

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

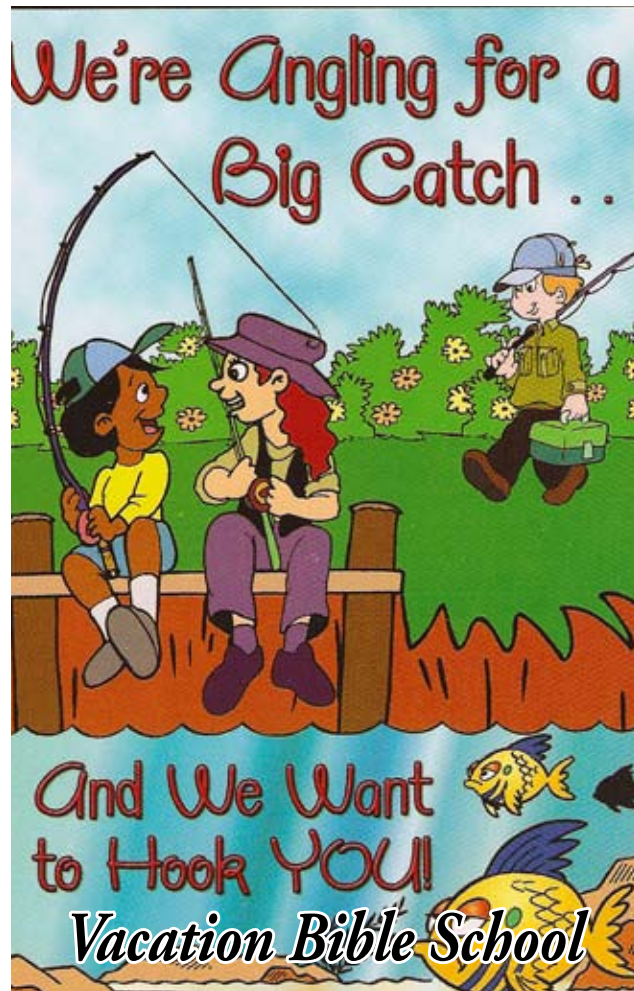
is published in the interest of New Testament Christianity and to enhance the work of the Market Street church.

David A. Cox, Editor

Volume I

June 7, 2009

No. 23



June 8 -11, 2009

10:00 a.m. – 11:20 a.m.

Adult Classes Taught By:

Jeff May, Bill Hall, Buc Chumbley and John Gibson

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

Make Me A Servant

Bubba Garner

I like to browse through the used bookstores. There's one on Spencer Highway that I particularly frequent called "The Dusty Cover." Unfortunately, that also describes about half of the library in my office.

I found a book in the religious section there a few years back entitled *Difficult Passages in the Bible*. It was good for me to see that because I used to think that the preacher was supposed to have every single Scripture figured out. Whether it was some obscure vision of the Old Testament or some revelation in the last book of the New Testament, nothing was supposed to be difficult for him to understand or explain. But even the Apostle Peter commented on Paul's writings, "in which are some things hard to understand" (2 Peter 3:16). I just know he had the book of Romans in mind.

And yet there is a different kind of difficult passage in the Bible. These are challenging, not just with respect to information but with regard to application. One such Scripture is found in Philippians 2:5: "Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus." That's hard for me.

The call to be like Christ is no easy task. Peter gave instruction to follow "in His steps" (1 Peter 2:21), and Paul invited the Corinthians to "be imitators of me, just as I also am of Christ" (1 Corinthians 11:1). But walking in those steps includes an imitation of Jesus' summation of His whole life's work when He said, "For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many" (Mark 10:45). If you want to follow Jesus, you're going to have to become a servant.

Just how is a servant made? What are the ingredients needed for such a transformation?

A voluntary spirit. Jesus was not forced into His role as a servant. He "emptied Himself" (Philippians 2:7). "He humbled Himself" (Philippians 2:8). No one did that for Him. No one coerced or forced Him in this regard. He did it Himself. Just as He said in the Good Shepherd passage, "I lay down my life for the sheep...no one has taken it from Me, but I lay it down on My own initiative" (John 10:15,18). Such is the

spirit of a servant.

God's army must be made up of volunteers. Yet, we sometimes look like waiters in a restaurant who are serving only because we are under obligation and feel like we "have to." Service ought to be viewed as the privilege of those who were shown favor by the greatest servant of all, Jesus Christ. Without Him, our spirits would be without hope.

A selfless disposition. "Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind regard one another as more important than yourselves; do not merely look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of others" (Philippians 2:3-4). Jesus certainly showed us the way in this regard. He was not concerned with worldly goods or fortunes; He didn't even have a place to lay His head. He put no stock in popularity or praise; He sought the glory of His Father. Even on the cross, His focus was not on selfish ambitions but on the very people for whom He was crucified.

In a world that is so often racing to be first at the finish line, God's servants must place themselves last. Especially ought this to be our attitude in our service to one another. Christians are to "be devoted to one another in brotherly love," giving "preference to one another in honor" (Romans 12:10). The best way to do that is to dispose of self. It's where the footsteps of our Lord lead.

A humble demeanor. Jesus existed in the "form of God" (Philippians 2:6) yet took on the "form of a bond-servant" (Philippians 2:7). Further, "He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross" (Philippians 2:8). He did not consider Himself too important, too high, or too mighty to stoop and serve. He just humbly submitted Himself to be the sacrifice and the greatest example of service for all men.

One reason I love the hymn *Make Me A Servant*, written by Tim Jennings and Matt Bassford, is the opening of the second verse: "Make me a servant, take all my pride." Jesus never said of the task before Him, "isn't there an angel who could take care of this?" Neither is there any work of service in God's kingdom that is beneath your humble submission. Those who do so are promised an exaltation from God at the proper time (James 4:10).

One of the pictures of the redeemed in the book of

Revelation is that they are “before the throne of God; and they serve Him day and night in His temple” (Revelation 7:15). Servant-hood is our privilege here and our destiny there. It is what we’re made for.

-via *Southside Sunday*; Pasadena, Texas

persevere. “We do not lose heart,” Paul writes. “Even though our outward man is perishing, yet the inward man is being renewed day by day” (2 Corinthians 4:16). Our adversary would like to bog us down so deeply in our troubles that we lose all perspective, but we simply must not allow that to happen. Our vision must be kept clear, and we must consistently look not “at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen” (2 Corinthians 4:18).

-via *Hueytown Bulletin*; Hueytown, Alabama

Eternal Glory

Gary Henry

If there is any hardship to be endured as we seek God, that hardship is nothing compared to the glory that waits for us when the hardship is over. It would be dishonest to suggest that the Christian does not have to deal with the “problem of pain,” for that is certainly not the truth. But the other side of that truth should not be forgotten. Speaking of His own crucifixion, Jesus said, “Ought not the Christ to have suffered these things and to enter into His glory?” (Luke 24:26). Just as His glory was on the other side of His suffering, so it is with us. Our prayer is not to be delivered from difficulty but to keep our minds fixed on the radiant joy that the difficulty is accomplishing. Peter wrote, “But may the God of all grace, who called us to His eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after you have suffered a while, perfect, establish, strengthen, and settle you” (1 Peter 5:10).

Paul speaks of a “weight of glory” that is out of all proportion to the “light affliction” that we may suffer during our earthly lifetime. Our suffering may be so painful right now that it is hard for us to see how this can be so, but we will have only just begun to enjoy that glory when we realize how insignificant the suffering was. The point is not that our sufferings are insignificant in themselves, for the horrors that some have suffered in this world are truly profound. But compared to glory, our sufferings are small and only “for a moment.”

In their practical impact on our thinking, these truths can be nothing short of revolutionary. They can make a monumental difference in our ability to

News Notes &

THE SICK:

In The Hospital:

Peggy Taylor; Athens-Limestone Hospital – rm. 301

Linnie Hardy; Athens-Limestone Hospital – rm. 218

At Home:

Tina Brown	Marion Mitchell
Molly Wilson	Reba Byram
June Dawson	Polly Davis
Evelyn Hays	Tim Melson
Becky Munoz	Matt Poff
Angela Green	Jeff Waddell
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
Jerry Gilbert; 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

VBS BEGINS TOMORROW: The time for our Vacation Bible School is here. 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.* There are still some invitations to be taken home and passed them along to those you come in contact with. There has been much work and preparation for the VBS and many of you have help to this end and for all the efforts put forth, we thank you. Remember to continue to invite and pray for this effort that is being made this week. If it is at all possible, please come and join us.

GOSPEL MEETINGS/VBS: The *College View church* in Florence will begin a series of lectures on Monday. The theme will be *“Your Faith Determines Your Future”*. The speakers in the lectureship will be as follows: *David Banning, Ed Harrell, Bob Owen, and David Posey.* Each evening they will have a period of singing beginning at 6:30 p.m. with *R.J. Stevens* leading... The *South Cullman church* will be having a meeting through Friday evening. The speaker in the meeting will be *Bob Dickey*... The *Wooley Springs* will be engaged in a VBS each evening this week through Friday... The *New Hope church* will be engaged in a VBS each evening this week through Friday. The speaker in the adult class will be *Kasey Harbin*... The *Northside church* will be having a meeting/VBS through Friday evening. The speaker in the meeting will be *Lee Wildman*.

THE RECORD: Attendance – Week of May 31st

Sunday:

Bible Classes.....	121
Morning Worship	156
Evening Worship.....	131

Wednesday:

Bible Classes.....	95
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Men Privileged To Serve:

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

Wednesday, June 10th:

Song Leader	Marty Adams
Bible Reading.....	(Proverbs 15:1-15)
.....	Landon Adams
Prayer	Tim Craig
Invitation	Lance Taylor
Closing Prayer	Wayne Vaughn

Sunday, June 14th:

Morning Worship

Announcements	Frank Noblitt
Song Leader	Jerry McGlocklin
Prayer	Jack Cannon
Preaching	Warren Glass
Lord’s Supper	
Presiding	Marty Adams
Assisting	Marion Mitchell
Serving	David Terry..... Marvin Putman
.....	Curtis Glass.....
.....	Cory Nelson
Closing Prayer	Landon Adams

Evening Worship

Announcements	Frank Noblitt
Song Leader	Jerry McGlocklin
Prayer	Albert Bowers
Preaching	Warren Glass
Lord’s Supper	Marty Adams
Closing Prayer	Marion Mitchell

Other Assignments for Sunday June 14th:

Usher	Dwaine Allfrey
Work Sound System	Danny Johnson