



# Rockwood Church of Christ

## The Proclaimer

January 9, 2022

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**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:**

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Rockwoodchurchofchrist.com

## Worship

In His conversation with the Samaritan woman at Jacob's well, Jesus said: "*But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him. God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth*" (**John 4:23-24**). In these verses Jesus revealed some important information about worship. He talked about the object of worship as well as the requirements for acceptable worship. These matters deserve our careful attention. Before we address them, though, we must understand what worship is.

"*Worship*" means to bow down before, to pay reverence to, and to adore. This definition is illustrated in **Psalms 95:6**: "*O come, let us worship and bow down: let us kneel before the Lord our maker.*" Sadly, attending worship services for the purpose of being entertained or having social contact has become quite popular. While it is true that great blessings, including fellowship, accompany worship, we must understand that its primary purpose is to show reverence to God and to praise His high and holy name.

Jesus taught very clearly that the Father is to be the object of our worship. Because of His greatness, power, and majesty, the Father certainly deserves to be worshipped. According to Jesus, the Father seeks true worshippers to worship Him.

True worshippers are those who comply with the requirements for acceptable worship. These requirements are worshipping "*in spirit and in truth.*" To worship in spirit one must worship from the heart, be sincere, and have the proper attitude. To worship in truth one must worship according to the Lord's will that is revealed in the New Testament. Neither of these requirements can be neglected; both are essential.

Raymond Sieg

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# Failure To Sing: A Sin Of Omission

A preacher recently announced from the pulpit, just before he delivered his sermon, *"Brethren, not one of you would deliberately omit the Lord's Supper this morning, I know. Yet, during the course of the last song, I noticed six or seven Christians who were not singing."*

The Lord surely did not provide avenues of worship merely to meet man's fancy. Every Christian knows that to break bread (**Acts 20:7**), to sing (**Col. 3:16**), to study (**2 Tim. 2:15**), to pray (**Eph. 6:16**), and to give (**1 Cor. 16:2**) are all specified as items of worship.

Further, singing, according to the Scripture, goes beyond just a physical movement of the lips and mouth. The object or purpose of singing as worship is to teach and admonish one another, to speak to one another (**Eph. 5:19; Col. 3:16**), to express joy (**James 5:13**), to praise God (**Rom. 15: 19**), and to make melody in the heart to the Lord (**Eph.5:19**).

One need not be a talented singer to comply with these requirements. A coarse, tuneless monotone properly applied is acceptable to the Lord, while a beautifully trained voice singing words without meaning are not acceptable.

No one knows better than a song leader the difficulty of attempting to lead a song service and observe sprinkled throughout the audience many Christians that sit silently without any attempt to sing. Perhaps the song leader surmises that such people do not feel like singing. However, it is strange that these brethren feel well enough to partake of the Lord's Supper. There are times that the song leader leads singing when he does not feel like it, but he continues on. Surely, excuses are slim indeed.

There are many sins of omission, but, brethren do not be found guilty of this one. Sing at every service. It is not only a privilege, it is a duty to sing praises unto the Lord.

*"Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin" (James 4:17).*

Author Unknown

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