



Rockwood Church of Christ

The Proclaimer

September 27, 2020

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:

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 pm

Email:

rockwdcc@gmail.com

Website:

Rockwoodchurchofchrist.com

Be a Light

“You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in Heaven.” (Matthew 5:14-16)

How can we “shine” in such a way that the Lord is given glory? How can we be the light that Jesus expects us to be?

For one thing, Jesus tells us, *“Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you” (Matthew 5:44).*

That is to say, we should continue to show kindness to those who have been unkind to us—to be kind even when others would not be—and to earnestly pray for their righteous welfare!

We must show mercy to those who need it—those who need forgiveness, friendship, or even food (**cf. Luke 6:36; Matthew 18:33-35**).

Additionally, suffering with faith brings glory to God. When others see a loving and trusting faith that continues to praise God even in the midst of a trial, a righteous light shines for the Lord (**1 Peter 3:15**).

In all of this, we must make it all about Jesus. If we connect our faith to our actions and tell others who Jesus is...what He has done...what He is doing...what He expects...we will be the light the Lord loves!

Bart Warren

The Bus Ride

Growing up I rode the bus to school. I can only remember one bus driver. Our school district must have been very desperate for drivers because there was a stop sign near the school which she ran over on a regular basis. One morning while I was on the bus, she turned a corner so sharply that the back tires of the bus ran over the hood of a new Cadillac which a young lady had borrowed from her parents. It's a rough ride when the bus goes up and over a car. I know, because I was sitting over the wheel that ran over the car! Near the end of her driving days, on a back-country road with a load of kids, she moved so far over to the side of the road that the bus slid into the ditch and rolled over on its side. Thankfully in all that time, I do not believe anyone was seriously harmed, only property.

My life is a lot like that bus, and I'm the driver. Some days are good. Everything goes smoothly, there are no surprises, no one gets hurt, and I get safely through the day. However, there are times, sometimes days, that are just bad. Just like the bus driver is given a route, my life has been laid out for me. The Bible teaches me what I am supposed to be doing along the way and what my destination should be. The problem is, sometimes I lose focus, make mistakes, and it feels like I ran over a Cadillac.

My bus driver drove the bus hundreds of days without incident, but I really only remember the bad days. I can't let the bad times and the bad days in my life keep me from doing what I know I have to do. The apostle John shares a powerful message for all Christians, *"But if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, His Son, purifies us from all sin. If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness"* (1 John 1:7-9). I may not be perfect, but someone has to drive the bus.

Brad Tolbert