



# Rockwood Church of Christ

## The Proclaimer

January 17, 2021

P.O. Box 416  
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**Elders:**

Kendall Bear  
Dana Carter  
Don Chandler

**Deacons:**

Larry Brackett  
Aaron Evans  
Larry Hill  
Steve McCreary

**Minister:**

Dale Barger

**Secretary:**

**Service Times:**

**Sunday**

~~Bible Study 10 am~~  
Worship Service 10:45 am  
~~Worship Service 6 pm~~

**Wednesday**

Bible Study 7 pm

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Rockwoodchurchofchrist.com

## Little Sharks, Big Jelly Fish

Every time I go swimming in the ocean, someone inevitably warns me: watch out for sharks! I always do, but I've never seen one, I've never heard the "bom-bom-bom-bom" music that plays in the background when sharks come near! And it's a good thing, because once you hear the music, it's probably too late. I've been warned to watch out for sharks, but no one has ever said to me, "Watch out for the jelly fish." The fact is, jelly fish are far more dangerous and each year kill more people than sharks do. I take a walk each day in the park, but no one has ever said to me, "Watch out for the bees." Yet, bees kill more people each year than sharks and jelly fish combined.

We tend to spend our lives worrying about the sharks because sharks are big and scary. We tend to ignore real threats because, by themselves, they're not all that intimidating. Don't let the little things in life fool you. You ignore them at your own peril. Every good marriage...every good employee...every good business...succeeds because they've learned to pay attention to the little things.

Jesus told a story about a servant who was given some money to manage, and because he managed it well, he was rewarded by his master. The master said, "*You have been faithful in handling this small amount, so now I will give you many more responsibilities*" (**Matthew 25:21**).

Our greatest wins and losses in life result from our ability to master the seemingly minor details of life. Reading a few verses of scripture and spending some time in prayer each day may not seem significant to some, but it's long-term effect is revolutionary. Making the effort to bite your tongue may not seem that important, but in the long run it could save a relationship.

Don't give the sharks more attention than they deserve—especially at the cost of ignoring the jelly fish. It's the little things that hold us back and the little things that move us forward.

**Harrisburg church of Christ**

# Light for the Road Ahead

Change is stressful. Our country is torn apart and the world seems turned upside down. The Bible is balm for our hearts in these troubled times. One book in particular shows us how to think as we adjust. It is the book of Ecclesiastes. Here are some verses that will give us peace of mind.

**No matter what happens, it has happened before.** “The thing that hath been, it is that which shall be; and that which is done is that which shall be done: and there is no new thing under the sun” **(Ecclesiastes 1:9).**

**Situations come and go.** Whether good or bad, our days go through cycles. “*To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven. A time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up that which is planted; A time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up; A time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance; A time to east away stones, and a time to gather stones together; a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing; A time to get, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to east away; A time to rend, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence, and a time to speak. A time to love, and a time to hate; a time of war, and a time of peace*” **(Ecclesiastes 3:1-8).**

**Since we will have good days and bad days, we should enjoy the good days and ponder the bad times.** “In the day of prosperity be joyful, but in the day of adversity consider. God also hath set the one over against the other, to the end that man should find nothing after him” **(Ecclesiastes 7:14).**

**Our lives are in the hand of God.** “*For all this I considered in my heart even to declare all this, that the righteous, and the wise, and their works, are in the hand of God: no man knoweth either love or hatred by all that is before them*” **(Ecclesiastes 9:1).**

**Things can change quickly and drastically.** “*There is an evil which I have seen under the sun, as an error which proceedeth from the ruler: Folly is set in great dignity, and the rich sit in low place. I have seen servants upon horses, and princes walking as servants upon the earth*” **(Ecclesiastes 10:5-7).**

**In a world of change, our main goal should stay the same.** “*Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man. For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil*” **(Ecclesiastes 12:13-14).**