

# 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](http://rhcoc.org) • [rhilchurch@gmail.com](mailto: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"*

## CHALLENGE TO PROVE GOD RIGHT

Do you believe spiritual people think about spiritual things on a daily basis? Do we measure the things we think and say by Biblical standards? It's a pretty heavy burden to be held accountable for every-day comments and casual responses when spoken to. However, it is only a burden when we struggle with obedience. One of our best tools in 'honing our daily Christian Skills' is written in ***Philippians 2:1-5*** "let each esteem other better than themselves".

It is doubtful that the average Christian would be guilty of lying, cheating, or robbery but may have a challenge treating others with respect in all circumstances. ***Hebrews 5:12-14*** is a wonderful measure of personal obedience and Faith. Note the words: "when for the time ye ought to be teachers (including all that we come in contact with) ye have need that one teacheth you again which be the first principals of the oracles of God; and are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat. For everyone that useth milk is unskillful in the word of righteousness; for he is a babe. But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who....by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil."

If this seems to be a greater challenge than achievable, please consider ***1 Peter 3:15*** which instructs us to "sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that lieth in you with meekness and fear". It takes dedicated effort of both study and meditation to achieve, but the rewards are great. It requires a great deal less effort than one might think in order to achieve this level of scripture knowledge.

A word of encouragement: the Holy Spirit is the earnest of our inheritance. He is provided of God, and has power to help us in prayer and in service. Do not be surprised when the word of the Lord comes to you more easily and your effectiveness to influence others in a positive, spiritual way is much more automatic. However, never forget that the successes are in direct proportion to the amount of "by reason of use" that gets applied. This is a challenge to prove God right.

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 .

**THE LEADERSHIP MEETING** has been postponed to next Sunday, Dec. 15 at 4PM. If you have something that you'd like the elders, deacons, and preacher to discuss, please tell one of them.

**A KIDS CHRISTMAS PARTY** is planned for Saturday, Dec. 14, at the Wallace home (1451 Brush Creek Rd. in Prosper. Join us for crafts, hot cocoa, and a holiday movie. It will be from 6:30PM to 9:00PM. If your child plans to attend, please RSVP to Rachel at 972-567-9661. It's going to be great!

### **A TEEN CHRISTMAS PARTY!** —

It will be December 22 right after morning worship. It will include lunch at Chili's and when we get back to the church building, a devotional period, desserts, and gift exchange. There is a \$20 gift limit for gifts you would bring. RSVP

(please let us know you're coming) to Jessica S. at 972-400-2262. *IT WILL BE SUPER FUN!*



### **SOMETHING TO LOOK FORWARD TO...**

Kent and Avery our summer interns are planning to visit us the weekend of January 5. Teens (and anyone else), set that date aside; we'll plan something fun. It will be great to see them again!

**THE LADIES' GIFT EXCHANGE** was a grand success. Thanks to everyone who helped organize and who attended

**CHILDREN'S HOMES COLLECTION** — The Rock Hill church makes an annual donation to the children's homes we support for Christmas. If you'd like to donate toward this gift to the children see Linda S.

**WOULD YOU LIKE TO HELP** the Pittsfield MA church? We have an ongoing monthly benevolence program to help the church of Christ in Pittsfield Mass. See Trudy R. to contribute.

**WANT TO HELP** with the recovery from the disasters in NC and FL? The church of Christ Disaster Relief is recommended by the RH leadership. Here is a link to making a contribution. [HTTPS://WWW.DISASTERRELIEFFORT.ORG/](https://www.disasterrelieffort.org/)

### **NEW PRAYER REQUEST...**

- Zeke suffered a serious stroke and is now in hospice
- Ora H in Medical City McKinney with high blood pressure
- The family of Bettie L, a past member of this congregation, on her passing

### **OUR PRAYER LIST...**

- Anna S, a Christian sister who comes with Lynn and Alene T, is getting better, but still needing prayer. Cards can be sent to 7210 Linkside Point Dr., Apt. 223, McKinney TX 75071
- Max B, Charles and Diane's brother-in-law, died last Sunday

morning. Please pray for the family.

- Elizabeth H's cousin, Tracy, is still in need of prayers for better health.
- The Staffords —
  - Cleves family as his dad is nearing the end,
  - their son struggling in his freshman year at college,
  - the Pittsfield church.
- Mary H is recovering at home.
- Emma's grandmother, Karla R, dementia and cancer.
- Esther M health.
- Bonnie D recovering from a minor stroke.
- Lynn T: cancer
- Sue C: digestive problems
- Ora H, kidney
- the churches in New England
- brethren in India
- our elders, deacons, preacher, teachers, parents, families, marriages, widows, and singles of our congregation.

### **LONG TERM PRAYER REQUESTS**

- Isela H's sister Griselda's illness & friend Jeff
- Bonnie B.
- Carol P.
- Dale and Lavonia C.
- Julia's nurse friend, Michaela
- Rosa's friend Isabella, heart lesion
- Travis Y. feeding tube
- Ken C.

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

- Dec 8, Eph 4-6
- Dec 9, Philippians all
- Dec 10, Colossians all
- Dec 11, 1 Thess all
- Dec 12, 2 Thess all
- Dec 13, 1 Timothy 1-3
- Dec 14, 1 Timothy 4-6
- Dec 15, 2 Timothy all

# 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.

## WORKS OF THE FLESH AND FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT, PART 8

The last few weeks we've been giving a little deeper thought to the fruit of the Spirit. While we probably know the basic meaning of these qualities, I hope we've all been encouraged to reflect and examine ("fruit inspection" as it were) the fruit of the Spirit in our own lives. This last look will concentrate on the last three aspects of the fruit of the Spirit, which Paul lists in Galatians 5 — faithfulness, gentleness, and self control.

### Faithfulness

This aspect of the fruit of the Spirit has to do with loyalty to God and reliability of obedience to Him. It is the quality of a steward that allows a master to never need worry about how the affairs of his house are being run. It is the word Jesus used in a parable in Matthew 25:21,23 of the servants who used their stewardships wisely, "Well done, good and faithful slave". It is the kind of man to whom the teachings of "the Faith" should be entrusted (2 Timothy 2:2). In Paul's writings it is the quality of a statement that the hearer can absolutely rely upon (e.g., 1 Tim.1:15; 1 Tim. 3:1; 1 Tim. 4:9; et al). It is also said of those who chose to die rather than deny their Lord Jesus (Rev. 2:10 and 3:14). And it is said of God who called us into the fellowship of His Son (1 Cor. 1:9). It is this loyalty, reliability, and trustworthiness that the Spirit of God seeks to produce in the Christian. This is a man whose word can be trusted, whose loyalty can be relied upon, and who would rather die than deny the Lord who redeemed him.

### Gentleness

The Greek word is *praus* and is difficult to translate precisely. The classical Greek writers defined it as the middle between the extremes of passion and apathy or between pride and abject degradation or between violent grabbing and completely hands-off, etc. Bible translators have used meekness, courtesy, modesty, and gentleness to try to express the meaning—all of which are trying to find a word to express the concept of "appropriate restraint". This fruit of the Spirit is about finding "appropriate restraint", especial-

ly in human relations. This makes sense of passages like Galatians 6:1 "Brethren, even if anyone is caught in any trespass, you who are spiritual, restore such a one in a spirit of *gentleness*; each one looking to yourself, so that you too will not be tempted", or 2 Timothy 2:24,25 "The Lord's bond-servant must not be quarrelsome, but be kind to all, able to teach, patient when wronged, with *gentleness* correcting those who are in opposition, if perhaps God may grant them repentance leading to the knowledge of the truth", and other similar passages.

### Self Control

This Greek word means to be in possession of something, physical or otherwise. In this moral and ethical sense it describes the strength of spirit in which a man grasps and maintains control of himself: his desires, his emotions, his lusts, and his passions. It is critical to realize, however, that self control is not merely holding back from giving in to the works of the flesh; it is more. Self control must be exercised in two important ways: keeping the Christian *from* certain sinful things, but also motivating him to deliberately engage in commanded things. Christianity is not merely the religion of "no"; it is also about "yes" to God commands — even the difficult ones. It is true that self control will say no to the temptations of, for example, sexual sin; but it will also press us to be deliberately active in, for another example, practicing gentleness. Indeed, self control is the foundation for so many aspects of the fruit of the Spirit.

So, about your discipleship...are you living by the Spirit, walking by the Spirit, and producing the fruit of the Spirit? It makes a difference: Ga 6:7,8 "Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, this he will also reap. For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life." Don't let the weeds of the works of the flesh choke out the good fruit the Spirit wants to produce in your life.



Park Linscomb

# FAMILY CALENDAR FOR THIS WEEK IN DECEMBER

<p>8</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ 9:00AM Bible classes</li> <li>■ 10:00AM Worship</li> <li>■ 4:00PM Leadership meeting</li> <li>■ 6:00PM Worship</li> </ul>		<p>9</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ 10:00AM Ladies' Bible class</li> </ul>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p> <div style="background-color: #d9534f; color: white; padding: 2px; text-align: center;">Suzanne D</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ 7:00PM Wed. Bible class</li> </ul>		<p>12</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Kids' Christmas party at the Wallace home, 6PM. Please RSVP Rachel</p>
---	--	--	-----------	---	--	-----------	-----------	---

## SERVICE IN WORSHIP

### Week of December 8 .....AM.....PM.....Wed.

Announcements .....Burley S.....Charles H  
 Song Leading .....Doug J.....Scott W.....Reiven H  
 Opening Prayer .....Marty K.....John S  
 Communion .....Yaw F .....Doug J  
 Closing Prayer.....Scott W.....Tom R  
 A/V Control.....John S .....Charles H.....Hunter M  
 Greeter.....Hugh R

### Week of December 15 .....AM.....PM.....Wed.

Announcements .....Burley S.....Burley S  
 Song Leading .....Scott W.....Doug J .....Charles H  
 Opening Prayer .....Jim B .....Tom R  
 Communion .....David J .....Burley S  
 Closing Prayer.....Doug J.....Charles H  
 A/V Control.....Charles H.....John S .....Hunter M  
 Greeter.....Yaw F



Sermon Notes...

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---