

# MARKET STREET

*"And this is 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.com

### 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*

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No. 7

## *Maintaining Our Hope*

**David A. Cox**

Hope is defined by Webster as "Desire accompanied by expectation of, or belief in fulfillment; to desire with expectation of obtainment; to expect with confidence." There is a story of a man that came up to a little league ballgame one day. He asked a boy what the score was. The boy replied, "It is 18 to nothing; we're behind." The man then said, "I know you're discouraged." Then the little boy said, "Why should I be discouraged? We haven't even come to bat yet." It can be said that the little boy was maintaining his hope; his desire plus his expectation of success.

Hope is essential to our success in any endeavor of life. Without hope, the desire to continue to press toward the goal loses its appeal. Without hope, prisoners of war die. Without hope, athletic teams slump and keep losing. Without hope, a student gets discouraged and drops out of school. Without hope, married couples decide to divorce. Without hope, Christians lose sight of an eternal home in heaven.

In Hebrews 6:11-12 we read, "And we desire that every one of you do shew the same diligence to the full assurance of hope unto the end: That ye be not slothful, but followers of them who through faith and patience inherit the promises." The writer of Hebrews is exhorting the Christians to have diligence and perseverance in maintaining their "assurance of hope." Why is that? It is not because it is just a nice option, or something that would be good to do. It is because we must do this if we are going to survive spiritually and "inherit the promises." Hope is as vital to our life and faith, as water is to fish, or oxygen to man. Man will not stay on the course toward the eternal goal without hope.

Hope is so important and necessary because life is filled with doom, despair, discouragement, defeat, and disheartenment. If we fail to maintain our hope, in distressing moments our minds will fail to focus on the better things ahead. Instead, the mind will dwell on things of life that have brought us down.

As important as hope is and as much as we may believe that there is hope ahead, we must understand that it can be very elusive. The Hebrew writer tells how to maintain our hope as he says, “be not slothful, but followers of them who through faith and patience inherit the promises” (Hebrews 6:12). Diligence, faith and patience are needed to maintain our faith. Let us determine that we will not allow fatigue, frustration, failure, fear, distress, discouragement, etc. to cause us to lose sight of our hope.

Hope is a wonderful gift of God. It is a great source of strength and courage in the trials we face in life. It has been said that there is no more sustaining and transforming influence on human life, than the influence of hope. Let us see that hope:

1. Points to the light, when in a tunnel of misery.
2. Lifts our spirits, when we are discouraged.
3. Keeps us going, when we are tempted to quit.
4. Helps us to persevere, when struggling with disease and illness.
5. Gives us patience and trust, when we must wait.
6. Reminds us that God is still in control.
7. Gets us through the grief when we must say “good bye” to someone we deeply love.

The Hebrew writer tells us that “hope is the anchor of the soul” (Hebrews 6:19). Indeed, hope is the anchor by which the Christian can withstand, overcome, and endure all the trials and tribulations that one will face in life.

Our hope is not only for this life, but because of the resurrection of Christ from the dead, our hope is in that which is beyond (1 Corinthians 15:12-20). Peter reminds the Christians of this hope as he writes, “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead” (1 Peter 1:3). As we close I am remind of the words of a song by Bill and Gloria Gaither which say:

*“Because He lives, I can face tomorrow;  
Because He lives, all fear is gone;  
Because I know, He holds the future;  
And life is worth the living  
Just because He lives.”*

**Remember Our Service This Evening 5:00.**

## *More Important Than Myself*

**Greg Litmer**

If I can learn to truly regard others “as more important” than myself, then I will have take a giant step toward living day by day as a faithful child of God. I struggle with this concept in some aspects and don’t struggle with it in others. How can I view the person who has nothing and lives off of the government as more important than myself? How can I consider a person who does not match my intellectual abilities and talents as more important than myself? I can do it by looking at Jesus, that’s how.

How do I compare to Jesus? Like a drop of water in the bottom of an otherwise empty 50-gallon drum. I am nothing, and the Lord died for me. One person wrote that the person who is able to think this way is “the one who is so conscious of his dependence on God, and of his own imperfections and nothingness, that his own gifts only remind him that others must have gifts also, while his sense of his own utter nothingness suggests to him that these gifts may well be superior to his own, and higher nature and degree.”

Thinking this way, it becomes possible for me to look out for the interests of others. Paul’s point is that the feelings, interests, and needs of our brethren are to be put before and above our own. This does not mean to ignore our own needs, but to subordinate them to the needs of others. In Romans 12:10, Paul put it this way: “Be devoted to one another in brotherly love; give preference to one another in honor.”

Just think of how this understanding would affect our conduct. All of the sick would be visited and cared for just because we would be thinking about them. No one’s burdens would have to be borne alone - because brothers and sisters would always be there with arms extended to help pick them up. We would all be present at every service that our health allowed because we would be concerned about considering one another, to “provoke unto love and good works” (Hebrews 10:24). Arguments concerning non-doctrinal issues would be laid aside; they would cease, because the brethren involved in them would be most concerned about the others. Even when I have been sinned against, if I understand Paul’s teaching in Philippians 2, then I am going to be most concerned about the spiritual

welfare of the other person. That changes my entire attitude.

When I live my life recognizing that I am to follow Jesus' example and to see others as more important than myself, I will engage in personal evangelism even when it is inconvenient or makes me feel uncomfortable. I will be moral and conduct myself as a child of God should every minute of every day because I want to be the best possible example I can to everyone with whom I come into contact. Christianity is not just about me - that proved to be a hard lesson for me to learn. It is also about the other person.

-via *The Melrose Memo*; Richardson, Texas.



## *Striving For Perfection*

**Dennis Carrow**

"Perfect!" A term used loosely for defining numerous things. We call a well made meal, "perfect." We may hear one refer to a well thrown ball as "a perfect pass," or a pleasant day as "perfect weather." However, when it comes to our spiritual lives, we generally hear, "I'm not perfect." Then, we are instructed by Jesus during the sermon on the mount to, "be perfect, just as your Father is perfect" (Matthew 5:48). So, obviously, there are various things intended by the expression "perfect."

Generally, when we read the term in the Bible it refers to a state of being complete or mature. The conclusion of the first chapter from the sermon on the mount calls us to be perfect (Matthew 5), but one of our most popular phrases is "nobody's perfect," and the Scriptures tell us "all have sinned and come short of the glory of God" (Romans 10:23).

As Christians, we are to grow and become mature. The Hebrew writer states, "*leaving the discussion of the elementary principles of Christ, let us go on to perfection, not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God*" (Hebrews 6:1). This state of maturity has to do with the knowledge and life application of God's will. In the context of Hebrews chapters five and six, there were those who should have

been further along in their ability to communicate God's will. "*For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you again the first principles of the oracles of God; and you have come to need milk and not solid food. For everyone who partakes only of milk is unskilled in the word of righteousness, for he is a babe. But solid food belongs to those who are of full age, that is, those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil*" (Hebrews 5:12-14). Where are you in your understanding and application of God's word?

The start of a new year is a good time to begin a daily Bible reading program. As we assimilate the knowledge of God's will in our lives, let us look for opportunities to share it with others. May each of us strive for perfection.

*"Brethren, do not be children in understanding; however, in malice be babes, but in understanding be mature"* (1 Corinthians 14:20).

-via *What is True?*; Little Rock, Arkansas.

## *News & Notes*

### **THE SICK:**

#### *In The Hospital:*

*Raymond Brown*; Denver Jewish Medical Center  
*Ruth Lawson*; HealthSouth- Huntsville

#### *At Home:*

Gayle Ball	Katherine Stoffregen
Lola Colwell	Harold Hays
Sue Warren	Evelyn Hays
Robert Tinnon	Polly Davis
Gladys Johnson	Bobbie Adcock
Molly Weeks	Buddy Lawson
Jeff Waddell	Wayne Garner
Thomas Lovell	Marie Welden
Mark Hargrove	Sue Hargrove

#### *Athens Convalescent Center:*

Betty Bates, rm. 17

#### *Limestone Health Facility:*

Essie Belle Bates, rm. 118	J.D. Clanton, rm. 11E
Mary Smith, rm. 85	Rosella Pugh, rm. 83

#### *Limestone Manor:*

Albert & Mary Norton, rm. 96

#### *Limestone Lodge:*

Ruth Owens, rm. 12W

**Shut-In:**

Sarah Halbrook, Glade Retirement, Memphis, Tenn.  
Reba Adams, at home  
Mary Coggins, at home  
Majorie Lambert

**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:

- Brandi Lawrence; Afghanistan
- Joel Smith; Iraq
- Whitney Smith; Japan

**BAPTISMS:** We rejoice over the baptisms of *Paul Hasting* and his grandson, *Brandon Griswold*, this past Thursday afternoon at the Market Street building. We are thankful for their good hearts and desire to please God. May the Lord bless them both with many years to serve Him.

**CHILDREN’S BIBLE DRILL:** This afternoon at 4:30 will be the time for our Children’s Bible drill. I hope that all of our children will be able to be present.

**WORK GROUPS:** This evening following our evening worship service will be the time for Work Group 2 to meet. If you are in group two, remember to meet with your group this evening.

**NURSERIES AVAILABLE:** There are two nurseries available for those who will need them. One is in the west wing and the other in the east wing.

**THE RECORD:** Attendance— Week of February 7th

**Sunday:** Bible Classes..... 112  
Morning Worship ..... 156  
Evening Worship..... 101

**Wednesday:**  
Bible Classes..... 99

# Gospel Meeting

April 18-22, 2010

Buc Chumbley, Speaking

Market Street church of Christ

514 West Market Street  
Athens, Alabama

## Men Privileged To Serve:

### Sunday, February 14th:

#### Morning Worship

Announcements ..... Joel Hamm  
Song Leader ..... Tyler Cox  
Prayer ..... Larry Mitchell  
Preaching ..... David Cox  
Lord’s Supper  
Presiding ..... Frank Noblitt  
Assisting ..... Bonnie Sutton  
Serving ..... Danny Johnson ... Nathaniel Adams  
..... Hunter Cox..... Marvin Putman  
Closing Prayer ..... Tommy Burns

#### Evening Worship

Announcements ..... Joel Hamm  
Song Leader ..... Tyler Cox  
Prayer ..... Dwaine Allfrey  
Preaching ..... David Cox  
Lord’s Supper ..... Bonnie Sutton  
Closing Prayer ..... Rusty Brand

#### Other Assignments for Sunday, February 14th:

Usher ..... Delmer Carter  
Work Sound System ..... Danny Johnson

### Wednesday, February 17th:

Song Leader ..... Marion Mitchell  
Bible Reading..... (Proverbs 30:11-20)  
..... Russ Wulfekuhl  
Prayer ..... Marty Adams  
Invitation ..... Rusty Brand  
Closing Prayer ..... Larry Mitchell

### Sunday, February 21st:

#### Morning Worship

Announcements ..... Dwaine Allfrey  
Song Leader ..... Tommy Burns  
Prayer ..... Bonnie Sutton  
Preaching ..... David Cox  
Lord’s Supper  
Presiding ..... Jerry McGlocklin  
Assisting ..... Dwaine Allfrey  
Serving ..... Mark Rogers ..... Ronnie Locke  
..... Chris Sides ..... Landon Adams  
Closing Prayer ..... Gilbert Hardy

#### Evening Worship

Announcements ..... Dwaine Allfrey  
Song Leader ..... Tommy Burns  
Prayer ..... Nathaniel Adams  
Preaching ..... Marty Adams  
Lord’s Supper ..... Jerry McGlocklin  
Closing Prayer ..... Marion Mitchell

#### Other Assignments for Sunday, February 21st:

Usher ..... Rusty Brand  
Work Sound System ..... Marty Adams