



# Rockwood Church of Christ

## The Proclaimer

October 7, 2018

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

**Elders:**

Dana Carter  
Kenneth Carter  
Don Chandler

**Deacons:**

Kendall Bear  
Larry Brackett  
Roger Carter  
Steve McCreary

**Minister:**

Todd Houston

**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

**Email:**

rockwdcc@gmail.com

**Website:**

Rockwoodchurchofchrist.com

## THE GOSPEL IS FOR ALL!

One thing that impresses me every time I read the book of Acts is the fact that the gospel is for all. Before leaving for Heaven, Jesus told His apostles *“and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”* Fulfilling this, the apostles (and those they trained) went all over the known earth converting people from all walks of life. Notice the different classes of people that Acts alone mentions as converted by the gospel of Christ:

- *The Jews (Acts 2:37-47)*
- *“Both men and women” (Acts 5:14)*
- *The Samaritans (Acts 8:5ff)*
- *An African (Ethiopian) office holder (Acts 8:27-39)*
- *An educated, fanatical, religious leader – Paul (Acts 9:17; 22:1-16)*
- *A good, decent, God-fearing man who also was a soldier – Cornelius (Acts 10:1-4; 34-48).*
- *A politician - proconsul Acts 13:12*
- *A businesswoman - Lydia Acts 16:13-15*
- *A heathen jailer (Acts 16:25-34)*
- *“Prominent” people (Acts 17:12)*
- *Some people who had bad reputations - the Corinthians Acts 18:7-8).*
- *Religious people mistaken as to the plan of salvation (Acts 19:1-5)*
- *Folks who practiced the occult (Acts 19:18)*
- *On and on we could go, but you get the idea!*

There are no classes excluded in the gospel of God. It is good for the young and the old. There is no barrier because of gender, race, or social status **(Galatians 3:28)**.

Friends, we need to take the Gospel to all **(Mark 16:16)**, for the Gospel is for all. As the song so aptly states:

*“Of one the Lord has made the race, Thro’ one has come the fall:  
Where sin has gone must go His grace: The Gospel is for all.  
Say not the heathen are at home, Beyond we have no call;  
For why should we be blest alone? The Gospel is for all.  
Received ye freely, freely give, From every land they call;  
Unless they hear they cannot live; The Gospel is for all.”*

**Edd Sterchi**

# FAILURE NEED NOT BE FATAL

History books are filled with biographies of failures who made good. From them we can learn the valuable lesson that failure need not be fatal.

The first President of the United States – the father of our country – lost two-thirds of the battles he fought during the Revolutionary War. But George Washington won the war, founded a nation, and succeeded brilliantly in spite of those failures.

Who failed more than Babe Ruth? In a baseball career that spanned 21 years, the immortal slugger hit 714 home runs, but he struck out 1,330 times. Until he retired in 1935, this famous failure was baseball's biggest attraction.

Just because one fails at some point in life does not necessarily mean he or she is a failure. After Edison had experimented 10,000 times with his storage battery and still could not get it to work, a friend tried to comfort him. "Why I have not failed," Edison replied, "I've just found 10,000 ways that won't work." Nearly deaf and with only three months of formal schooling, Thomas A. Edison patented more than 1,000 inventions. During his 60 years of reaching toward the unknown, Edison failed more than he succeeded. But who would call Edison a failure?

Is it sin to fail? The answer is both yes and no. It is a sin when failure is due to moral or spiritual laxness or to laziness. But it is not a sin to fail when one has done his best, within the will of God, and the results were not what he wanted.

One must not be so afraid of life that one refuses to try. We don't have to succeed, but we do have to give life a run for its money.

A faithful old preacher felt he had failed miserably when he reported to his congregation that only one new member – and just a boy at that – had been added to the church during the year. But that boy went on to become a missionary in Africa who brought the gospel to tribes that previously had never heard the name of Jesus.

Take heart! If life has put you on the canvas and pummeled the breath out of you, it is still too early to quit. If you feel you must quit, then do it the day after tomorrow. You may have lost the battle today, but you could win the war tomorrow.

As Grantland Rice, America's first great sports writer, put it, "When Jesus comes to judge us, He will not be so concerned about whether we won or lost, but how we played the game!" The world will measure you by your success, but God will measure you by your faithfulness (**I Corinthians 4:2**).

**Via Church of Christ, Grand Blanc, MI**