



# Rockwood Church of Christ

## The Proclaimer

May 26, 2024

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

## Sharing Our Faith

Why are we afraid to share our faith? Why do we not share with others what God is doing in our lives, and about what Jesus means to us? Rejection is probably the number one reason we hold back. When we invite someone into conversation about Jesus Christ and they resist, it isn't a personal rejection. God opens hearts to His message, and if we will share our faith we will discover people with open hearts. We will also discover people with closed hearts. Don't let that keep you from sharing your faith. If God has answered prayer in your life, tell people about it. If God has done something good in your life, tell someone what He has done. If you have faith in Jesus Christ, speak His name out loud to others. God will work!

Many hold back because of a "lack of knowledge" of God's word. You need to notice that in Scripture people didn't always have lots of knowledge of God's Word. The woman at the well in John 4 simply told neighbors that she met a man who knew all about her. These neighbors put their faith in Jesus based on her testimony. It can work the same way today. Chances are you will know more than the person you are sharing with. If you should discover someone who knows more of God's Word than you do, allow them to encourage you with the Word of God.

Many feel that they lack the time to study with people. If you read Acts, you will discover that many people responded after a brief encounter. There are people around us who are ready for the Good News of Jesus Christ. They are just waiting for someone to share their personal faith. Individuals realize their need for a Savior when they take time to do a personal inventory. There are people around us who are looking for help.

You can share your faith. Ask God for the courage to tell others about His Son. "*The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field*" (**Matthew 9:37-38**). Let's all be workers in the Kingdom of God. Let's all make an attempt to share our faith.

Dick Miller

# Is An Active Faith Important?

A ship wrecked off the Rhode Island coast, one winter day. A father and son managed to get into a lifeboat. The father refused to let his son help row. Upon reaching land, the father found his son frozen to death. The boy needed activity in order to live.

What is true of the physical body is true of the Body of Christ, the Church, there needs to be an active faith in following God.

Yet, what I often encounter with many people today who claim to be Believers, is that having “*faith*” simply means that one just acknowledges that there is a Christ. Some today think that if you merely confess that Jesus is one’s Savior, and you pray that He will come into your heart, you will be saved. That just going to a church building is good enough to express one’s faith in God. That if you give a little money here and there to the church everything will be alright with God.

However, the Bible gives many powerful examples of active faith. For example, in **Hebrews 11** we find those who followed God had an active faith like Abel, Noah, Abraham, and many others. As we continue to read Hebrews 11, we see these people of faith were filled with the struggles of life, persecution, loneliness, and even death for following the Lord. Yet they made offerings, built things, went to foreign countries, obeyed, worked, and refused the pressures of life to show the world and even us today what it is to have faith in God.

In God’s Word, faith is action, obedience, it is a response to God and not just a mental belief alone. Our faith in Christ causes us to act in ways God has prescribed and Christianity, then becomes an active lifestyle.

So, is an active faith important?

*“And without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is and that He is a rewarder of those who seek Him... And what more shall I say? For time will fail me if I tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets, who by faith conquered kingdoms, performed acts of righteousness, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, quenched the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, from weakness were made strong, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight” (Hebrews 11:6; 32-40 NASB).*

The Bible says in **Hebrews 11** that an active faith pleases God. I want to please God, don’t you?

Mark T. Tonkery  
Camden Avenue church of Christ  
Parkersburg, WV