

THE ROCK HILL HERALD

The bulletin of the Rock Hill church of Christ



The Rock Hill church of Christ

9426 PGA Pkwy

Frisco TX 75035

(972)347-1919

rhcoc.org • rhilchurch@gmail.com

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 Ruebush
- John Smetzer
- Burley Stinnett

Preacher:

- Park Linscomb

*"We're Here
and We Care"*

MAKE IT SURE

When we first determine that we have a spiritual need, and follow that path to Baptism, a series of verses were composed by Peter in **II Peter 1:10** that must be considered 'good counsel'. Peter says, "*brethren, give diligence to make you calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall.*" Not only does this apply to newer Christians, but a reminder to ALL Christians the same impact for daily reminders.

There are three (3) items that are contained in this phrase that need some clarification: (1) Calling (2) Election (3) Falling. The "calling" can simply be the urgency we feel to choose Spiritual things over worldly or secular things. This can be what motivates us to follow Jesus' invitation of, "*Come unto me all ye that labor and are heavy laden and I will give thee rest.*" **Matthew 11:28-30.**

'The Calling' is not intended to mean an audible calling, but a realization of 'spiritual need' that each of us has at some point in our lives. It is easily enough denied, but necessary for every person if we wish to take part in salvations great Plan. It can further complicate our lives when we disregard the urge to respond. Paul calls this a "*warring in my members*" **Romans 7:23.** When we are 'converted', we look for spiritual answers to every-day issues. This, then relates closely to the 2nd instruction "*make your election sure*".

The Election is the choice we make for spirituality over worldliness **Roman 8:5-8.** When Peter said, '*make your calling and election sure*', he is asking every Christian to be certain, sure and consistent. Just before offering this advice in verse 10, he writes in verses 4 thru 9, "*whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises; that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature...giving all diligence...add to your faith... (the following)*"

The 3rd part is significant; '*for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall.*' The world wants us to believe in a false assurance that once we have accepted Jesus as our personal savior, that we cannot fall. '*Ye shall never fall*' are not idle words, but a warning part of the "*Instruction in righteousness*" contained in scripture by God's command. Our 'FAITH' includes a belief in Jesus as savior but also the continued attributes of the 'new man' which is '*our reasonable service.*'

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 visiting our congregation, **welcome!** Please fill out a visitor's card and put it in the collection tray as it is passed. 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 .

LEADERSHIP MEETING is today. The elders and deacons along with the preacher will be discussing the business of the church. If you have anything you'd like discussed, let us know.

TO ALL — Please help yourself to a bag of "thank you cookies" on the shower table to say thank you for celebrating the upcoming birth of our little Kissinger cowboy.

THE WHITE ROCK FUND will be hosting a fundraiser on September 19, 2026, from 10:00 AM - 2:30 PM.

Come find out about the great mission works being supported through the White Rock Fund. And you'll get the opportunity to participate in them through giving. Whether you can give or not, come find out what great things God is doing around the world.

LADIES CLASS resumes on August 18, next Tuesday, in the fellowship hall at 10AM. If you haven't attended before, come and enjoy a time of sharing, study, prayer, and great Christian fellowship.

COMING UP THIS FALL

- *Gospel meeting* with Ken Dawdy: "How to Study the Bible" on October 11-14. Make definite plans to be here, prioritize it. Tell

your friends and family about it. Let's have a huge crowd of fellow Christians and visitors.

- *Fellowship Luncheon* — accompanying our Gospel meeting we will have a fellowship luncheon, while we will also celebrate birthdays that happen in September through November.
- *Men's Breakfast* — Our next men's breakfast will be November 7 at 9AM. The theme will be Veterans' Day.

CURRENT ADULT BIBLE CLASSES

- Sunday AM — A new study on Hebrews
- Wednesday PM — 2 Corinthians

OUR PRAYER LIST...

- Ralph L is in the Texas Health Hospital on the tollway in Frisco with high blood pressure even with meds
- Freida R has been moved to Baybrook Rehab on Lake Forest in McKinney.
- Tom R. to recover from a fall from which he received many cuts and bruises
- Elizabeth's family at the passing of her aunt Barbara and her cousin Debbie who had a bad reaction to meds
- Meredith Naquin, Rachel's friend, to be undergoing spinal surgery.
- Doug Jones, is receiving cancer treatment
- Scott W's friends, Mark and Greg, who both have ALS
- Kodie S for quick healing after surgery for a torn meniscus
- Shelly Dawdy, knee surgery
- *Recoveries...*
 - Linda S had knee replacement
 - The Mericks son, Konrad, had back surgery.
 - Lynn Turner, now at home.
- The Turners' great nephew, Baylen born



THE WHITE ROCK FUND

If you're born only
once you'll die twice
but if you're born
twice you'll die only
once

- Travis York, son of the the Yorks who were members of this congregation years ago, has had some health complications,
- Earl Lemons, Dianne H's oldest brother-in-law,
- Esther M, low blood count
- The Staffords' (our missionaries in Pittsfield, Massachusetts) grand-daughter Peyton has returned to live in the Dallas area.

LONG TERM PRAYER REQUESTS

- Eloise Isbell
- Elizabeth's cousins Tracy with Lupus
- Isela H's sister Griselda's illness
- Dale C in the Ivy in McKinney
- Julia's nurse friend, Michaela
- Continued fruit from Burley's mission work in India.
- Churches in New England
- Our leaders, parents, families, marriages, widows, and singles of our congregation.

READ-THE-BIBLE-IN-A-YEAR

- ☐ 8/91 Chron 10-12
- ☐ 8/101 Chron 13-16
- ☐ 8/111 Chron 17-19
- ☐ 8/121 Chron 20-23
- ☐ 8/131 Chron 24-26
- ☐ 8/141 Chron 27-29
- ☐ 8/152 Chron 1-4
- ☐ 8/162 Chron 5-7



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.

A CAPPELLA OBEDIENCE—WHAT HAPPENED?

"And do not get drunk with wine, for that is dissipation, but be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody with your heart to the Lord" (Ephesians 5:18-19 NAS95)

For the first 1000 years after Jesus came and established His church, all those who claimed the name of Jesus worshipped the Lord in song with voice only. This was not simply a tradition, but rather it was practiced as obedience to the Lord's command on the basis of the meaning of the Greek word used in Scripture—we'd spell the word in English "*ado*".

The apostolic church (from the church's beginning to about 100AD) understood the word as meaning vocal singing only. The patristic church (about 100AD to 451AD) understood "*ado*" to mean a *cappella*, never used instruments, and rebuked the few in this era who attempted to introduce them. It wasn't until about 1000AD that the Roman church began to use instruments. The eastern church (still largely speaking Greek) continues to the present day to understand "*ado*" to mean to sing vocally only. And when the Protestant Reformers (about 1500 forward) led men out of Roman Catholicism they, studying and understanding the Greek, uniformly rejected instrumental music until about 1800. No small wonder, then, that vocal only singing became known as a *cappella* (Latin for "in the manner of the church").

So what happened? How did we get to the point where churches of Christ, the Greek Orthodox Church, and a few others are the only ones who don't use instruments these days? The attempts at justification have been many.

"It sounds good"—There's really only one word needed to refute this reason, "irrelevant". Because what's pleasing to man is not always pleasing to God. When God declares His command and preference (a *cappella*), the loving disciple gladly just obeys.

"Instruments were used in the Old Testament"—Of course; and so were animal sacrifices, food restrictions, Sabbath observance, and other shadows of Mosaic Law. But we are under a new covenant. A famous theologian put it simply, "Musical instruments, in celebrating the praises of God would be no more suitable than the burning of incense, the lighting up of lamps, or the restora-

tion of the other shadows of the Law."

"It's just a tradition"—Merely calling a *cappella* song in worship a tradition, doesn't make it so; and mis-labeling it as a tradition betrays either a dangerous weakness of Bible knowledge or a straightforward attempt to dismiss a Biblical teaching. Traditions are man-made rules, and therefore dismissible. Commands (and this is a direct command: Ephesians 5:19 and Colossians 3:16) are God-breathed (2 Timothy 3:16,17), and therefore not dismissible. Singing a *cappella* is the Lord's command, not a tradition.

"God didn't say we couldn't"—Specific commands automatically eliminate all other possibilities, and "*ado*" is a specific kind of singing, eliminating other kinds. Can you imagine how big the Bible would be, if God had to list all the specific things He doesn't want us to do?

"There are harps in Revelation"—Yes, but in three of the four places they are mentioned, the references are 1) scenes full of imagery, symbols, and apocalyptic language, and 2) always in Heaven (not earth). The other is in reference to the secular world. Using Revelation to justify instruments in worship in the church is a mis-handling of Scripture.

And it is no small matter. It is a fellowship issue. Practically speaking, those who obey the command to sing a *cappella* in worship will have conscience problem worshipping in a worship assembly with instrumental music. Conversely, instrumentalists can worship with a *cappella* believers without a conscience problem — a *cappella* is a universally accepted form of worship. It's also a fellowship issue because the Scripture teaches, "If anyone comes to you and does not bring this teaching [the teaching of Christ], do not receive him into your house, and do not give him a greeting; for the one who gives him a greeting participates in his evil deeds," 2 John 1:10, 11.

Jesus said, "If you love Me, you will keep My commandments" John 14:15. Let's love Jesus with our obedience.



Park Linscomb

FAMILY CALENDAR FOR THIS WEEK IN AUGUST

	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
9:00AM Bible classes 10:00AM Worship 4:00PM Leadership meeting 6:00PM Worship	Koreen V.	Hunter M.	Jacob K. Karlei L. 7:00PM Wed. Bible class				

SERVICE IN WORSHIP

Week of August 9.....AMPMWed.

AnnouncementsBurley SBurley S
 Song Leading.....Doug JScott WJim B
 Opening PrayerJim BReiven H
 CommunionMarty KHugh R
 Scripture.....John 4:21-24
 Closing PrayerJim BBurley S
 Greeter.....Ralph K

Week of August 16.....AMPMWed.

AnnouncementsJim BJim B
 Song Leading.....Scott WDoug JReiven H
 Opening PrayerDavid JTom R
 CommunionJohn SMarty K
 Scripture
 Closing PrayerCharles HRalph K
 Greeter.....Yaw F



Sermon Notes...
