

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
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Volume II

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No. 43

Two Ways You Can Encourage Others

Matthew H. Allen

We are first introduced to Philemon in the small letter written by Paul. He opens the letter by referring to Philemon as a beloved brother and fellow worker of the Lord. His family was busy in the kingdom. Philemon and his wife, Apphia, opened their home to the local congregation for worship. His son, Archippus was most likely an evangelist in Colosse as Paul mentions him in Colossians 4:17. God has chosen not to reveal to us Philemon's age, work or the time and circumstances of his death. Tradition tells us that he and his wife were stoned for the cause of Jesus during the reign of the Roman emperor Nero. While we do not have every detail of his life, we have what is important and necessary: Philemon and his family were godly and did their best to love the Lord and encourage others.

In verse seven, Paul writes: For I have come to have much joy and comfort in your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, brother. By the usage of the word "refreshed," we know that Philemon spent his life ministering to the needs of those around him. This is the meaning of the term, and it is used by Paul throughout the New Testament. "Refresh" is used in 1 Corinthians 16:18, 2 Corinthians 7:13, and 2 Timothy 1:16.

Think of how we are encouraged or refreshed spiritually when someone takes the time to send a card our way, helps us with a home project, invites us to dinner, or just gives us a hug. We can be encouraged and uplifted just by being present at worship and Bible study! Since we know these things help us, we should be ready to return the favor to others. In fact, we have a responsibility to carry through with this as Christians. Each day we are presented with opportunities to encourage others. For example:

We can encourage others by praying for them. Paul specifically solicited prayers from other Christians, Romans 15:30-31. He urged them to pray for his work and success in spreading the gospel. Praying for our evangelistic efforts to succeed and for one another must become a top

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 R. Adams.....(256) 233-5147
Rusty Brand.....(256) 233-7343
Joel Hamm.....(256) 230-6223
Stuart Wilson.....(256) 233-6291

Evangelists

David A. Cox.....(256) 233-8910
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Warren Glass.....(256) 497-3138

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MARKET STREET MESSENGER

*is published in the interest of New Testament
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Market Street church.*

David A. Cox, Editor

priority. Use the weekly prayer list! Use the email to solicit prayers through the week. We can pray for those who may be changing jobs; young Christians, our Bible classes and teachers, those who are sick, young married couples, or widows and widowers, the elderly, those who are spiritually sick, and those who are burdened by cares and troubles.

Think for a moment how the prayers of those around you has helped you deal with the problems you face. It is wonderful to know that others are praying for you! Paul wrote, Devote yourselves to prayer, keeping alert in it with an attitude of thanksgiving, Colossians 4:2.

We can encourage others by being optimistic. In the book of Numbers, we read of how the Israelites were faced with a great problem--taking the land of Canaan. Unfortunately, the majority of people were pessimistic in their approach and did not believe they could accomplish the task. Caleb's attitude stands in great contrast to those around him. Numbers 13:30 says, Then Caleb quieted the people before Moses and said, "We should by all means go up and take possession of it, for we will surely overcome it." Caleb's optimism was fueled by his great trust in God! How strong is our faith? It is our faith that produces optimism! Remember, we walk by faith not by sight, 2 Corinthians 5:7. It is faith that trusts that God is at work in (us), both to will and to work for His good pleasure, Philippians 2:13. God is at work in us. When sight says something is impossible, faith says we will overcome with the help of God!

As we think about Philemon, I believe we can see that he would have been someone who would have refreshed others by praying for them and being optimistic. It would have been seen in his actions, his love, and his attitude. Can it be said of us that we are refreshing? Encouraging? Uplifting? Let us do our best to possess these kind of qualities in our spiritual lives. Let all things be done for edification, 1 Corinthians 14:26.

-via *New Living*; Brownsburg, Indiana.

For What Are We Preparing?

H. E. Phillips

This country is full of people who are busy providing and preparing for something, but what is it? In the process of this preparation for something in the future, they are losing their souls. Money plays a vital role in the building of new barns in which to bestow their goods for the future. That makes money the most important commodity sought after, and most people are after as much of it as they can get. There is very little importance to how they get it, just so they can get more and more. Several high ranking political figures have recently been toppled from their positions of power because of their greed for money. Even the ones who brought their downfall are guilty of the same things.

Jesus taught a lesson in the form of a parable, recorded in Luke 12:16-21, in which he pictures a man who gives all his talents and time to preparing for this life by way of wealth. He gave no thought to the life which is to come. When he reached the point in preparations for this life, when he thought he was secure, he said to himself: "Soul, thou has much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink, and be merry." This, I think, is the goal of most preparation today. Men will work hard to build a house in which to live. They will provide comfortable surroundings for their families and themselves. They will accumulate estates for later life and put their trust in that which is laid up for a "rainy day." All of it for this life of a few short years, and when this is done they think they are safe and all is well. But suddenly they face death and eternity. There is no real lasting security in earthly things, yet these are the objectives of the great majority of people on earth today. All here is vanity and vexation of spirit.

To what does the average person look forward in eternity? After the man in the parable had assured himself that he could now enjoy life because he has been successful in preparing for his life here, God said to him, "Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided?" What a terrifying realization! All his work for nothing. He had spent all his effort in providing for this life, and when he was ready to enjoy the fruits of his labors, his life is about to end. What would happen to all this work? What good was all the preparation for this life now that he was going to die?

Remember Our Study Periods

Sunday Mornings at 9:45 a.m.

Wednesday Evenings at 7:00 p.m.

Come and Join Us As We Study Together

How many millions are now in the same situation as this poor man.

As a conclusion to this parable, and the lesson which the Lord wants men to get: "So is he that layeth up treasure for himself and is not rich toward God." Every man and woman who emphasizes preparation for comforts and pleasures for this life and ignores preparation for eternity is in the class with this man who lost all. The day will come, and it may be sooner than you think, when your life will be required. Then what will happen to all those things which you prepared for this life? More importantly, what will you do about the failure to prepare for the judgment and for eternity?

It is right to provide for those things we need in this life, but it is wrong to push into second or third place the things of the Spirit. The most important preparation before us now is not the needs for the present, but for the time when we shall all appear before the Lord to account for the lives we have spend on the earth. When you put "making a living" before "serving the Lord" you are preparing for the present and not for eternity. No argument can change that. Then you put "having a good time" before "obeying God" you are making provisions for this life, and are not rich toward God.

Preparation for eternal life requires a faithful and constant study of God's word, an obedient life of worship and work for the Lord, and a faithful and regular attendance to all opportunities for public worship and edifying. Do not be a fool, as Jesus said this man was, but make you preparation for eternal life.

-via *Centerview Tidings*; Russellville, Alabama.



Amethyst, Thou Art A Jewel

Michael W. McLemore

Amethyst is a beautiful violet-colored variety of quartz. The Greeks believed it could protect its owner from drunkenness, thus they called the stone "Amethyst, which comes from the Greek "amethystos," meaning "not intoxicating."

Aristotle told the story of the word's mythological history. He asserted the Amethyst was a beautiful nymph

who invoked the aid of the goddess Artemis to protect her from Dionysus, the god of wine. Artemis did this by turning her into a precious gem, and Dionysus, in honor of his love for Amethyst, gave the stone its color and quality of preserving its wearers from the influence of wine. Wearing the stone supposedly guarded one from drunkenness.

Though the stone is never referred to in scripture, Christians recognize the Greek term "Amethyst." It is the word "methuo" joined with the Greek prefix "a." Bible students remember the accusation of the Jews on Pentecost, "These men are full of new wine" (Acts 2:13). Peter rejoined, "For these are not drunken (methuo,mwm) as you suppose" (v.15). The Greek prefix "a" is much akin to the Latin "in" or our English "un." It makes the word to which it is prefixed profoundly negative. Combined with the prefix "a" "methuo" is given a negative sense, hence "not drunk." Surely, amethyst is a jewel in every faithful Christian's character.

-via *The West End Way*; Richmond, Virginia

News & Notes

THE SICK:

In The Hospital:

Jane Meredith; Huntsville Hospital; rm. 668

Raymond Brown; Huntsville Hospital; MICU

Phil Pressnell; Vanderbilt Hospital; MICU rm. 8646

Eva Felker; UAB Hospital; rm. P720

Mary Bates; HealthSouth Rehab; rm. 323

At Home:

French Barksdale

Hazel Toone

Earl Davis

Bernice Thomas

David Gardner

Mary Ruth Gardner

Keena Adams

Scott Adams

Jeff Mitchell

Emma Clark

Jeff Waddell

Bernice Martin

Una King Currier

Jim Currier

Randy Graviett

Jesse Carter

Jess Shores

Athens Convalescent Center:

Betty Bates, rm. 17

Limestone Health Facility:

Essie Belle Bates, rm. 118

Rosella Pugh, rm. 74

J.D. Clanton, rm. 11E

Mary Smith, rm. 85

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

Lola Colwell, at home

Polly Davis, River City Care, Decatur, rm. 74

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.

GROUP MEETING: Remember tonight will be the time for group four to meet. If you are in group four, remember to meet with your group this evening.

NURSING HOME SINGING: Remember the singing at the Athens Convalescent on Tuesday at 5:30 p.m.

SYMPATHY: We want to express our deepest sympathy to **Freddie Mae Elmore** in the passing of her sister, *Shirley Marie Draper*, this past Monday in Tifton, Georgia. Her funeral was Thursday afternoon at Spry Funeral Home and burial in the Dement Cemetery... We also express our sympathy to **Bobby McGuire** and **Yvonne Pressnell** in the passing of their cousin, *Walter Cole "Bootie" McGuire*. His funeral was Saturday morning and the burial was in the New Salem Cenetry.

OUT OF TOWN: The Smiths: *Kenneth and Peggy* have been in Knoxville, Tennessee this weekend and plan to be back this evening... **The Mitchells:** *Larry and Peggy* have also been in Knoxville, Tennessee this weekend and plan to be back this evening... **Helen Blankenship** has been in the mountians this week on vacation.

GOSPEL MEETING: The **Capshaw church** in Capshaw is beginning a meetng today and it will continue through Wednesday with different speakers as follows: *Sunday – Everett Conn; Monday – Bobby Graham; Tuesday – David Harwell; Wednesday – Loren Stephens* ...The **Westview church** in Hartselle is beginning a meeting today and it will continue through Wednesday with *Derek Chancellor* preaching... The **West Madison Street church** in Pulaski, Tennessee is beginning a meeting today and it will continue through Wednesday with *Jim Walsh* preaching

THE RECORD: Attendance – Week of October 17th

Sunday:	Bible Classes.....	131
	Morning Worship	161
	Evening Worship	100
Wednesday:	Bible Classes.....	112

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, October 24th:

Morning Worship

AnnouncementsJerry McGlocklin
 Song Leader Tyler Cox
 Prayer Dwaine Allfrey
 Preaching Warren Glass
 Lord's Supper
 Presiding Stuart Wilson
 Assisting Kenneth Smith
 Serving Marvin Putman..... Landon Adams
 Raymond Brown..... Bonnie Sutton
 Closing Prayer Benton Ball

Evening Worship

AnnouncementsJerry McGlocklin
 Song Leader Tyler Cox
 Prayer Marty Adams
 Preaching Song Service
 Lord's Supper Kenneth Smith
 Closing Prayer Lifford Smith

Other Assignments for Sunday, October 24th:

Usher Russ Wulfekuhl
 Work Sound System Marty Adams

Wednesday, October 27th:

Song Leader Marion Mitchell
 Bible Reading..... (Isaiah 5:18-30)
 Marty Adams
 Prayer Landon Adams
 Invitation Warren Glass
 Closing Prayer Tommy Burns

Sunday, October 31st:

Morning Worship

AnnouncementsJoel Hamm
 Song Leader Stuart Wilson
 Prayer Larry Mitchell
 PreachingDavid Cox
 Lord's Supper
 Presiding Rusty Brand
 Assisting Tyler Cox
 Serving Mark Rogers Nathaniel Adams
 David Terry..... Marion Pepper
 Closing PrayerJonathan Keenon

Evening Worship

AnnouncementsJoel Hamm
 Song Leader Stuart Wilson
 Prayer Landon Adams
 PreachingDavid Cox
 Lord's Supper Rusty Brand
 Closing Prayer Dwaine Allfrey

Other Assignments for Sunday, October 31st:

Usher Delmer Carter
 Work Sound System Danny Johnson