

# 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  
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

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

*David A. Cox, Editor*

Volume III

August 21, 2011

No. 34

## *When Dreams Turn To Doubt*

**Bubba Garner**

Nearly 10 times in the Scriptures, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob are mentioned together. They are the faces of the Patriarchal Age and of the covenant God made with the Hebrews. But have you ever noticed how much space is devoted in the book of Genesis to telling the story of the forth patriarch, Joseph? There is no effort to merely hit the highlights or skim the headlines of his life. In fact, the only other person who is given more chapters in the first book of the Bible is Abraham, the father of the faithful.

I think there's a reason for that. Many of us have felt what Joseph felt; we've been where Joseph was. That is, we've experienced the bitter disappointments of life. We've had things happen to us where even our own family members were against us. We've been accused of things that were not true and suffered just because we were trying to do the right thing.

But how many of us have endured these things and responded the way Joseph did? Who has taken hit after hit and kept an unflinching faith in God? Perhaps that's why so much space is given to telling his story. Joseph was called the "dreamer" by his brothers (Genesis 37:19). And he still serves as an example to the spiritual descendants of Abraham when our own dreams appear to be in doubt.

**You don't have to be a slave to your circumstances.** Joseph's brothers were so filled with hatred and jealousy toward him that they sold him for the equivalency of \$15, the price of a slave. Surely Joseph never dreamed his life would take a turn in that direction. But notice what path he pursued after his hopes seemingly came crashing down. "And the Lord was with Joseph, so he became a successful man" (Genesis 39:2).

Some people are looking for the perfect life. They want the perfect family who live in the perfect house and drives the perfect car in the perfect world. But that's not the way it works out. That's not even the

way it worked out for the man who holds the second-most amount of space in the book of Genesis. Yet, one of the common reactions when life deals us this way is to throw up our hands and concede defeat. You don't have to do that. You don't have to be a slave to bitterness, discouragement, and selfishness. When the Lord is with you, freedom is always in your future.

**When you've been wronged, you still have to act right.** Potiphar's wife, the original "Desperate Housewife," was after Joseph. She "looked with desire" (Genesis 39:7) at him and pursued him "day after day" (Genesis 39:10) to lie with her. What was the response of a handsome 17 year-old-boy who was a captive in a foreign land? "How then could I do this great evil and sin against God" (Genesis 39:9). In all that had happened to him, Joseph understood that committing fornication was not going to bring back what he had lost. Such a sin would only serve to make matters worse.

We have a tendency at times to add trouble to trouble. The husband has a bad day at the office, so he comes home and yells at his wife and kids. A teenager thinks his parents are treating him unfairly so he goes out drinking with his friends. A wife has a husband who won't communicate with her so she confides in another man and commits adultery. What problems do such actions solve? What relationships are repaired? Sin never makes a wrong right. Let our behavior, no matter the circumstances that surround us, be pleasing to our Master in heaven.

**Your plans may not always meet with God's purpose.** Years later, Joseph made himself known to his brothers having risen to second-in-command of all Egypt. But he did not repay evil for evil or punish them for what they had done. By then, he could see the bigger picture. "For God sent me before you to preserve life...and to keep you alive by a great deliverance. Now, therefore, it was not you who sent me here, but God" (Genesis 45:5-8). Surely Joseph had earlier prayed for deliverance from his brothers and for release from prison. But those prayers were answered not according to his timetable but in His time.

We must maintain a similar faith in what God is working in our own lives. Remember, he causes "all things to work together for good to those who love God. To those who are called according to His purpose" (Romans 8:28). Joseph knew that the same God who brought him down to Egypt in an Ishmaelite

caravan would one day bring his family out of Egypt to inherit the land sworn to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob (Hebrews 11:22). May we have such a confidence in the plans and Purposes of God.

How will you respond the next time you encounter various trials? Joseph's example shows us that with God, our dreams really can come true.

-via *Family Items*, Athens, Alabama

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## ***"In Nothing Be Anxious..."***

**Jim McDonald**

*"...but in everything by prayer and supplications with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God"* (Philippians 4:1).

No ill likely affects the human family more than anxiety. Jesus, in His sermon on the mount, repeatedly addressed the problem. Six times He repeats the word with His warning against it. "Be not anxious for your life..." (Matthew 6:25). "...which of you by being anxious can add one cubit unto the measure of his life" (Matthew 6:27). "Why are you anxious concerning raiment" (Matthew 6:28)? "Be not therefore anxious, saying, what shall we eat..." (Matthew 6:31). "Be not anxious for the morrow; for the morrow will be anxious for itself..." (Matthew 6:34). When, in Matthew 6:25, Jesus urged us not to be anxious for our life—for food, drink, clothing; He reminds us that the life is more important than the food—that birds neither sow, reap nor gather into barns, yet God feeds them. He then asks this rather disquieting question: "Are ye of not more value than they?" Surely we are! In another similar parallel, He reminded His hearers of the worthlessness of the sparrow, but of which bird God never loses sight of. Surely, if "His eye in on the sparrow," His caring eye is on you and on me.

Jesus discussed the futility of anxiety in Matthew 6:27 when He asked, "And which of you by being anxious can add one cubit unto his life?" Feasibly we might shorten our lifespan by anxiety but there is little

possibility we will lengthen it with worry! One variant reading of this passage reads, "And which of you by being anxious can add one cubit unto the measure of his height?" We should never forget that the size of a man is not measured by his height; that the fullness of life comes not in how long he lives but what he fills each day with while he lives.

Then Jesus discussed clothing. "Why are you anxious concerning...?" He called attention to the beauties of nature, reminded us that the soft hues of color so resplendent in the Spring is far more glorious than the splendor of Solomon's wardrobe. Yet, the lilies, the spring flowers, are both destined to fade and die, cast into the oven. Surely man, whose eternal spirit never dies, will also be clothed by God who knows its true worth!

Jesus tells us that the Gentiles scurry here and there in anxiety for the cares of this life. They have no faith in a heavenly father for providing their needs. Let us not be people of doubt, but men of faith.

Yet when all is said and done; try as hard as we may, the frail creature we are never fully eliminates anxiety from our lives for not even Paul who wrote the words, "In nothing be anxious," was not totally free of care. His anxiety over the fate of the Thessalonian brethren was evident from the way he addressed them in his first letter to them. His care for the Corinthian brethren caused him to press on across the sea from Troas to Philippi, although there was an open door for the word there (2 Corinthians 2:12f). When he wrote the Corinthians of his cares he used the word anxiety to describe himself: "Besides these things that are without, there is that which presseth upon me daily, anxiety for all the churches" (2 Corinthians 11:28).

Let me "borrow" another phrase from Paul. "Are we excusing ourselves" by calling attention to the fact that not even Paul developed a life totally free from anxiety? By no means. Paul's anxiety was basically for others and their well being; seldom for his own self. And perhaps in the years between the Corinthian letter and the Philippian letter (likely six or seven years), he also had grown in faith and maturity for he does say in that letter that "I have learned in whatever state I am in, therein to be content" (Philippians 4:11). He had to learn contentment and peace--the opposites of anxiousness. And so must we!

-via *The Gospel Teacher*; Lufkin, Texas.

# News & Notes

## THE SICK:

Mot Beasley	Delmer Carter
Rachel Grubbs	Bobbie Adcock
David Gardner	Martha Rice
Mary Ruth Gardner	Jack Jones
Wayne Bolton	Una King Currier
Jeff Waddell	Millinea Threet
Matt Poff	Phillip Harwell
Mary Dean	Brent Lowman
Joe Collier	Sarah Collier
Paige Phillips	Wanda Taylor
Randy Graviett	Barbara Ogles
Don Bowling	Robbie Shoulders

## *In The Hospital:*

*Lifford Smith*; Huntsville Hospital, ICU  
*Gladys Sandlin*; Health South Rehab., rm. 320  
*Rhett Bailey*; St. Jude's Hosp. Memphis, Tenn.

## *Athens Convalescent Center:*

Betty Bates, rm. 17

## *Limestone Health Facility:*

Janet Berryhill, rm. 65	Annie Mae Bragg, rm. 57
Mary Smith, rm. 85	Rosella Pugh, rm. 74
J.D. Clanton, rm. 11E	

## *Limestone Manor:*

Albert Norton, rm. 98

## *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:

Andrew Deen; Japan  
 Whitney Deen; Japan  
 Matthew Cox; Iraq

**HONOR TO WHOM HONOR:** There have been and are a number of things that various individuals do regularly that seem to go unnoticed many times. The ladies that arrange the flowers at the building each week here, those who bake the bread for the Lord's Supper and those that fill the communion cups. These various

works go on week to week and we need to remember those who do these works and express our appreciation for them. Also, we have the flower fund that *Virginia Tucker* looks after and *JoAnn Gilbert* who orders the flowers. Recently, *Mary Cecil Keenon* has gone into the church's library and has organized it and cleaned it up. Also, several of our teachers, worked moving the teachers wookroom from the west wing to the east wing. They cleaned out much clutter and have organized the teaching materials and supplies. Let us also be mindful of the work *Marion Pepper* does in working around the building and keeping it cleaned and maintained. Also, *Bonnie Sutton* for the work he does in keeping the outside of the building and the grounds so well groomed and looking nice. Also, we do not need to forget the work of all the elders and deacons here and the hours of time they give to the work of the church here. Also, remember all of those who are involved in teaching the Bible classes that we have here at Market Street every Sunday morning and Wednesday evening. Indeed, there are many involved in doing many things. We need to remember to stop and say "thank you" for their labor.

**OUR GOSPEL MEETING:** Remember our gospel meeting is quickly approaching. The dates are September 11-14. The speakers will be: **Sunday** – *Jeff McCrary*; **Monday** – *Steve Klein*; **Tuesday** – *Norm Webb*; **Wednesday** – *Lance Taylor*. The services will begin at 7:00 p.m. Monday through Wednesday.

**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.

**NURSING HOME SINGING:** It was such a joy last week as we gathered to sing to the residents there. So many of them would come to their door to listen and several even joined us as we went down the hallways. If it is where you can be available on a Tuesday evening to come and sing for about an hour, come and join us there. I know that you will be glad you did. Remember the singing at the Athens Convalescent is on Tuesday at 5:30 p.m.

**THE RECORD:** *For the Week of August 14th*

**Sunday:** Bible Classes..... 137  
 Morning Worship ..... 174  
 Evening Worship..... 114

**Wednesday:** Bible Classes..... 110

**Men Privileged To Serve:**

**Sunday, August 21st:**

*Morning Worship*

Announcements ..... Dwaine Allfrey  
 Song Leader ..... Joel Hamm  
 Prayer ..... Nathaniel Adams  
 Preaching ..... David Cox  
 Lord's Supper  
 Presiding ..... Marty Adams  
 Assisting ..... Larry Mitchell  
 Serving ..... Tommy Coblentz ..... Paul Hasting  
 ..... Harold Davis ..... Jonathan Keenon  
 Closing Prayer ..... Hunter Cox

*Evening Worship*

Announcements ..... Dwaine Allfrey  
 Song Leader ..... Joel Hamm  
 Prayer ..... Terry Andrews  
 Preaching ..... Stuart Wilson  
 Lord's Supper ..... Larry Mitchell  
 Closing Prayer ..... Jack Cannon

Other Assignments for Sunday, August 21st:  
 Usher ..... David Terry  
 Work Sound System ..... Danny Johnson

**Wednesday, August 24th:**

Song Leader ..... Hunter Cox  
 Bible Reading..... (Isaiah 29:11-16)  
 ..... Danny Johnson  
 Prayer ..... Bonnie Sutton  
 Invitation ..... Warren Glass  
 Closing Prayer ..... Jerry McGlocklin

**Sunday, August 28th:**

*Morning Worship*

Announcements ..... Joel Hamm  
 Song Leader ..... Stuart Wilson  
 Prayer ..... Bonnie Sutton  
 Preaching ..... Warren Glass  
 Lord's Supper  
 Presiding ..... Marty Adams  
 Assisting ..... Larry Mitchell  
 Serving ..... Tommy Coblentz ..... Paul Hasting  
 ..... Harold Davis ..... Jonathan Keenon  
 Closing Prayer ..... Tyler Cox

*Evening Worship*

Announcements ..... Joel Hamm  
 Song Leader ..... Stuart Wilson  
 Prayer ..... Nathaniel Adams  
 Preaching ..... David Cox  
 Lord's Supper ..... Larry Mitchell  
 Closing Prayer ..... Marcus Morris

Other Assignments for Sunday, August 28th:  
 Usher ..... David Terry  
 Work Sound System ..... Danny Johnson