

Volume IV

Market Street church of Christ

514 West Market Street P.O. Box 388 Athens, Alabama 35612 Phone (256) 232-1525

Schedule of Services

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

Evangelist

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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

August 12, 2012

No. 33

The Road To Higher Education

Dee Bowman

We have several young people who are soon going away to college. Some have been home for the summer and are about to return for a new semester. We love you all and we're very proud of you. We miss you when you're gone.

The road you're about to travel is at once an exciting and dangerous one. The road to higher education is laced with great possibilities, while at the same time offering pitfalls you will want to avoid at all costs. I just want a few minutes of your time to suggest some things to help you as you travel this new road and are immersed in this new environment. Is that OK?

My admonitions are based on the Psalm 119:9-16. "Wherewith shall a young man cleanse his way?" it asks.

Stay close to God's word (vs. 9). "Wherewithal shall a young man cleanses his way?" That is the question. And the answer is forthcoming. "By taking heed thereto according to thy word." No matter what you do this year, don't stray far from the word of God. Keep it close. It's your protection against evil inclinations and cultural temptations.

Seek the Lord whole-heartedly (vs. 10). "With my whole heart have I sought thee." Some changes are inevitable, but that doesn't mean everything needs to change. Some things need to stay as they are. You don't want to change what you are. You're a Christian. You decide what you're going to do—and that's well and good—but plan to seek God with your whole heart, no matter your plans. Keep your faith above all keeping. No change is needed there.

Take the word with you (vs. 11). "Thy word have I hid in my heart." You'll be going some places that are new to you; and some of those new places are dangerous. Hide His word in your heart so that you are armed against the invasions of evil you no doubt will face. What a good way to begin this new time in your life—with His word in your heart.

Invite divine instruction (vs. 12). "Teach me thy statutes," he says.

You will be getting considerable new information about how to live life in your new educational career, but you should not forget to invite some new instruction concerning your eternal career. Being a good Christian is more important than being a good engineer, or a good nurse, or a good anything else. Learn about Him and you get the best of all educations.

Don't be ashamed of who you are (vs. 13). It's easy to get caught up in this new life. And it's easy to just follow along with others, some of whom don't share your convictions. Don't let that happen. It's important that you make it known early on that you are different. Don't be ashamed. Be glad about who you are and let others know. Declare it with joy and without timidity.

Don't be dismayed at the discipline of God's word (vs. 14). It's easy, when you've just been loosed from the rules of home and you're in charge of your life, to be a little loose about the discipline of God's word. Instead of treating the word of God with rejoicing, you may feel somewhat hemmed in by it. Remember, God's word never requires anything or restricts anything that is not for your good. "I have rejoiced in the way of thy testimonies," says that you understand its discipline to be for your good.

Keep in mind the really important things in your life (vs. 15). No matter how good the education you get, it's not as important, nor is it as functional, as is knowing and loving God and His word. "I will meditate on thy precepts," the psalm says. Don't get so busy with your new life that you don't take time to contemplate the eternal, to muse about the spiritual, to remember what has true value and lasting consequences. Meditation takes time. Take the time.

Delight in His word and don't forget its influence in your life (vs. 16). Of all the books you can study, none should delight your mind more than the word of the Lord. It's the first thing you need to live a happy life, first before any other book. When it's coupled with the good education you will no doubt achieve, it can bring you a totally satisfying life. Without it, you can never be truly happy. "I will delight myself in thy statutes: I will not forget thy ways." We love you, gang. We're proud of you— every one of you. You continue to be a joy to all of us. As you leave, please remember who you are, from whence you are come, and where you're going. And come home again soon.

~via Southside Sunday; Pasadena, Texas.

The Truth About Sin

Paul Smith

Several years ago, the title of a book that was published asked the question, Whatever Became of Sin? Well, I must confess in a world where evil men and imposters proceed from bad to worse (2 Timothy 3:13) it does seem as if the word "sin" has disappeared from the humanvocabulary. Even today, this seems to be finding its way into the church.

My responsibility as a Christian, and most certainly as an evangelist, is not to join the majority in a world of evil who would seek to circumvent the issue or attempt to whiten up the blackness of sin. My obligation and yours as a disciple of Christ is "do not participate in the unfruitful deeds of darkness, but instead even expose them; for it is disgraceful even to speak of the things which are done by them in secret. But all things become visible when they are exposed by the light..." (Ephesians 5:11-13). Just what does sin do?

Sin hurts God. Too often when people sin they begin by mourning over the consequences of their sin, such as disgrace, poverty, disease, and emotional discomfort, rather than shedding tears because they realize they've sinned against a holy God. When David had been confronted with his sin, he confessed to God, "Against You, You only, I have sinned and done what is evil in Your sight" (Psalms 51:4). David declared later in (verse 17), "The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and a contrite heart, O God, You will not despise." David's heart was broken because he realized he had broken the very heart of God. Sin hurts God!

Sin hurts others. In my estimation it's selfishness to the core when people argue that their refusal to submit themselves to God only negatively affects them. What utter foolishness. Try reasoning this way with parents who shed tears at the funeral of their fourteen year old whose life was taken due to the drunk driver who thought his drinking wouldn't hurt anyone but himself. Try convincing a broken-hearted woman whose world is devastated by the adultery of her husband, and now she is forced to explain to her three children why daddy left her for another woman. Sin hurts others!

Sin is expensive. How much pain and heartache could be avoided if only people would recognize the

high price of sin. Sin is so expensive. Sin will take you farther than you wanted to go, keep you longer than you wanted to stay, and cost you more than you ever intended to pay. Sin is expensive!

Sin will be dealt with by God. Too many ignore sin and its wages (Romans 6:23) and think that somehow their sins will go unnoticed or be overlooked by God. Too many want to sow "wild oats," and then pray for crop failure. God's spiritual law of sowing and reaping doesn't work that way. "Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, this he will also reap. For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life" (Galatians 6:7-8). God will deal with sin and the sinner who refuses to repent. "For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may be recompensed for his deeds in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad" (2 Corinthians 5:10). Don't kid yourself, your sins will be brought into judgment; even those things that others don't know about. "For God will bring every work into judgment, including every secret thing, whether good or evil" (Ecclesiastes 12:14). Sin will be dealt with by God!

Sin can be forgiven. What good news! Not that we have sinned, but that God in His grace will abundantly pardon any and all sins if we will truly confess them and forsake them. "For You, Lord, are good, and ready to forgive, and abundant in loving kindness to all who call upon You" (Psalms 86:5). Is there any message that brings hope like the good news that God forgives?

When all is said and done, the tragedy of sin is best seen in the price God was willing to pay for its removal. If sin is trivial, Christ's death is trivial. "For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your forefathers, but with the precious blood of Christ..." (1 Peter 1:18-19). Only Jesus is the answer to our sin problem, and that's the truth about sin!

~via The Cedar Park Church Bulletin r Cedar Park, Texas.

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

News & Notes

THE SICK:

Nancy Abernathy Wynell Casteel Mary Ruth Gardner Betty Faye Holt Ava Brooke Campbell Henry Hobbs David Hartsell Reverie Barksdale Leroy Davenport Una King Currier Steve Klein Bobbie Adcock Yvonne Sherbert Will Carl Sullivan Charles Burns Jeffery Miller Matt Poff Mary Holt Marie Bates Phillip Harwell Gladys Sandlin Joe Olson

In The Hospital:

David Gardner; Huntsville Hosp.; rm. 766 *Eli Williams*; St. Jude's Hospital; Memphis, Tenn.

Athens Convalescent Care:

Hazel Toone, rm. 10 Beulah Pope, rm. 100

Limestone Health Facility:

Janet Berryhill, rm. 75-BMae Bragg, rm. 57Albert Norton, rm. 36Frances Bowers, rm. 37J.D. Clanton, rm. 11ERosella Pugh, rm. 74Albert Bowers rm. 115-B

Brookshire Healthcare - Huntsville:

Rachel Grubbs, rm. 112-C

Shut-In:

Reba Adams, at home Lola Colwell, at home Polly Davis, River City Care, Decatur, rm. 74 Ruby Davis, Valley View Health, Madison, rm. 51-A

LADIES BIBLE CLASS: The Ladies' Bible class meets each Tuesday at 10:30 a.m. If you are a lady, and are able to meet with them, please join them in this study.

WORK GROUPS: Work Group three will be meeting this evening after our evening service. If you are in group three, remember to meet with your group tonight.

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

BARBADOS TRIP/MEETINGS: It was good to arrive home on Tuesday after being away on a trip to Barbados. It was great to be afforded the opportunity to be with the brethren there. The week was very busy with Men's Leadership Classes on Saturday, July 28th and Saturday, August 5th. During the week we conducted gospel meetings at the *Hindsbury Road church* and the *Barbarees Hill church*. In addition, a Vacation Bible School was conducted each morning Monday through Friday at the *Hindsbury Road church*. It was my privilege to be accompanied on this trip by brother *Jeremy Paschall*. Also, *Mike, Christy, Emily, Paul, James and Luke Phillps* and *Charles and Shirley Giesecke* from *Plano, Texas* came to assist with the VBS. Thank you for all your prayers and support of this work. Also, I want to personally thank *Warren Glass* and *Jordan Lovell* for teaching my classes and preaching for me while I was away. I know that you all profitted from the studies and lessons.

OUT OF TOWN: *The Lovells: Jordan, Heather, Aiden and Rylee* have been out of town this past week in Florida on vacation.

GOSPEL MEETINGS: This week the Armore church in Ardmore will be engaged in a gospel meeting through Friday night. Services will begin at 7:00p.m. There will be different speakers as follows: Sunday am – Alton Bailey; Sunday pm – Jeff Smith; Monday – Eric Reynolds; Tuesday – Matthew Carter; Wednesday – Jordan Lovell; Thursday – Joshua Webber; Friday – Jeff Harwell.... The North Huntsville church will begin a meeting on Friday of this week and it will continue through next Sunday. The speaker in this meeting will be Tom Holley. Services on Friday and Saturday will begin at 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday: Bible Classes.....104



September 16-20, 2012

(Sunday through Thursday)

Schedule of Services

Sunday 9:30 a.m; 10:45 a.m. & 5:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday– 7:00 p.m.

Buc Chumbley, Speaking

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

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, August 12th:

Morning Worship

	Kenneth Smith Tyler Cox
	Steve Bradley
Preaching	David Cox
Lord's Supper	
Presiding	Terry Andrews
Assisting	Stuart Wilson
	Will Chumbley Tommy Burns
	Stefan Fudge Danny Johnson
Closing Prayer	Dwaine Allfrey

Evening Worship

Announcement	Kenneth Smith
Song Leader	
Prayer	
Preaching	David Cox
Lord's Supper	Terry Andrews
Closing Prayer	Larry Mitchell

Other Assignments for Sunday,	August 12th:
Usher	
Work Sound System	Landon Adams

Wednesday, August 15th:

Song Leader	Joel Hamm
Song Leader Bible Reading	Isaiah 47:12-15
	Russ Wulfekuhl
Prayer	Nathaniel Adams
Prayer Invitation	David Cox
Closing Prayer	

Sunday, August 19th:

Morning Worship

Announcements		Marcus Morris
Song Leader		Stefan Fudge
Prayer		Kenneth Smith
Preaching		David Cox
Lord's Supper		
Presiding		Bonnie Sutton
Assisting		Joel Hamm
Serving	Mot Dollar	Marion Pepper
Closing Prayer		

Evening Worship

Announcement	Marcus Morris
Song Leader	
Prayer	Jordan Lovell
Preaching	Ťodd Willams
Lord's Supper	Bonnie Sutton
Closing Prayer	Stuart Wilson

Other Assignments for Sunday, August 19th: Usher Keenon Currier Work Sound System Nathaniel Adams