

THE ROCK HILL HERALD

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

Preacher:

- Park Linscomb

Deacons:

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

*"We're Here
and We Care"*

Their Part in the Mystery of God

All who believe in the Savior will agree in the authority of Almighty God and the part that Jesus played in the "plan of God" for redemption. The idea of [John 3:16](#) is well received, "For God so loved the world that he gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." This is perhaps the most general reality of God's plan ever written. If we are to "diligently seek Him" as stated in [Hebrews 11:6](#), it should be obvious to all, the specific reality of [Matthew 6:33](#), and [II Timothy 2:15](#) — life in Christ is to be our highest priority, and we should examine the Scriptures to be certain we are in compliance.

God devised His plan for salvation as early as [Genesis 3:15](#). He later refers to this plan as a 'mystery' in Paul's writing to in [Ephesians 1:9](#). It was certainly mysterious because it came from the mind of God and was unique. Although it had been prophesied and referred to for 42 generations [Matthew 1:17](#), Paul writes in [Galatians 4:4](#) "when the fullness of times was come, God sent forth His Son." Connect this with [Hebrews 1:1-2](#) and be assured there were no accidents, no oversights, no coincidences. The time had come for "Christ to speak", and to complete the plan that God had devised.

The historical record of the plan of God for salvation can be paraphrased like this; Jesus selected his Apostles with purpose while on the earth. He taught them what they needed to know in the time that He had before His death upon the cross. It was very difficult for the apostles to understand everything that would take place before it was completed. When Jesus told Peter in [Matthew 16:15-19](#) that "He (Jesus) would build His Church", he and the other disciples could have little idea of what would follow. In hindsight, we can see what Jesus meant when He said, "on this rock (of truth) I will build My Church...and I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom". We have a record beginning in [John 14:16](#) that reveals the promise of 'the Comforter' the Holy Ghost that would "bring to remembrance what Jesus had taught them" as well as "guide them unto all truth". As we near the events of [Acts Chapter 2](#), we find Jesus after His resurrection and speaking with his apostles. Enjoy the record of [Luke 24:36-49](#) as Jesus leaves them to the work at hand...to fulfill their part in the mystery of God.

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! 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 .

CLEVE AND MELINDA STAFFORD are here with us this morning. A potluck lunch will follow immediately after worship services. Join us!



The Staffords

FOR THE PITTSFIELD MA CHURCH

— Trudi R. has started an ongoing monthly benevolence program for the Pittsfield church. The Pittsfield church has sent a thank you card, and if you'd like to see what has been sent to Pittsfield, there's a note on the bulletin board.

PIE CRUST CLASS...A first class class was conducted yesterday to teach us how to make a Trudi-perfect pie crust. The pie and fellowship were great! Thanks, Trudi!!

A SPRING SINGING WORKSHOP April 16-19, Ken Dawdy will be here for a singing workshop. Ken will teach on worship in song on Sunday and then will



Ken Dawdy

hold workshops each evening Monday through Wednesday.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

- A youth event will be at “Pump It Up” (Frisco), March 25, 12:15, arrive a little early. Pizza, drinks, and dessert served. Address info in the back. All kids must be accompanied by an adult.
- A Youth Sleepover on May 5th in the Fellowship Building. All ages are invited.

LADIES' SPRING FLING — Saturday April 22nd at 11:00am in the Fellowship Hall.

PRAYER LISTS...

- Nancy Jones asks us to pray for relative Tom Kissinger: fall & Parkinson
- John B. is in need of further vein surgery on his left leg
- Julia's friend Wendy with breast cancer
- Dianna Conkling
- Hugh R.'s sister Andrea
- Sue Carter
- Chuck T. cancer treatments
- Isela H.'s friend Jeff, cancer.
- 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

Be still and know that I am God. (Psalm 46:10)

- The Zapata's friend Isabella with a heart lesion
- Travis Y. feeding tube
- Dianna C.
- Ken C.
- Mary H. and daughter Sharon

READ-THE-BIBLE-IN-A-YEAR

- Mar 12, Josh 8-9
- Mar 13, Josh 10-11
- Mar 14, Josh 12-14
- Mar 15, Josh 15-17
- Mar 16, Josh 18-20
- Mar 17, Josh 21-22
- Mar 18, Josh 23-24
- Mar 19, Judges 1-3

SHARE THE FAITH

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.

Devotion to God, Part 1

Physical A.D.D. (Attention Deficit Disorder) is a widely (probably over-) diagnosed problem among kids these days, but it has been applied to a number of adults, too. This may be attributable to how we've trained our minds, because paying attention is a **learned** thing. A kindergarten or first grade teacher's biggest hurdle is teaching the children how to be students and pay attention. Or have you ever tried to coach a little league team? It's those kids in the outfield I always had the most fear for; they were the ones who were most likely to be watching the clouds or the butterflies or the dandelions rather than the game — just as someone hits a fly ball their way. Lack of focus makes for a poor student and possibly an injured baseball player.



"one who sits near, ready to serve through obligation or love", and "ready to obey" — which makes this "devotion" a little more like Olivia's song and a little less like modern religious devotion.

This kind of devotion is nothing new...

But have you ever thought about how such a disorder, in a spiritual sense, also afflicts some disciples of Jesus —also with dangerous consequences?

In 1 Cor. 7:35 Paul is in the midst of a discussion about the trade-offs and advisability of marriage and singleness. Because of persecution that Christians were facing, Paul was suggesting that some might want to consider refraining from marriage. He writes, "This I say for your own benefit; not to put a restraint upon you, but to promote what is appropriate and to secure undistracted devotion to the Lord." It was Paul's inspired aim for them that they possess undistracted devotion to the Lord. And this is a virtue that applies to more than merely the states of marriage or singleness. Especially in a world so full of distraction, temptation, and busyness.

What is distraction? Sadly, we often define it on a "sliding scale". For example, we know what Olivia Newton John meant when she sang "Hopelessly Devoted to You". She wasn't talking about a 1 hour dinner date once a week, was she? She meant to say, "You come first for me!" But oddly enough, we have a different definition, if we are asked if we are devoted to the Lord. "Well, yes, of course!" we might say. But is it the same sort of devotion that Olivia Newton John sang about? The Greek word used in 1 Cor. 7:35 is *euparedros*, which meant: "constantly attendant",

- Deuteronomy 6:5 ""You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might."
- Matthew 6:33 ""But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you."
- Luke 14:26 ""If anyone comes to Me, and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be My disciple."
- Matthew 19:21 "Jesus said to him, "If you wish to be complete, go and sell your possessions and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me.""

Indeed, real discipleship will be devoted, and it will be evaluated by God's definition rather than ours. Consequently, it would be advisable us to reflect on...

- What do devoted Christians do?
- How often do they sit down to read and think about the Bible per week?
- How often do they take time to pray?
- What do devoted Christians do with their Sundays and Wednesdays (a day often set aside for church Bible study)?
- What kinds of good deeds would they be involved in?

But the problem with devotion is how easily distracted we are. Let's take a look at that next time.

In the meantime, give some thought to your spiritual focus, keeping your eyes on things above, remembering that this world is not our home, and living each moment like the Lord is coming next minute.

Park Linscomb

