



Rockwood Church of Christ

The Proclaimer

June 29, 2014

P.O. Box 416
129 S. Chamberlain Ave.
Rockwood, TN 37854
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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:

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Rockwoodchurchofchrist.com

"WILL YOUR CHILDREN GO TO HEAVEN?"

Church leaders all over the nation are concerned about the drop-out rate of young people. And well they should be. It is a tragic thing to see these precious boys and girls, who are so thrilled with Bible study as little people, grow cold and uninterested in the Lord's work as they grow older.

Lately, several congregations have made in-depth studies of the factors leading to youth leaving the church, with an eye to learning what might be done to help solve this problem. What do we need? More youth programs? More rallies? Special teachers?

A great central truth began to emerge from these studies. Their faithfulness to Jesus doesn't have anything to do with special programs or teachers. It is not dependent on whether they are members of a large congregation or a small one. The single most important factor is their own immediate family.

One congregation found that when both parents were faithful to the Lord, and that includes active interest in the local congregation's programs, 93 percent of the children remained faithful. On the other hand, if only one parent was faithful, the figure dropped to 73 percent. Where both parents were only marginally active, it fell to 53 percent. Now comes the shocker – when both parents attended infrequently, six percent of their children remained faithful to the Lord.

Do you want your children to go to heaven? Then make certain you are leading them. The likelihood is they'll go no other way!

Ron Readhimer

WHAT WOULD YOU PAY?

"For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it. For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?"
(Matthew 16:25-26)

The age old question has been asked in one way or another, "Which is more important, the physical life you can see, feel, taste, hear or the spiritual one for an eternity of years?" Sadly, man has continued to answer the question, by the way he lives his life; the physical life is more important to him. From Adam and Eve giving in to their desire, David wanting another man's wife, Judas' love of money, to today, mankind lives in a way that would suggest they don't believe in the hereafter or that there will be consequences for not seeking God first **(Matthew 6:33)**.

Don't believe it? Look at the empty pews or empty parking lots of church buildings on Sunday. On the one day of the week the Lord set aside for the worshipping and praising of Him, many do not bother. The rest of the week, people who call themselves Christians live just like the rest of the world. You can't tell them apart! A tree is known by its fruit. A person's spiritual life is easy to read also. That's not judging, its fruit inspection!

So back to the Lord's question, *"What will a man give in exchange for his soul?"* Not much it seems. He won't give up his sports or other secular activities. He often won't give up his sinful habits. He or she won't even give up the time they sleep on Sunday. That is pretty cheap labor for the devil. Think about that, a person will sell their soul for some things that aren't even good for them or anyone else. You could maybe see someone selling their soul to ensure the safety of others' souls, but to sell one's soul for drinking, drugs, forsaking worship, sports, etc., that is almost unbelievable! But, it happens every day.

Is your soul secure? Or, have you sold it to the devil for some trifling thing or activity? Take your soul back by turning back to God and put Him first in your life. After a while, it will become a habit that you wouldn't dare or want to break. Live a life that produces fruit for the kingdom and not for the devil. Don't sell your soul for anything. Jesus died for it; don't give such a priceless treasure away!

Chris Moore