

# THE ROCK HILL HERALD

*Bulletin of the Rock Hill church of Christ*

## *Walking in the Flesh and not the Spirit*



## The Rock Hill church of Christ

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### **Worship Times:**

- Bible Class — 9:00AM
- Sunday Worship — 10:00AM
- Sunday PM Worship — 6:00PM
- Wednesday Bible study — 7:00PM

### **Elders:**

- Jim Boles
- Charles Haley
- Doug Jones
- Scott Wallace

### **Deacons:**

- Reiven Holt
- Hugh Rubbish
- John Smetzer
- Burley Stinnett
- Fernando Zapata

### **Preacher:**

- Park Linscomb

God has provided TRUTH that can be easily learned and accepted. In **1 John 5:3**, "For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments: and his commandments are not grievous." In other words, if we see the x of righteousness, it is God's expectation that we base our righteousness upon the truth of His word which is both possible AND reasonable!

The world may tell you, "The Bible is not possible to follow." Do we remember the conflict between Satan and man from **Genesis 3**? "The Bible is not possible to follow", is the teaching of a lost and dying World who DO NOT wish to be told what they can or cannot do. This is the opinion of those who have no intention of obeying the Word of God; who have made a conscious decision to follow the ways of the world. Perhaps the most dangerous condition is that the standard of God has been lowered by "popular opinion" so far that the average person has little understanding of what the New Testament teaches, has no idea of what God requires, and is perfectly happy in this condition! God's Word says, "Awake to righteousness, and sin not; for some have NOT the knowledge of God: I speak this to your shame." **1 Corinthians 15:34**. It is the responsibility of Christians to help others by sharing the truth.

In **Hebrews 11:6** we get a glimpse of God's preference toward mankind. He says, "without Faith(in God) it is impossible to please God....for he that cometh to God...must believe that He is (God), and that He is the rewarder of those who 'diligently' seek Him." He does not suggest that we should 'casually seek Him', but that we should diligently seek Him! Our spiritual well being should be the highest priority as expressed in **Matthew 6:33**, where the Bible says, "seek ye first the Kingdom of God and his righteousness....all these (other things) will be added unto you."

I wish to submit the passage in the letter that the Apostle Paul wrote to the Lord's church in Rome. Paul makes this contrast between walking in the Spirit and walking in the flesh. Look at **Romans 8:5-8** "They that are after the flesh...do mind the things of the flesh: but they that are after the spirit, the things of the spirit". He says that, "the Carnal (fleshly) mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be....So then, they that are in the flesh cannot please God." Let us always remember to walk in the Spirit.

Doug Jones

# Family News

“For through Him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father. So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God.” Ephesians 2:18,19

If you are a visitor to our church, welcome! If you have questions, we welcome them; please do not hesitate to ask Park Linscomb, our minister (the tall guy) or any other church member.

## N . E . W . S .

**AND THE LORD ADDED** — Emma was baptized into Christ for forgiveness of her sins last Sunday! Pray for and encourage this new Christian sister.

**THE MEN’S MONTHLY SATURDAY MORNING BREAKFAST** will be postponed to Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup>. Be sure to join us at 9AM for devotional, fellowship, and food.

**LADIES’ ACTIVITIES** The ladies’ Bible class will take a break for the holidays and resume Jan. 10 of next year.

**THE LADIES’ ANNUAL GIFT EXCHANGE** will be Monday, Dec. 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:30PM in the fellowship hall. Please sign up on the sign up sheet on the ladies’ table in the back of the auditorium. Need more info? See Linda S. or Pam.

**This Wednesday, Nov. 30** is our quarterly singing evening (instead of Bible study). Among other things, we’re going to learn how to sing some new songs like *The Greatest Command*.

**CHILDREN’S HOMES COLLECTION** will begin Nov. 30. Please see Linda S. for info and giving. The proceeds will be split between Christ’s Haven and Foster’s Home for Children.

### OUR NEW OUTREACH PROGRAM

We are collecting food and household items to contribute to various food banks in the area. There is a list of suggested items and collection tubs in the back of the church building by the water fountains. If you would rather contribute money, a money jar is on the table for your convenience. Please keep this outreach effort in your prayers.

**GIVING OPTIONS** — please be aware that there are now several ways to contribute. The collection plate will continue to be passed, but we also have online options at our website, [rhcoc.org](http://rhcoc.org).

### PRAYER LISTS...

#### Prayers needed

- Rosa Z has tested positive for both COVID and the flu. Pray that she will have mild cases of both of these and be able to recover quickly without any long term issues.
- For Brooke and Logan Campbell in dealing with their mother’s illness
- Carol Pyburn is in Good Samaritan nursing home in Denton — a broken leg.
- Thanksgiving for successful surgeries for Elizabeth H.
- Surgeons couldn’t put a stint in John B’s leg, because of a blockage and will do the larger surgery next month.
- Dianna C.’s cancer markers are improving after her chemo, no doubt due to God’s blessing; so, prayers are still urged.

- Hugh R.’s sister Andrea Kerley, whose surgery was unsuccessful and now must undergo chemo.
- Memorial service for Doug Jones sister was yesterday. Please pray for Doug’s family
- Sue Carter: please pray for more health improvement
- Chuck T. cancer treatments
- Recovery from eye surgery for Ora Holt
- Isela H.’s Jeff Barnett with stage 4 brain cancer.

#### Remember these often:

- Ora Holt, kidney
- brethren in India
- the churches in New England
- our congregational leaders

#### Long Term Requests

- Bonnie B.
- Carol P.
- Dale and Lavonia C.
- Julia’s nurse friend, Michaela
- The Zapata’s teenage friend Isabella with a heart lesion
- Travis Y. feeding tube
- Dianna C.
- Ken C.
- Mary H. and daughter Sharon
- Cheryl F.
- Ann S.

#### READ-THE-BIBLE-IN-A-YEAR

- Nov 20, Acts 23-25
- Nov 21, Acts 26-28
- Nov 22, Rom 1-3
- Nov 23, Rom 4-7
- Nov 24, Rom 8-10
- Nov 25, Rom 11-14
- Nov 26, Rom 15-16
- Nov 27, 1 Cor 1-4

# A Word of Encouragement

"For this reason we must pay much closer attention to what we have heard, so that we do not drift away from it." Hebrews 2:1, NAS95.

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## The Rules of Marriage, Part 5

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Over the last few weeks we've been thinking about marriage and what things we need to be practicing to make it work as God designed it. This week I'll be focusing on 5 regular Christian behaviors that will always make marriage work better.

**Humility and Service** (Eph. 4:1-3 and John 3:1-17) — These two words belong together, because humility is not feeling negatively about yourself, rather it is about being willing to serve. Jesus was humble, but He didn't have a self-image problem. He knew who He was, and He knew who we are; yet, He served us to the maximum degree possible in not just washing feet, but taking the terrible punishment upon Himself that we personally deserved as consequence of our sins! This is something every Christian needs to be practicing toward neighbors of every sort — including spouses. Husbands and wives who have ears to hear — none of us are too good to "wash feet" in whatever form that takes in service to our spouse. How much would this improve your marriage?

**Kind, uplifting, edifying words** (Eph. 4:29-32) — Yes, yes, I know, you want to be yourself, when you get home and say what you want to say. But if you're a Christian, didn't you realize that you are not yourself anymore (Gal. 3:20)? And this applies to the deepest part of who we are, our hearts and thoughts; yes, even these are to be taken "captive to the obedience of Christ" (2 Cor. 10:5). And if unkind, derogatory, destructive thoughts are no longer running through your mind and heart, you won't be saying them. Instead, the Scriptures teach, replace them with and be thinking about good, noble, uplifting things (Philippians 4:8). Wouldn't this be a great improvement to your marriage?

**Love your neighbor, love your enemies** (1 Cor. 13 and Matt. 5:43-48) — It's easy to love your husband or wife, when they're being nice to you, being affectionate, and saying all the right things; but what about when their behavior feels more like enemy behavior? Jesus' command to love even enemies continues to apply, even at home. Granted, the more they act that way, the less romantically loving you may feel, but

Christian love has always been more about the action than the feelings; you still need to act in their best interest. Just think how many regrettable words and actions could be avoided, if we just loved our spousal neighbor/enemy!

**Forgiveness** (Matt. 5:14,15) — And while we're on this general subject, we need to remember to forgive. In the heat of marital battle, things are often said and done that hurt us to the core, and it is not unusual to say and (what's worse) mean, "I'll never be able to forgive that!" Not only is this a terrible thing for your own soul (our forgiveness from the Lord is based on our forgiveness of others), but it will destroy a marriage. People need to learn how to say "I'm sorry, I will try to never do it again," and "I forgive you." And by the way, there is very, very rarely a time when only one party should be saying, "I'm sorry...". True, you might not be able to quickly forget, but you can quickly treat the other person as if it hadn't happened before.

Many a broken marriage and home could have been healed with simple forgiveness.

**Revenge is never your business** (Rom. 12;17-21) — And if the other person never says that they're sorry, you still have absolutely no right to either think about (aka, a grudge) or carry out revenge. All revenge ever does is make things worse. After the first revenge, the revenge-ee (yes, that's a made-up word) feels like they need to get their own revenge, and so on and so on in an endless cycle of worse and worse words and behavior. Let God take care of it; He's forbidden it to any of us, because it is His job and He will do it much better than any of us, if it's needed.

Everyone of these is supposed to be what we disciples of Jesus are practicing everyday in the neighborhood, among friends, at work, at school, and in every other situation. And we need to be reminded that they also apply in the most important relationship of our lives, our marriages and the homes that they anchor. Improve your marriage by making sure that you don't leave your Christianity behind at the threshold of your house. These are just a few of the marriage secrets of "Happily Ever After."



