

# MARKET STREET



*"And this the message we have received of Him, and declare unto you..." (1 John 1:5)*

# MESSENGER

## Market Street church of Christ

514 West Market Street  
P.O. Box 388  
Athens, Alabama 35612  
Phone (256) 232-1525

### Schedule of Services

#### Sunday

Bible Classes..... 9:45 a.m.  
Morning Worship..... 10:30 a.m.  
Evening Worship..... 5:00 p.m.

#### Wednesday

Bible Classes.....7:00 p.m.

#### Elders

Albert Bowers.....(256) 233-4847  
Jerry McGlocklin.....(256) 232-7620  
Kenneth Smith.....(256) 233-2050  
Bonnie Sutton.....(256) 232-2081

#### Deacons

Marty Adams .....(256) 233-5147  
Rusty Brand .....(256) 233-7343  
Tim Craig .....(256) 233-4597  
Joel Hamm.....(256) 230-6223  
Bobby McGuire .....(256) 232-7887  
Frank Noblitt .....(256) 777-0725  
Stuart Wilson .....(256) 233-6291

#### Evangelists

David A. Cox.....(256) 233-8910  
E-mail: david.a.cox@att.net  
Warren Glass.....(256) 233-6086

### Visit Us On The Web

MarketStreet-church.org

### MARKET STREET MESSENGER

*is published in the interest of New Testament Christianity and to enhance the work of the Market Street church.*

*David A. Cox, Editor*

Volume I

May 31, 2009

No. 22

## *The Eye That Mocks*

**Jason Moore**

My face still stung. My cheek felt as if it had been branded by the blow. The real pain came not from the slap but the humiliation of the experience. I was stunned. I was too old to be slapped by my mother.....or so I thought.

I don't remember what I said. I don't remember why I said it. I have some suspicion of how I said it. I talked as if I were big, independent, grown up....or so I thought.

I was defenseless to prevent it. I certainly wouldn't stop her. And it was entirely unexpected. Why couldn't we just talk like reasonable persons? The slap was unwarranted, unreasonable....or so I thought.

The fact is: I thought poorly. I have come to appreciate my mother's standard of respect. My father's too, for that matter. Disrespect toward either of them was off-limits; and both were equally tough on this rule. Attempts at winning the sympathy of the other parent when disrespect had been shown were fruitless.

Some discipline in the Moore household was tailored to the age and disposition of the child. Being the only boy and eldest of four children, I was disciplined differently than my youngest sister, nearly twelve years my junior. But disrespect was a behavior that was punished consistently, swiftly and usually corporally without regard for age, sex or personality.

It wasn't just the "smart mouth" that was corrected—faces or posture that showed defiance, or doors closing too hard all called for swift punitive measures. I'm sure we all attempted the tantrum during our earliest years. But I have no recollection of it; I suspect they nipped it in the bud at its first appearance. We had no success at masquerading disrespect and my folks never lacked vigilance in identifying and punishing it.

The Proverbs pronounce a terrible curse upon the child who fail to learn to respect their parents. "The eye that mocks a father and scorns to obey a mother will be pecked out by the raven of the valley and eaten

by the vultures” (30:17).

The saying admits what common sense observes, that disrespect can be communicated more subtly than with a word. A look is the subtlest expression of disrespect. Less audible than a “smart mouth,” a whispered curse, or a heavy sigh. Less visible than folded arms, a rude gesture, a slouching stance, or pouting lip. Less violent than a slamming door, thrown objects, or a temper tantrum. But it’s not the degree of action that warrants punishment; it’s the attitude behind all acts of defiance—even the subtlest—that demands correction. Disrespect in its subtlest form—“the eye that mocks”—is a serious heart disorder that will only lead to more aggressive crimes and less reversible behavior when tolerated.

Ironically, disrespect is punished according to the wise man at the location of its first and subtlest expression—the eyes. He says that birds of prey will peck out the eye that mocks his father or scorns his mother. Children who learn disrespect are morally handicapped, even blinded. Having not learned to look respectfully upon their parents, the most intimate, legitimate and obvious authority figures in their life, they lose the ability to see God as the moral authority is effected by their view of parental authority.

It’s not just that a defiant youth can’t see authority that handicaps them. It’s that they can’t see anything properly. A person without recognition for authority loses the faculty for seeing any boundaries or limitations. They are cursed to stumble through life tripping over curbs, falling into ditches, bumping into walls, injuring themselves and others and all the while oblivious to how they ended up in any predicament. Not learning to see authority has robbed them of seeing altogether.

Mom sometimes answered a pouting look with the warning. “Yer face is gonna freeze that way.” According to the proverb, disrespect does freeze a person—but not just their face—all their limbs are paralyzed as if they were tied to a post in the desert sun with vultures circling overhead. So when the vultures perch on the shoulders and pluck out the eyes of the youth with the proud look, he is powerless to defend himself. His defiance ironically leaves him defenseless, vulnerable to great pain and handicap. Disrespect limits us, but in even worse ways than Mom warned. I’m grateful for a mother who loved me enough to slap me when I was too big and spare me the folly of the eye that mocks.

Mom told me this morning over the phone about taking my sister’s kids to the park. Lila Mae, a mere two-and-a-half, tested her boundaries. Gramma told her to put on her shoes. Lila fussed but obeyed. But from the top of the slide, the wee little girl bravely hollered the Gramma was “bad,” pulled her shoes off, and threw them to the ground. Gramma promised to spank her when she came down. Little Lila promptly came down the slide still fuming, still defiant.

Sometimes Mom’s soft with the grandkids. But I respect her wisdom that one rule hasn’t changed; she’s not soft on disrespect. I know the look that met Lila when she reached the bottom of the slide. I remember it well. Lila will too. In fact her mother has “the look.” Someday Lila will sit and reflect like me, with a few grateful tears and words to God, over a mother and grandmother who loved her so.

-via *Friendly Visitor*; Athens, Alabama.

## *Vacation Bible School*

June 8 -11, 2009

10:00 a.m. – 11:20 a.m.

Market Street church of Christ  
514 West Market Street  
Athens, Alabama

### *Kindness*

**Michael W. McLemore**

Genuine kindness is a pleasant thing to see by whomsoever and under whatsoever circumstances it is exercised. God has planted it in the human breast, and it is one of the distinctive attributes of man. Too often, indeed, the indulgence of bad passions is suffered to choke it, and rival interest to interfere with its action. Still, there it is, a faint reflection, it is true, of the love of God, but nevertheless a remnant of God’s image in man – pleasant to behold, sweetening the relation of man with man, and capable, if allowed to exercise its rightful

sway over the human action, of increasing to an almost infinite extent the happiness of the human race.

Kindness shows itself, mainly in two ways. First, in a general inclination to promote the well-being of others. Second, and chiefly, in sentiments of sorrow and compassion for the misfortunes of others, and in active endeavors to relieve their sufferings and supply their wants.

Such was the kindness of the simple Maltese peasants of Acts 28:1-10. They saw nearly 300 persons in the extremest destitution. Houseless, without food, drenched with wet from the sea and from the rain, without any change of raiment, shivering with cold, exhausted with fatigue, their plight was most miserable. When the kind islanders saw them they were touched with their misfortunes. They did not rest in pitiful feelings only, but actively set to work to alleviate their sufferings. They opened their humble dwellings to receive them. They supplied them with what food they could. They helped them to dry their dripping clothes; they collected fuel to kindle fires by which to warm them; they gave themselves no little trouble and labor to give them every comfort within their reach. These were unconsciously obeying the precept "Do good, hoping for nothing again." May we be so.

-via *Weatherly Weekly*; Huntsville, Alabama

## Radio Program

Every Sunday Morning

on WVNN – 770AM

8:30 a.m. - 9:00

Market Street church of Christ  
514 West Market Street  
Athens, Alabama

### *Remember Our Study Periods*

Sunday Mornings at 9:45 a.m.

Wednesday Evenings at 7:00 p.m.

# News & Notes

## THE SICK:

### *In The Hospital:*

*Peggy Taylor*; Athens - Limestone Hospital – rm. 301

*Reba Byram*; HealthSouth Huntsville

### *At Home:*

Tina Brown

June Dawson

Molly Wilson

Polly Davis

Evelyn Hays

Gilbert Hardy

Tim Melson

Becky Munoz

Angela Green

Jeff Waddell

Matt Poff

Benton Hardy

### *Limestone Health Facility:*

Essie Belle Bates, rm. 118      Mary Smith, rm. 85

Christine McGuire, rm. 57      J.D. Clanton, rm. 11E

Lorene Bradford, rm.117      Rosella Pugh, rm. 33

### *Athens Convalescent Center:*

Betty Bates, rm. 17

Pauline Lovell, rm. 11

### *Limestone Manor:*

Ruth Owens, rm. 80

### *Shut-In:*

Sarah Halbrook, Glade Retirement, Memphis, Tenn.

Jimmy Killen, at home

Reba Adams, at home

Majorie Lambert, at home

Ellis Dunnavant, at home

**MILITARY SERVICE:** Remember all those that are serving on foreign soil in the military for our country. Those who are among us or have connections to the Market Street church are:

Cody Brown; Iraq

Brandi Lawrence; Afghanistan

Joel Smith; Iraq

**MAUVIS PHILLIPS – 1930-2009:** We are saddened to note the passing of *sister Mauvis Phillips* this past Sunday evening. Sister Phillips had been sick and unable to attend services for a couple of years, although her heart and desire to attend the services was as keen as ever. We will miss sister Phillips and her good influence in the church here. We want to express our deepest sympathy to all of her family in her passing. Her funeral was Wednesday at Limestone Chapel; her burial in the Roselawn cemetery.

**RESTORED/INDENTIFIED:** Our heart rejoiced Wednesday evening when *Lola Colwell* came forward asking for prayers for her unfaithfulness in her service to the Lord and expressed her desire to be identified with the church here at Market Street. We are thankful for Lola's good heart and her desire to please God. We want to welcome our sister to the work here at Market Street.

**VBS INVITATIONS:** It is just one week until we will begin our Vacation Bible School. There will be classes for all ages. In the adult class we will have different speakers as follows: *Monday – Jeff May; Tuesday – Bill Hall; Wednesday – Buc Chumbley and Thursday – John Gibson.* Remember there are invitations on the table at the entrances of the building for you to pick-up and send or give to those that you invite. Let's remember to take time to invite others this week to join us.

**VBS PREPARATIONS:** Preparations are still on-going for our VBS that will begin next Monday. The teachers are continuing to work diligently preparing for the classes. As mentioned last week in the *Market Street Messenger*, there are a number of items that we are needing to help set our theme. Several of the items have been supplied, but if you may have or know where we can get the things needed, please let *Beth Brand* or *Kerry Cox* know.

**GOSPEL MEETINGS/VBS:** The *Westview church* will be engaged in a Vacation Bible this week. They will meet each morning Monday through Friday at 10:00 a.m. The speakers in the adult class will be as follows: Monday – *Norm Webb, Jr.*; Tuesday – *David Cox*; Wednesday – *Kasey Harbin*; Thursday – *Allen Dvorak*; Friday – *Greg Chandler*...The *Oakland church* will be having a Vacation Bible School this week each morning at 10:00. The speaker in the adult class will be *Bill Hall*...The *Eastside church* in Scottsboro will be engaged in a gospel meeting each evening this week through Friday. *Phil Robertson* will be the speaker in this meeting...The *Pepper Road church* will begin a meeting on Friday and it will continue through next Sunday. The speaker in this meeting will be *Lowell Sallee*.

**THE RECORD:** Attendance – Week of May 24th

**Sunday:**

Bible Classes.....	125
Morning Worship .....	155
Evening Worship.....	113

**Wednesday:**

Bible Classes.....	90
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Remember our Service This Evening at 5:00.

**Men Privileged To Serve:**

**Sunday, May 31st:**

*Morning Worship*

Announcements .....	Dwaine Allfrey
Song Leader .....	Jack Cannon
Prayer .....	Marty Adams
Preaching .....	Warren Glass
Lord's Supper	
Presiding .....	Larry Mitchell
Assisting .....	Benton Ball
Serving .....	Hunter Cox..... Russ Wulfekuhl
.....	Dan Lovell ..... Nathaniel Adams
Closing Prayer .....	Tommy Burns

*Evening Worship*

Announcements .....	Dwaine Allfrey
Song Leader .....	Jack Cannon
Prayer .....	Bonnie Sutton
Preaching .....	David Cox
Lord's Supper .....	Larry Mitchell
Closing Prayer .....	Rusty Brand

Other Assignments for Sunday May 31st:

Usher .....	Tim Craig
Work Sound System .....	Frank Noblitt

**Wednesday, June 3rd:**

Song Leader .....	Hunter Cox
Bible Reading.....	(Proverbs 14:23-35)
.....	Cory Nelson
Prayer .....	Marty Adams
Invitation .....	David Cox
Closing Prayer .....	Rusty Brand

**Sunday, June 7th:**

*Morning Worship*

Announcements .....	Kenneth Smith
Song Leader .....	Stuart Wilson
Prayer .....	Joel Hamm
Preaching .....	David Cox
Lord's Supper	
Presiding .....	Larry Mitchell
Assisting .....	Benton Ball
Serving .....	Hunter Cox..... Russ Wulfekuhl
.....	Dan Lovell ..... Nathaniel Adams
Closing Prayer .....	Curtis Glass

*Evening Worship*

Announcements .....	Kenneth Smith
Song Leader .....	Stuart Wilson
Prayer .....	Jerry McGlocklin
Preaching .....	David Cox
Lord's Supper .....	Benton Ball
Closing Prayer .....	Lifford Smith

Other Assignments for Sunday June 7th:

Usher .....	Delmar Carter
Work Sound System .....	Marty Adams