



Rockwood Church of Christ

The Proclaimer

July 17, 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

Why in the World Do We Have VBS Anyway?

I know that VBS is a challenge. I mean if you have been around children for any length of time you know if you get 70 (or more) children together – you have your hands full.

But it is important! This week, I fired up my computer's Bible search engine and began reading all the various scriptures about children. This is some of what I found:

There are over 400 different references in our Bible about children – about the joys and challenges of raising them right. But what I really found interesting is that there were two scriptures about children that really tugged at my heart.

The first was: *“Train a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not turn from it” (Proverbs 22:6)*. Many times our kids are so bombarded by other things – such as school and athletics and band (which are good) – that they do not have much time to study God's word. As parents and grandparents, we should encourage our kids – and their friends to be a part of VBS. As dedicated Christians, we should be willing to do what we can to help the children of our church and our community.

The second important passage was this: *“But Jesus called the children to him and said, ‘Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. I tell you the truth, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.’” (Luke 18:16-17)*. In this verse Jesus demonstrated the great value he put on children. Can we do less?

Larry Fitzgerald

Woodlawn church of Christ

Abilene, TX

Some See Less as Better

There are some times when less is better. Sometime the less words we speak the better. The less fat intake, the better. The less sin, the better. Sadly, some see less as better in their Christian lives:

- Less time for worship
- Less time for Bible study
- Less time for gospel meetings
- Fewer verses sung in worship
- Shorter sermons
- Fewer fellowship meals
- Less Bible knowledge
- Less visiting of the sick and shut-ins
- Less evangelism
- Fewer days for VBS
- Shorter prayers
- Fewer works of the church that require our time

When a church makes a decision to do less, many rejoice. They praise the leadership for freeing up their time. They are glad that an hour of service to God has been eliminated from their schedule.

If the leadership will not make the decision, sometimes Christians just lessen their Christian service on their own.

When did less become better? I thought our service to Christ was supposed to be a lifestyle, not a part-time job. I thought it was supposed to be an addiction, not a rehab that removes our addiction. I thought it was supposed to be a total commitment, not take it or leave it.

“He that taketh not his cross and followeth after me, is not worthy of me. He that findeth his life shall lose it; and he that loseth his life shall find it” (Matt. 10:38-39).

Luke’s account adds four words to the first verse. *“And he said unto them all, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me” (Luke 9:23).* Did you hear the four words? *“Let him deny himself.”*

My friend, less is not better when God wants your all.

Victor Eskew
Oceanside church of Christ
Atlantic Beach, FL