



# Rockwood Church of Christ

## The Proclaimer

September 26, 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

**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

## Can Our Conscience Be Our Guide?

*“Which shew the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and their thoughts the mean while accusing or else excusing one another” (Romans 2:15).*

You may have been told, *“Let your conscience be your guide.”* The conscience sits in judgment of man’s actions. According to **Romans 2:15** the conscience accuses us or excuses us, *“...their conscience also bearing witness, and their thoughts the mean while accusing or else excusing one another:”* In order for our conscience to function properly it must be educated properly. Notice these examples where on account of wrong or a misinformed conscience, individuals proceeded without any feeling of guilt.

The Apostle Paul did *“many things contrary to the name of Jesus of Nazareth” (Acts 26:9)*, yet believed he had *“lived in all good conscience before God” (Acts 23:1)*. He did so in ignorance and unbelief. His conscience was uninformed.

Those at Ephesus, who had gone *“past feeling”* and practiced lasciviousness, uncleanness with greediness (**Ephesians 4:19**). These individuals had disregarded their conscience.

Those that departed from the faith described in **1 Timothy 4**; Paul described their conscience as being *“seared with a hot iron” (1 Tim. 4:2)*. Their conscience had become injured and calloused as they crossed the line between right and wrong so frequently, so as to render it useless to accuse or excuse their actions.

The woman described in **Proverbs 30:20**. *“Such is the way of an adulterous woman; she eateth, and wipeth her mouth, and saith, I have done no wickedness.”* This is an example of a useless conscience.

In order for our conscience to be properly functioning it must be properly fed. It can only be properly fed (i.e. educated) by a constant diet of God’s Word. The conscience can be our guide, but only as it is guided by our only guide, God’s Word.

Michael Foresha (edited)  
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# What I Have Learned from the Covid-19 Pandemic

**Covid-19 is like sin.** Covid-19 has quickly spread around the globe, and although not everyone gets this virus dies, it has caused many deaths and has disrupted many lives. It reminds me a lot of sin, yet sin is far more dangerous. **Rom. 3:23** states, “*for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.*” Remember, **Rom. 6:23**, “*For the wages of sin is death...*”. Everyone who sins dies the second death if one does not repent (**Lk. 13:3,5**).

**Covid-19 reminds us we can evangelize the world.** It was about eighteen months ago, and no one ever heard about the coronavirus or Covid-19, now almost the entire world knows about it. Just think if we took the gospel of Jesus as seriously as we have taken the message about the Covid-19, we could reach the whole world with the gospel message of Jesus Christ. Remember Jesus tells us to “*go into the entire world...*” (**Mk. 16:15**). Covid-19 reminds us that a message can be spread throughout the world, in a relatively short time. What about the gospel of Jesus?

**Covid-19 has taught us to connect with people in different ways.** Eighteen months ago, I would never have believed that I would be learning how to preach and teach over the internet. Now for the past few weeks, many Christians have assembled around their computers and cell phones, listening to God’s word preached. This situation reminds us of Jesus’ teaching in **Jn. 4:24**, “*God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.*”

**Covid-19 has taught me to appreciate what I have, because you never know when it will be taken away.** Now, I am not just talking about toilet paper, or eating at a restaurant, although that might apply. But for the past year, we have been prevented from assembling with the Saints. This is a freedom we have in this country, but many Christians throughout history, and even in many countries in our world today do not have this freedom. Many Christians are persecuted, imprisoned, or even put to death for assembling in the name of Christ. May we realize what a blessing we have when we can gather with our brothers and sisters in Christ and not take it for granted. When we can meet may we make the most of it and appreciate what God has allowed us to have.

These are just a few things that I have learned, I am sure there will be many more lessons that will be learned as this pandemic continues. It is so easy to be frustrated and discouraged during this time, but let us not give in to despair. May we look at this situation and ask, “*What can we learn from this?*” Let us use this pandemic as a learning time and most important use it to draw closer to the Lord.

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