



Rockwood Church of Christ

The Proclaimer

February 2, 2014

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

Elders:

Dana Carter
Kenneth Carter
Don Chandler

Deacons:

Bobby Bear
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

EVERY LORD'S DAY

There is a common practice among some religious people which God deems as unacceptable. It pertains to the frequency in which the Lord's Supper is observed. The sentiment exists among many that it does not matter how often one partakes of the Communion as an act of worship to commemorate the Lord's death. Some suppose that if one partakes once a lifetime this is sufficient. Others surmise one can eat at the Lord's Table on a daily basis as an acceptable practice. Both of these extremes have one common characteristic – both ignore what the Bible teaches about how often the Lord's Supper is to be engaged in by worshippers of God. If you, dear reader, are one of those who could care less about what God says in the Bible then what I am about to say is unlikely to persuade you. But if you are one who possesses a deep respect for the revealed will of God, and one who truly desires to follow the divine pattern of worship, then you will appreciate what the Bible teaches pertaining to this topic. Consider the following.

The practice of the first century church was to assemble every Lord's Day to engage in certain acts of worship to God. One of these avenues of worship was to commemorate the Savior's death by observing the Lord's Supper. When the Master instituted this meal for the church He simply instructed His followers to engage in this spiritual act, without indicating the frequency with which it would be observed (**Matthew 26:26-29**). It was not until later, once the church had been inaugurated, that we are informed that the early church observed the Lord's Supper weekly (**Acts 20:7**). The only way in which the early church could have known to engage in the Lord's Supper with weekly frequency is because they were taught to do so by the inspired apostles (**Matthew 28:19-20; Acts 2:42**). This is why churches of Christ today observe the Lord's Supper every Lord's Day. We seek to follow the divine pattern set forth on the pages of the Bible. Don't allow yourself to be deceived by those preachers who clamor that the frequency of the Supper makes no difference. Know that there is no Biblical authority for those today who observe the Lord's Supper annually, semi-annually, or quarterly. This practice is what the Bible calls "will-worship" (**Colossians 2:23**), because it is based on the whims of man and not Biblical authority.

Stephen Wiggins

A GIFT OF LOVE: FORGIVENESS

“The Lord has filled our hearts with His love that we might share it with each other” is the thought found on my desk calendar from the movie “Courageous.” This calendar was a gift I received at Christmas and I flip the pages each day. This statement prompted me to think of what each day should focus on and what we should be striving to do.

Showing love can be done in many different ways, small or big, but the motivation behind the action must always be love. No matter what we do for others, if it is not motivated and carried out because of love and bathed in a heart of love then it does us and the recipient no good because it would have been done for the wrong reason.

I John 4:19 says that *“we love Him (God) because He first loved us.”* God has shown us by example what real, genuine, true love looks like. It is a love that is filled with sacrifice, mercy and kindness that was revealed in the person of Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God.

The great and matchless love of God inspires us to share that love with others. This demonstration of God’s love in our lives when shared with others is our badge of discipleship; proving that we are truly the children of God. **John 13:35** says *“by this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if you have love one to another.”*

One way to show love and perhaps the sweetest gesture of love is to forgive others of the wrongs they commit against you without holding a grudge and in the same manner God forgives. Our attitude should be, “if God can and will forgive me, then I must be willing to forgive others.” The greatest and most powerful thing in the world is LOVE. *“And now abides faith, hope, love, these three; but the greatest of these is love” (I Corinthians 13:13).*

Is there anyone in your life that you need to forgive? Give that person and yourself the greatest gift by giving them the forgiveness that God has given to you in your life. *“And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ’s sake hath forgiven you.” (Ephesians 4:32).*

Trey Poole