

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

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
E-mail: david.a.cox@att.net
Warren Glass.....(256) 497-3138

Visit Us On The Web
MarketStreet-church.com

MARKET STREET MESSENGER

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David A. Cox, Editor

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No. 10

Critical Praying In Jesus' Life

W. Frank Walton

The Gospel of Luke, which emphasizes Jesus' humanity, also gives emphasis to the various times Jesus prayed. In all the important events of His life, Jesus turned to God in prayer. Do we see prayer as our first line of defense against Satan's attacks or merely a last ditch effort to avert disaster? The apostles in the early church would "devote ourselves...to prayer" (Acts 6:4).

1. **Consecration.** *"When all the people were baptized, it came to pass that Jesus also was baptized; and while He prayed, the heaven was opened"* (Luke 3:21). His baptism was the time of acceptance and consecration to His public mission of saving sinners (Matthew 3:13-15). It was a righteousness act in God's will that fulfilled His identification with sinners that He came to save. He was found in prayer. Also, Luke 9:18-51 shows Jesus twice consecrated in prayer (Luke 9:18, 21-22). This is the pivotal time recorded in Luke that marks the final home stretch toward the crucifixion in Jerusalem.

We need to be found in prayer when we consecrate ourselves to God's will, such as at baptism, the weekly partaking of the Lord's supper and each important task (1 Corinthians 11:23-32; Romans 12:1-2, 12; Acts 6:4, 13:1). Each of us has a mission from God, consecrated to obeying God at all times. Pray for help and wisdom to be faithful. God's work can only be done in the strength God supplies (Ephesians 6:10-13; Philippians 4:13).

2. **Decision.** *"Now it came to pass in those days that He went out to the mountain to pray, and continued all night in prayer to God. And when it was day, He called His disciples to Himself; and from them He chose twelve whom He also named apostles"* (Luke 6:12-13). Jesus spent all night praying over this momentous decision of selecting the apostles. Jesus would pour His life into theirs. They would carry on the gospel cause after His departure. The eternal destiny of billions is at stake. His vigil of prayer, in selecting the right men, insured His action would be in harmony with

the Father's will.

We may pray all night at a hospital emergency room for a loved one at death's door. Yet, we also need to pray long and hard over important decisions like: who to date, what college to attend, what career to pursue, when and where to make a job move, how to discipline a child, who to have as friends, how and when to approach a sinner with the gospel, etc. After prayer, it will be a more spiritual decision in harmony with God's will.

3. Temptation. In Luke 9:12-17, Jesus feeds the 5,000. *"Therefore when Jesus perceived that they were about to come and take Him by force to make Him king, He departed again to the mountain by Himself alone"* (John 6:15). He could have been their King, which would be a tempting short-cut from the cross. Jesus overcame temptation by seeking refuge in prayer. *"And when He had sent the multitudes away, He went up on the mountain by Himself to pray. Now when evening came, He was alone there"* (Matthew 14:23).

When we're tempted to sin, the last thing the Devil wants us to do is to pray to God. Temptations is designed to seduce us away from God (James 1:14). Prayer keeps us close to God, removes the deceptive mask of sin and blunts its alluring pull. Sin will keep us from praying or praying will keep us from sin.

4. Suffering. After enduring the cross' agony, Jesus prayed. *"And when Jesus had cried out with a loud voice, He said, 'Father, into Your hands I commit My spirit'"* (Luke 23:46). This was the nighttime prayer learned by every Jewish child from Psalm 31:5. Jesus wasn't bitter toward God in His suffering. He died with a trusting prayer on His lips. Prayer cushioned the jagged edge of death. He clung to God through the ordeal. Jesus shows us suffering can be overcome if we give ourselves in total trust to God's will.

When we suffer pain or disappointment, don't become bitter at God. *"When it's hardest to pray, pray hardest."* Remain faithful to the work He has given you to do. With a trusting prayer on our lips, God can see us through the very worst of times. *"Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your request be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus"* (Philippians 4:6-7).

-via *Teaching Truth*; Madison, Alabama

"Walk In Love"

R. J. Evans

"And walk in love, as Christ also has loved us and given Himself for us, and offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet smelling aroma" (Ephesians 5:2).

The apostle Paul made approximately fourteen references to the subject of love in his letter to the Ephesians. He tells them to "know the love of Christ which passes knowledge" (2:19); to speak "the truth in love" (4:15); he tells husbands to "love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church" (5:25). But in this article, we direct your attention to our text. To "walk in love" has reference to the manner in which we live and conduct our lives. It is to live a life that is patterned after and emulates the love of Christ. Thus, we are to live as though "the love of God has been poured out in our hearts" (Romans 5:5). We should keep love fresh and strong in our hearts and lives. Serving God without it is impossible (See 1 Corinthians 13). Let's consider some of the things love can do for us.

Love will make our homes happier. We can have a happy home without money, but we cannot have a happy home without love — "Better is a dinner of herbs where love is, Than a fatted calf with hatred" (Proverbs 15:7). From time to time we sing that beautiful hymn which says, "Where love is in the home there is happiness... Where love is in the home there's joy... Where love is in the home there's harmony... Where love is in the home contentment reigns... Where love is in the home there's peace." What beautiful sentiments!

Love will help keep us from mistreating one another. When Jesus was asked, "which is the greatest commandment in the law?" His answer had to do with love — "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself" (Matthew 22:36-39). Loving our neighbor as ourselves includes treating others as we would like to be treated (Matthew 7:12). Thus, it is understandable that the Hebrew writer admonished Christians to "Let brotherly love continue" (Hebrews 13:1). The Apostle Peter said: "Since you have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit in sincere love

of the brethren, love one another fervently with a pure heart” (1 Peter 1:22).

Love removes fear or dread. The cowardly or fearful will “have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death” (Revelation 21:8). We may be afraid of what others might think or do; we may be afraid of failure, etc. But perfect love removes those fears. “There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear; because fear involves torment. But he who fears has not been made perfect in love” (1 John 4:18).

Love makes obeying God’s commands much easier. Many view obeying and serving God as a tremendous chore or burden. But the Lord has provided us with all that we need. We show and express our love to God when we obey His commandments. And notice the words of the Apostle John: “For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments. And His commandments are not burdensome” (1 John 5:3).

There are many other blessings that come as a result of love. The world of sin loses its appeal (1 John 2:15-17); studying the Bible is a joy (Psalm 119:97); attending worship services is a blessing (Psalm 26:8; 122:1). And we could go on and on!

The wise man Solomon stated: “Hatred stirs up strife, But love covers all sins” (Proverbs 10:12). One question: Could the lack of the love of Christ in our hearts be one of the greatest problems among Christians today?

-via *Westview Family News*; Athens, Alabama.



Key Ingredient

Shane Williams

Many foods are incomplete without a key ingredient. Can you imagine pizza without cheese, a hamburger with no meat, or a snickers bar without chocolate?

The Christian life also has a key ingredient - love! Paul emphasized its value as he wrote his letter to the Corinthians. While instructing concerning spiritual gifts, he paused to say that even if we have gifts of speech

to talk to angels, have all knowledge and faith, give everything we have to feed the poor but don’t have love, we are nothing (1 Corinthians 13:1-3). We’ve missed the “more excellent way” (1 Corinthians 12:31).

A disciple of Jesus should love his family, his friends, fellow Christians, those who don’t know Christ and even his enemies (Luke 6:27-31). A true disciple is known by his love. “A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another” (John 13:34-35).

Purity of doctrine is important. Faith’s worth is irreplaceable, as are actions of obedient service to the Lord. However without love, we’re about as useful as peanut butter without peanuts! Let us make sure that our service to God flows from a heart of love. That’s the key ingredient.

-via *Melrose Memo*; Richardson, Texas

News & Notes

THE SICK:

In The Hospital:

Mary Norton; Huntsville Hosp., rm. 1746

At Home:

Irene Mitchell

Yvonne Pressnell

David Gardner

Mary Ruth Gardner

Rachel Grubbs

Janet Berryhill

Yvonne Sherbert

Bertha Johnson

Martha Rice

Jeff Mitchell

George Harris

Phillip Harwell

Jeff Waddell

Randy Graviett

Jesse Carter

Una King Currier

Jim Currier

Athens Convalescent Center:

Betty Bates, rm. 17

Limestone Health Facility:

Bernice Thomas, rm. 52

Rosella Pugh, rm. 74

Gladys Sandlin, rm. 107

Mary Smith, rm. 85

J.D. Clanton, rm. 11E

Limestone Manor:

Albert & Mary Norton, rm. 96

Shut-In:

Reba Adams, at home
Lola Colwell, at home
Polly Davis, River City Care, Decatur, rm. 74

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:

- Joel Smith; Iraq
- Andrew Deen; Japan
- Whitney Deen; Japan
- Matthew Cox; Iraq

GOSPEL MEETINGS: The *Jackson Drive church* is beginning a gospel meeting today and it will continue through Friday evening. The speaker in this meeting will be *Jerry Curry*.

CHILDREN'S BIBLE DRILL: Remember 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 for this.

TIME CHANGE NEXT SUNDAY: Next Saturday night when you go to bed remember to move your clocks forward one hour. We will be changing to daylight saving time next week.

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

VBS MEETING NEXT SUNDAY: Next Sunday afternoon at 4:15 we will have a planning meeting for our Vacation Bible School. I hope that everyone that is interested in teaching, assisting in classes or preparation of the classes or assisting in any way will be present. We will discuss the date, time, curriculum, etc. during this meeting.

WORK GROUPS: Tonight will be the night for work group one to meet. If you are in group one, 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.

THE RECORD: *For the Week of February 27th*

- Sunday:** Bible Classes..... 145
- Morning Worship 170
- Evening Worship..... 112
- Wednesday:** Bible Classes..... 108

Remember Our Service This Evening at 5:00.

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, March 6th:

Morning Worship

- Announcements Joel Hamm
- Song Leader Hunter Cox
- Prayer Dwaine Allfrey
- Preaching David Cox
- Lord's Supper
- Presiding Marion Mitchell
- Assisting Bonnie Sutton
- Serving Marvin Putman Paul Hasting
- Will Chumbley Harold Davis
- Closing Prayer Larry Mitchell

Evening Worship

- Announcements Joel Hamm
- Song Leader Hunter Cox
- Prayer Stuart Wilson
- Preaching David Cox
- Lord's Supper Marion Mitchell
- Closing Prayer Benton Ball

Other Assignments for Sunday, March 6th:

- Usher Danny Johnson
- Work Sound System Marty Adams

Wednesday, March 9th:

- Song Leader Stuart Wilson
- Bible Reading..... (Isaiah 15:1-9)
- Jonathan Keonon
- Prayer Jack Cannon
- Invitation David Cox
- Closing Prayer Jerry McGlocklin

Sunday, March 13th:

Morning Worship

- Announcements Marty Adams
- Song Leader Tommy Burns
- Prayer Stuart Wilson
- Preaching David Cox
- Lord's Supper
- Presiding Marion Mitchell
- Assisting Bonnie Sutton
- Serving Marvin Putman Paul Hasting
- Will Chumbley Harold Davis
- Closing Prayer Lifford Smith

Evening Worship

- Announcements Marty Adams
- Song Leader Tommy Burns
- Prayer Jonathan Keonon
- Preaching Warren Glass
- Lord's Supper Bonnie Sutton
- Closing Prayer Gilbert Hardy

Other Assignments for Sunday, March 13th:

- Usher Tyler Cox
- Work Sound System Danny Johnson