

## Announcements & Prayer Requests

- Let's keep the following in our prayers:
  - John & Bernida Wolfe – Potential exposure to COVID-19; awaiting test results
  - Bob & Carol Jarabek – Potential exposure to COVID-19; quarantining out of precaution
  - Kim Self—stomach ulcers and weekly Chemo treatments
  - Angie Self—arthritis and Parkinson's—slowly improving
  - Joann Larkin—advanced dementia
  - Barb Agee's son (James)
  - Sandra Perez's grandmother—balance problems
  - Bernida Wolfe's father—dementia and Parkinson's
  - Rick Parks' father—prostate cancer
  - Jimmy Woodall's sister—cancer
  - Sandra Perez's uncle—stage 4 cancer

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Jesus was rejected more than what we will ever experience in our lifetimes, yet He did not let it affect His assignment.

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*“I would rather have thousands say to me at the judgment, ‘We heard you preach, and you hurt our feelings,’ than to have just one lost soul to say, ‘I heard you preach, but you did not tell me the truth.’”*

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“A lie doesn't become truth, wrong doesn't become right, and evil doesn't become good, just because it's accepted by a majority.”

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# CHURCH OF CHRIST

## *Invitation*

*‘Therefore, go into the highways, and as many as you find, invite to the wedding.’ – Mt. 22:9*

### Address

5080 Highway 70 East  
Rockwood, TN 37854

### Assembly Times

Sunday Bible Study – 10:00 AM  
Sunday Worship – 11:00 AM

Please text/email any announcements, questions, or concerns to Bill Fix, (865) 934-9239 or [fix.bill@gmail.com](mailto:fix.bill@gmail.com)

 <https://www.facebook.com/ChurchofChristRockwoodTN>

## August 9, 2020

*We extend a warm welcome to all our visitors and members. If you have any questions or need any assistance, please let one of us know.*

**Adult Bible Class** – Eph. 1:4ff

**Sermon Topic** – Would You Have Joined the Corinthian Church?

### **Memory verse:**

He who does not love does not know God, for God is love.

– 1 Jn. 4:8

# Fixating on What's Important: *Following Instructions*

By Bill Fix

Last week, I put a new desk together for our home office, and the only negative I read in the reviews before ordering it had been the lengthy and arduous assembly. I figured I had enough experience assembling furniture so I wasn't deterred by an estimated five-hour assembly time and 250+ pieces if the finished product would be a quality desk that would last.

I've never been a guy who immediately throws away the instructions, believing I can just figure it out all on my own. So off I went, making progress through the 29 steps of assembly, until the last step where I realized I had messed up one small part on Step 4. For one drawer to fit the way it's supposed to, I'll now have to disassemble several pieces to make this correction.

The Bible is very much like the instruction booklet that came with my desk. Some never look at it as they build their lives, choosing instead to do whatever they want or assume they know what God wants them to do. Others might listen to various religious leaders but still not actually look to the original instructions to apply them directly. And sometimes even if we do our best to follow instructions, we find later that we misread or overlooked a detail, and it will take some work on our part to fix it.

What kinds of spiritual instructions can we find in the Bible?

- How one is saved: Hear gospel (Rom. 10:17); Believe (Heb. 11:6; Jm. 2:24); Repent of & turn from our sins (Lk. 13:3; Ax. 17:30); Confess our faith (Mt. 10:32; Rom. 10:10); Baptism for remission of sins (Ax. 2:38; 1 Pet. 3:21); Live faithfully (Rev. 2:10)
- Examples of Biblical conversion: Pentecost (Ax. 2:22, 36-47); Ethiopian eunuch (Ax. 8:26-39); Paul (Ax. 9:1-18); Lydia (Ax. 16:13-15); Philippian jailer (Ax. 16:23-34)
- Elements of acceptable worship: In spirit & truth (Jn. 4:24); on 1<sup>st</sup> day of the week (Ax. 20:7); Singing (Eph. 5:19; Col. 3:16); Prayer (Jm. 5:14-16); Teaching (Ax. 6:4; 20:7; 1 Cor. 14:19); Lord's Supper (Ax. 20:7; 1 Cor. 11:23-29); Giving (1 Cor. 16:1-2)

Let's be vigilant like the Bereans who "received the word with all readiness and searched the Scriptures daily to find out" God's instructions (Ax. 17:11).

# Boys Will Be Boys

By Robert F. Turner (Aug. 1981)

"Boys will be boys" apologizes a wise (?) old sage. What else might we expect them to be? Donkeys? Old men? Yes, "boys will be boys" but that does not alter the consequences. Boys drive recklessly—wreck cars, break bones, get killed, maim or kill their friends. This turns parents' hair white.

"Boys will be boys," but rulers will rule (Rom. 12:3). They are a terror to lawbreakers and punish the rebels (1 Pet. 2:14). Rulers bear the sword with purpose; they use it—even on rebel boys. Countless boys have challenged the powers and awoke in jail—or without a head.

"Boys will be boys," but fathers must be fathers. They are charged to admonish, train, and correct (Eph. 6:4). Because boys act like boys, loving fathers (Prov. 3:12) must use the rod. "Foolishness is bound in the heart of a child; but the rod of correction shall drive it far from him" (Prov. 22:15). And mothers will be mothers. They worry and fret, advise when it is uninvited and unwelcome, and generally meddle in their boys' lives. That just goes with the turf. Mothers tenderly love those ornery boys. For the same reason, mothers teach their boys the scriptures (2 Tim. 3:15) and nourish in them a real faith in God (2 Tim. 1:15). They delight in their family and work to maintain their home (Tit. 2:4-5).

"Boys will be boys" is a sage's observation; "flee youthful lusts" comes with much higher recommendation (2 Tim. 2:22). "Boys" are not exempt from walking as Christians. They may "sow their wild oats" because they perceive we expect no better of them. Rather, that "boy" is expected to be "an example of the believers", "a pattern" in doctrine, values, attitudes, conviction, and purity (1 Tim. 4:12). When a "boy" is such, no one will despise him. The adversary is shamed having no bad word against such a "boy". And who said these boys are weak and must be coddled? The army does not think they are weak. They require boys to train body and mind, face the rigors of war, and die to win a battle. And some fear these same boys are unable to endure a snide remark, miss a dance, or put a rein on their passions. Don't believe it; they're tough as nails! John appealed to "young men, because ye are strong, and the word of God abides in you, and ye have overcome the wicked one" (1 Jn. 1:14). These boys are boys; they will be godly men—IF they have sound instruction in truth, wise counsel from experienced Christians, loving correction when wrong, patience from all, and a little time. BUT left to themselves, they will follow after youthful lusts, break their parents' hearts, be a blight to society, defame God and His people, and end up in hell.