world to physically teach but we can “*do right*” by this commandment to spread the gospel by taking advantage of mission opportunities to send the gospel to the world. Christians “*do right*” by reaching out with mercy and compassion to “*the fatherless and widows in their affliction*” (**James 1:27**). We do this as we support efforts to take care of the orphans and widows. Christians “*do right*” when they “*bear one another’s burdens*” (**Gal. 6:2**) by being there for them with money, time, energy and effort. There are many more examples in God’s word of means whereby Christians can “*do right*” by doing good.

Above, we’ve spoken about “*doing right (good)*.” Contrarily, let’s think about how we “*waste good*.” We “*waste good*” when we fail to do all we can to help others. There are many who need to be taught, visited and have their burdens lifted but we don’t teach, we don’t visit, and we don’t ease their burdens. We “*waste good*” when we don’t use even our simple opportunities to ease the pain and suffering of others and help them to see the love of God in our lives and let them know they can have that same depth of love in their own lives. We “*waste good*” when we fail to be kind to others by so simple a thing as holding a door for them to go through or by frowning instead of smiling. There are many, simple ways in which Christians “*waste good*” by failing to be Christ-like in their day-to-day living. Whether on or off the athletic playing field, whether in or away from the church building, people “*waste good*” by not exercising a good, positive attitude that lets others know they are Christians who care.

We “*waste good*” when we fail to reach out to delinquent members who no longer attend services regularly. Quite often we hear the blame game by a delinquent person as they say “*no one visited us*” and we need to remove that crutch. We can also “*waste good*” when we expect others to do for us what we should do for ourselves. A good example of this happens when we depend on someone else to carry the gospel message to our friends and neighbors instead of fulfilling our own obligation to do so. Unfortunately, we see so many examples of how we “*waste good*” in our daily living.

Christians will never “*waste good*” when they go about the “*Father’s business*” as Christ did and “*do all to the glory of God*.”

Royce Pendergrass (1941-2017)  
Central Avenue church of Christ  
Batesville, AR