

# THE ROCK HILL HERALD

The bulletin of the Rock Hill church of Christ



## 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 Ruebush
- John Smetzer
- Burley Stinnett

### Preacher:

- Park Linscomb

*"We're Here  
and We Care"*

## SPIRITUAL TIDBITS

### A LOOK AT FAITH

The definition of 'FAITH' has been difficult to identify by all generations and rightly so. If you have ever been asked by a young child, "what is faith" then you probably remember how difficult it is to "give an answer" that would make sense to them. When we give the Bible quote in **Hebrews 11:6**, we can identify that "without faith it is impossible to please Him". We then understand the importance of faith to every person who aspires to be a follower of Christ.

We see the examples of **Hebrews 11** as the "great chapter of faith" calling out the names of well-known Christian leaders who exemplified their faith by their beliefs and their actions. Yes, these are extreme cases during the early days of the Church with defining miracles happening that proved the more direct actions of Jesus and the Apostles. The miracles were necessary to validate the power and legitimacy of the newly formed Church and the authority of God through the Apostles **Matthew 16:18-19**.

Faith is somewhat ambiguous, in that it cannot be measured by the pound or placed within a bottle. However, it is required of every Christian, and mentioned in **Romans 12:3** in this manner, "think soberly according as God hath dealt to every man (person) the measure of faith." In other words, each of us has by inherent potential...a "measure of faith" that God has provided. This would, therefore, include the non-believer as having the potential of some measure of faith even though it is not nurtured nor brought to the forefront.

This next verse is talked about with much diversity from the King James Bible. However, it is made clear when we think of it for how it is written in the Sum of scripture. In **Hebrews 11:1** the writer suggests, "Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen." Many want to find a way to make this clearer, and substitute other words.

Actually, the meaning is very simple; when nurtured as precious, the inherent faith of which we are given by measure becomes both substance and evidence. This occurs when each individual elevates their Christian Walk to the point of "seeking it first" **Matthew 6:33**, and "diligently seeking it" as indicated in **Hebrews 11:6**. This is how faith becomes substance and evidence by the measure that God has provided.

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 .

**FIRST SUNDAY SINGING PRACTICE** is today at 5PM, since this is the first Sunday. Come learn new songs with us!

**OUR MONTHLY LEADERSHIP MEETING** for the elders, deacons, and preacher will be next Sunday, October 12, at 4PM at the church fellowship hall.

**SCAMS AND FINANCIAL CONCERNS**  
A sign-up list has been put in the back of the auditorium to gauge the congregation's interest in a special series on one or both of these topics.

**THE NEXT MEN'S BREAKFAST** will be Nov. 1. We'll have special speaker.

**MARRIAGE AND FAMILY** — Park will present a series of lessons on Marriage and Family on three successive Wednesdays, Nov. 5, 12, and 19.

### ► Nov. 5

- What is marriage? / What is family?
- Who or what should I look for in a marriage partner?
- Pre-marital counsel — tools for happily ever after
- Newlyweds — knocking off the early rough edges

**THE WHITE ROCK FUND** — a mission support effort is hosting their annual reporting and

fundraising day on October 25. Put it on your calendar and plan on coming. It is always an encouraging day. And it comes with a free lunch.

**THE CHURCH'S WEBSITE** will be getting a fresh new look within the next few weeks — a little brighter and friendlier.

**SUNDAY EVENING** started a new series on the book of Daniel; this Sunday evening, will be Daniel 3. Come and find out about this little studied book of the Bible.

**THE NEXT MEN'S BREAKFAST** will be Nov. 1 at 9AM. Come and bring others with you.

**BURLEY'S MISSION WORK** — On Friday he reported having baptized 53 in his preaching and teaching.

### OUR PRAYER LIST...

- Freida is home and not feeling very good.
- Linda Curry needs prayers for her heart Afib
- Dianne and Charles' 11 year old grandson Nash Booth with a concussion from his football game on Saturday Burley's mission trip top India in Sept. (and Linda at home)
- Susie C. Please pray for a quick recovery from eye surgery.
- Esther Myrick, low blood count
- Reiven and Ora H — Pray for quick and complete recoveries

- Ken Conklin recovering for a heart oblation..
- The Staffords, our missionaries in Pittsfield, Massachusetts, granddaughter Peyton living with them.
- Mary H is recovering at home.
- Bonnie D recovering from a minor stroke.
- Churches in New England
- Brethren in India
- Our leaders, parents, families, marriages, widows, and singles of our congregation.

*God is more interested in who we can become than who we've been; He points to a heavenly destiny, and is willing to forgive our history.*

### LONG TERM PRAYER REQUESTS

- Elizabeth's cousin Tracy with Lupus, and also her cousin Debbie
- Isela H's sister Griselda's illness
- Dale and Lavonia C.
- Julia's nurse friend, Michaela
- Travis Y. feeding tube

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

- Oct 5, Matthew 7-9
- Oct 6, Matthew 10-12
- Oct 7, Matthew 13-14
- Oct 8, Matthew 15-17
- Oct 9, Matthew 18-20
- Oct 10, Matthew 21-22
- Oct 11, Matthew 23-24
- Oct 12, Matthew 25-26



# A word of Encouragement

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"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.

IT'S A SCAM!...

## "THAT MODERN DAY MIRACLES REALLY HAPPEN"

Probably one of the lucrative religious scams today is the one that promises modern miracles — especially if you'd like to offer a generous donation to their church or organization. "Give us your \$1000 pledge of faith, place your hand on the TV set, and the Lord will grant your miracle" They usually come with plenty of on-stage "miracles" of the crippled being healed, testimonies from those cured of incurable diseases, etc., to "prove" that the miracles exist, but it is a scam.

The definition of a miracle, by the way, is the temporary suspension of the laws of nature. Examples would include the immediate cure the blind, crippled, or sick; the raising of the dead; or walking on water. This is crucial, because the word is often misused or misapplied to something called providence — which I'll talk about in a moment.

In the meantime, the Bible tells us that the days of miracles were numbered, that they would pass away. Paul declared by inspiration of God,

*"...but if there are gifts of prophecy, they will be done away; if there are tongues, they will cease; if there is knowledge, it will be done away. For we know in part and we prophesy in part; but when the perfect comes, the partial will be done away." (1 Corinthians 13:8-10 NAS95)*

The ability to do such miracles was intended to be temporary. The purpose of miracles was not to merely heal the sick. The purpose of the miracles (whether prophecy, tongues, or healing) was to 1) create faith in the miracle worker as being genuinely from God and 2) reveal God's will (see Acts 2 and Acts 10). These things were necessary during the first century, because they didn't have a New Testament to guide them. But when the New Testament ("the perfect") was finished, the **need** for the miracles went away and so did the miracles ("the partial").

But not only does 1 Cor 13 predict the end of miracles, Acts 8:14-24 shows that you must have an apostle lay hands on you, in order to receive the gift to perform healings. Now the definition of an apostle is that he must have seen (witnessed) the risen Jesus. Thus, unless

we are willing to believe that a 2000 year old apostle is still laying hands on people today, we must conclude that modern miracles really don't happen.

And indeed, the sorts of "miracles" that are done today are not in the same league as the biblical ones. It is well documented that such "miracle workers" use fakes or deeply troubled people to attempt to "prove" their ability — rolling people who were **not** crippled onto the stage in a wheelchair, and then "cured" to walk again; or folks with psychosomatic ills that can be "cured" by a deeply emotional episode (a specialty of such "miracle workers"). But where are the dead who have been raised? Where are the visibly withered limbs made whole again? Where are the lepers, who have been cured to have the skin of a baby again? Modern "miracles" do not do these sorts of things, because they cannot; because the Lord is not with them.

Now, does the fact that miracles have passed away mean that God is no longer active in the world? Of course not! He continues to be active answering our prayers, providing for our needs, etc., but He does so through non-miraculous ways that are usually called providence — told ya I'd come back this word. Providence, someone has quipped, is God working anonymously, and it's not a bad definition. It is, in fact, God working through non-miraculous means to answer prayer or work things in the present or the future according to His will. For example, God working through doctors, nurses, and others to effect a cure. Or God ordering things in such a way that we arrive safely in our travels. Or God "arranging" a meeting between a Gospel preacher and a seeker of truth. Non-miraculous, but clear answers to prayers, amazingly "coincidental" events, an unbelievable "chance" meeting, etc. occur all the time in apparently normal ways, but really orchestrated by the Lord. God continues to be quite active in the world, just as He always has (remember Daniel 2?).

But modern day miracle workers, whether they want your money or not, are not teaching the truth and are not genuinely doing anything but scamming their duped audiences.

Park Linscomb

# FAMILY CALENDAR FOR THIS WEEK IN OCTOBER

5	6	7	8	9	10	11
<p><b>Cameron K</b> 🙏</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ 9:00AM Bible classes</li> <li>■ 10:00AM Worship</li> <li>■ 5:00PM First Sunday singing practice</li> <li>■ 6:00PM Worship</li> </ul>		<p><b>Hugh R</b> 🙏</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ 7:00PM Wed. Bible class</li> </ul> <p><b>Nancy J.</b> 🙏</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ 10:00AM Ladies' Bible class</li> </ul>				<p><b>Linda M.</b> 🙏</p>

## SERVICE IN WORSHIP

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**Week of October 5 .....AM .....PM .....Wed.**  
*Announcements .....John S .....John S*  
*Song Leading .....Doug J .....Scott W .....Reiven H*  
*Opening Prayer .....Tom R .....Charles H*  
*Communion .....Reiven H .....Marty K*  
*Closing Prayer .....Scott W .....Tom R*  
*A/V Control .....Charles H .....John S .....Scott W*  
*Greeter .....Yaw F*

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**Week of October 12 .....AM .....PM .....Wed.**  
*Announcemen*



Sermon Notes...

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