

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"*

If Such a Thing Were Possible

Confusion among religions is common in this generation. In Old Testament times, God would often provide immediate feedback for the mistakes made by "His chosen People." This could be as drastic as death or disease. He might even allow the disobedience to occur and use it as an example for future generations (**Romans 15:4**). His plan for salvation was revised after many years of frustration with man. This was most prominent in **Numbers 14:11-12** when God said to Moses, "How long will this people provoke me? And how long will it be ere they believe me for all the signs I have shewed among them? I will smite them with pestilence and disinherit them and will make of thee a greater nation and mightier than they."

This generation, of which we are a part, has adopted a false sense of security wherein our God has been identified a loving Father who would never serve justice...if such a thing were possible. After all, **John 3:16** says, "For God so loved the world that he gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth on Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." There is a disconnect between this verse and the scriptural application thereof!

The distinction between false teaching and the reality of scripture is this: Jesus was the sacrifice to enable the Plan. By it every person has the potential of a heavenly reward. The death, burial and resurrection marked the beginning of the Plan, not the end of it. The wisdom of God is in the intricate details of The Plan. This was and continues to be the 'mystery' that Paul writes about. The challenge of The Plan is what makes it great. In what way could God bring salvation that would identify and qualify the "True Worshipper" (**John 4:24**)

In **John 3:16**, John did not mean nor imply that all anyone had to do is believe in Jesus, but that acceptance and belief in what God prepared, purchased with the blood of Jesus. In this manner, any person can find salvation and to this end, **II Peter 3:9** "God is long-suffering, not willing that any should perish, but that all would come to repentance". According to the Plan, the Holy Spirit led the Apostles to fulfill that which Jesus taught. After His departure, the outline of God's wonderful plan was completed. Follow the Word to find salvation.

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 .

BUSY TIMES AHEAD...

TEACHERS' APPRECIATION

LUNCHEON is scheduled for April 26, today, right after morning worship.

THIS WEDNESDAY is the 5th Wednesday this month and that means that we'll be enjoying a time of singing praise to the Lord in place of Bible study. Plan to be here, learn some new songs and enjoy some old ones.

MAY 3RD we'll have a pizza luncheon to celebrate our graduates following the morning worship. Please mark your calendars.

Our graduates...



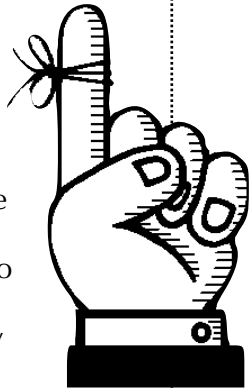
Olivia Arnold & Emily Hays

WHAT A WONDERFUL TIME was had by all who attended the

Ladies' *Spring Fling* yesterday. Beautiful decorations, great food, and excellent fellowship! Thanks so much to the ladies that worked so hard at putting all the decorations, food, work, and organization together: Jessica Stelzer, Nancy Jones, and Diane Haley.

OUR PRAYER LIST...

- The Mericks son, Konrad, had back surgery. They'll be with him for a few weeks.
- Recoveries...
 - Eloise Isbell
 - Richard Anderson, recovering from surgery
 - Park, for knee surgery recovery.
 - Charles H., shoulder recovery.
 - Lynn Turner is now at home.
 - Doug Jones, the treatment plan for him and a positive outcome. Peace and comfort for his family
- Haley requests:
 - Dianne's oldest brother-in-law, Earl Lemons
 - Tristan broke an ankle playing soccer
 - Justin crashed on an electric scooter and had to have stitches.
 - Meghan and Leighton (Linebaugh's granddaughter and great-granddaughter)
 - Freida R., health issues
 - Esther M, low blood count
 - The Staffords, our missionaries in Pittsfield, Massachusetts, granddaughter Peyton living with them.



LONG TERM PRAYER REQUESTS

- Elizabeth's cousins Tracy with Lupus, and Debbie
- 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

- 4/26Exo 25-27
- 4/27Exo 28-29
- 4/28Exo 30-32
- 4/29Exo 33-35
- 4/30Exo 36-38
- 5/1Exo 39-40
- 5/2Lev 1-4
- 5/3Lev 5-7



It's hard to shine with the light of Christ when you're still clinging so tightly to the darkness.

— *Corky Calhoun*

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.

KNOW THYSELF

Part of following the Lord is being honest with ourselves. We should probably know this intuitively, but the Scriptures do tell us to "Test yourselves to see if you are in the faith; examine yourselves!..." (2 Corinthians 13:5 NAS95). And then we are given the Lord's commands as a measure of right and wrong against which we may compare ourselves.

Anytime we seek to improve ourselves, the first step is always to identify the problem. Spiritually speaking we all know that the problem is sin, but simply saying that we're sinners is really much too generic. We need more specificity. For example, do we have a weakness for material things? Do we have a weakness in using our words? Do we have a weakness in worry? Do we have a weakness regarding sexuality? Do we have a weakness regarding pride. Do we tend to be overly competitive, easily angered, negative and faithless, impatient and demanding, insensitive, tempted toward revenge, or in constant need of the approval of others? Without this specificity we'll never be able to completely "...lay aside the old self, which is being corrupted in accordance with the lusts of deceit," (Ephesians 4:22 NAS95).

But even beyond this, we must also be honest with ourselves. The human tendency is to be blind to many of our faults, and if not blind, at least really good at excusing them (for example, "That's just who I am; I can't help it") or justifying them (for example, "You just don't know what kind of pain I've had to endure.").

The list of things could go on and on, I suppose, but the point is that we need to be specific and be honest with ourselves; because

without being honest with ourselves we'll never be able to address the problem(s).

But once we've admitted the problems, what do we do about them? The Lord has an answer He has given us through the inspired apostle Paul:

"that, in reference to your former manner of life, you lay aside the old self, which is being corrupted in accordance with the lusts of deceit, and that you be renewed in the spirit of your mind, and put on the new self, which in the likeness of God has been created in righteousness and holiness of the truth." (Ephesians 4:22–24 NAS95)

The solution is to 1) stop (lay aside) the sins that we're in the habit of doing (the old self), realizing that they will result in condemnation; and 2) start with a whole new mind-set (renewed in the spirit of your mind) and start doing God's will (put on the new self, created in righteousness and holiness). Forget about your right to "be yourself"; we may come to the Lord "Just as I am", but we are called upon to give up the old man, the old self, so that we can become a "new self". Forget about the justifications that we are in the habit of employing; they will be "inadmissible" in the Lord's final courtroom.

But the beginning of this transformation is to first know ourselves, examine ourselves honestly and let the word of God chip away the flaws until we become more like the "mature man, to the measure of the stature which belongs to the fullness of Christ" (Ephesians 4:13)

Park Linscomb

