



Rockwood Church of Christ

The Proclaimer

December 27, 2015

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 10:00 a.m.

Email:

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Website:

Rockwoodchurchofchrist.com

NEW YEAR – A NEW CLEAN PAGE

Lord willing, we will soon begin 2016. Often we allow this to be a time of resolutions and fresh beginnings (read your Bible more, attending worship more faithfully or even trying to lose weight or stop smoking).

Consider 2016 as a new clean page on which you will write words, deeds, non-verbal communication and good works. If the Lord allows us to have the entire year – at the end of 2016 what will be on our page? No one else (even parents, children, friends, co-workers, etc.) can make these important decisions for you. YOU will determine what you do, how you do it, how you treat others, if you are involved in good works, etc.

Consider this brief contrast of actions between two imaginary ones.

Mr. “A” is a good person who loves his work, is passionate about sports, is involved in community activities, politics, and various other things. But he is not very spiritual. He goes to “church” a couple times a month maybe. He does not have time to be involved in religious matters (studying, praying, and working). At the end of 2016 he is about the same as he was when he started the year.

Mr. “B” is also a good person in many of the same ways, but is quite spiritual. He is in worship every time the doors are open. He studies diligently his Bible and strives to live according to its instructions. He quickly volunteers for projects and works to help others learn and obey the truth. At the end of 2016 he has grown spiritually, closer to God, and determined to reach heaven eternally.

Especially notice that 100 years from now it will NOT make any difference what Mr. “A” did in 2016. But for Mr. “B” it will make ALL the difference – between eternal punishment and eternal life.

What will you write on your page TODAY? Do not wait until 2016. Begin today making a difference.

East Hill News

LOOKING BACK

The year 2015 with all its history is ending and another is upon us. It is an appropriate time for us to reflect upon the past year and look within ourselves to see how we have measured up. God has blessed us and we should think about whether we have shown gratitude for these blessings. God gives us the present everyday of the opportunity to begin anew, to correct past mistakes, and to seek to walk in His steps.

Leaders must examine whether they have planned wisely for the future or allowed time to just drift by. This is true not only of business leaders but also of leaders of our homes, and especially the church. Failure to engage followers in setting their own goals may cause them to fall to the wayside. “A simple rule for setting goals is to use the word SMART:

S – Make your goal specific by answering the six “W” questions:

Who: Who is involved?

What: What do I want to accomplish?

Where: Identify a location.

When: Establish a time frame

Which: Identify requirements and constraints.

Why: Specific reasons, purpose or benefits of accomplishing the goal.

M – Make your goal measurable; ask questions such as...How much? How many? How will I know when it is accomplished?

A – Make your goal attainable. Planning wisely and establishing time frames encourages success. Grow to meet your goals.

R – Make your goal realistic. It must be something for which you are both willing and able to work. Don't set your goal too low but don't put it out of reach either.

T – Make your goal tangible. A tangible goal is one that you can actually experience with your senses: taste, touch, smell, see or hear. Then tie intangible goals to these tangible goals to make them more specific, measureable and attainable (Adapted from Paul J. Meyers).

As we plan goal for the New Year let us make sure that we don't forget God. If we gain the whole world and lose our souls what will it profit? Jesus taught that we should count the cost, this involves using our minds and not just our feelings. James says not to make future plans, without considering God's will in them (**James 4:13-17**). God desires we put Him first in our lives, see **Matthew 6:33**. Be an encourager and work for the Lord this coming year!

Harold Jones