

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

Volume IV

September 30, 2012

No. 40

The Phone Call That Was Never Made

Bill Hall

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) 777-6737
Bonnie Sutton..... (256) 232-2081

Deacons

Marty R. Adams..... (256) 233-5147
Tommy Coblenz (256) 232-3212
Joel Hamm..... (256) 230-6223
Larry Mitchell (256) 230-0185
Todd Williams..... (205) 541-8304
Russ Wulfekuhl (256) 683-9396

Evangelist

David A. Cox (256) 233-8910
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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

It's Sunday afternoon, and you and your family are invited to the Smiths for sandwiches and dessert after the evening service. The invitation was extended earlier in the week and you accepted. But now something else has come up that you would rather do, so you go to the phone to cancel your engagement. But before you dial, think for a moment...

At the very time you are thinking of canceling, others are having similar thoughts. Within one hour, Mrs. Smith will receive calls from five of the seven couples she has invited, saying that they won't be coming. It's too late to invite others. It's too late to cancel plans altogether. Food will be wasted; time will have been wasted; the occasion will not be as happy and relaxed because of the smaller number; and Mrs. Smith will be hurt and deeply disappointed. *If you call, your cancellation will be unfair to Mrs. Smith.*

Were you canceling because of an emergency, your cancellation would be legitimate. But that's not why you are canceling. You are canceling because there is something you would rather do. You are only thinking of self rather than of others. You were prepared to enjoy the Smiths' hospitality unless something that sounded more exciting and enjoyable were to come up. *If you call, your cancellation will demonstrate your selfishness and lack of regard for the Smiths.*

Mrs. Smith will be so discouraged by the cancellations that she will find it hard to invite another group in. She knows that the Bible says. "Be hospitable to one another without grumbling" (1 Peter 4:9). And that God's people are to be "hospitable" (Titus 1:8). In fact, this is why she had included you in the group she was inviting. She wanted to become better acquainted with you, to build a friendship with you, and to help you to form close ties with others in the church. But it will all fall through. The only ones that will end up coming will be their closest friends. The primary purpose in extending hospitality will be thwarted. It will be hard to try again. *If you call, your cancellation will prove to be a*

discouragement to Mrs. Smith in doing God's will.

Mrs. Smith will, in time, throw off her discouragement and invite another group in, but, right or wrong, you probably will not be included. She will be inviting those whom she is quite sure will appreciate the invitation and will not let her down. You will find yourself criticizing Mrs. Smith for inviting “the same old ones all the time,” but those “same old ones” are the people who accept invitations, keep their appointments, and truly enjoy their time in the homes of others. You will soon observe that these “same old ones” are the ones everybody invites, for they obviously like to be with people. Meanwhile, you will find yourself more and more isolated from Christians. *If you call, your cancellation, in time, will find you spending less time with God's people and becoming more negative toward them.*

In canceling, you are not being kind; you are acting unbecomingly toward Mrs. Smith; you are seeking your own interests rather than the interests of others. *If you call, your cancellation will demonstrate a lack of love for others* (1 Corinthians 13:4-8).

So, before you pick up that phone, think about others, and you might just go on to the Smiths after all. In fact, you might just go through a complete attitude change, developing a positive feeling toward the evening. Having changed your attitude, you will enjoy the time with other Christians. You will see that Mrs. Smith is really glad that you came. You might even want to have the same group over to your house sometime, and you will be hoping oh, how strongly you will hope – that none of them will call to cancel. You will become a better person, more loving, more hospitable, more involved with other Christians, all because of the phone call that was never made.

~via *Pepper Road Church Bulletin*; Athens, Alabama.

Beacon of Truth

Radio Program

Every Sunday Morning

on WVNN

770AM – 92.5 FM

8:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.

Market Street church of Christ

Mature Sins

Gary Patton

Satan is always trying to find different ways to entrap God's children into sin. One of the ways he uses is to refer to sin with less incrimination language. For example, he has gotten the people of the world to refer to homosexuality as an “alternative lifestyle.” He tries to get all to believe it is not really a sinful relationship, but just another way of living one's life acceptably. He has turned the sin of drunkenness into a sickness, and one is not therefore responsible for his condition. He entices Christian women to wear immodest clothes by saying “It's the style.” So if it is called “stylish,” he wants Christians to feel it is not wrong to dress immodestly when God teaches otherwise.

One of the more damaging code phrases he puts forth in our day is the expression of “mature or adult” viewing. The scam he fosters is that if you are an adult it is permissible to view and support practices that the Bible calls sin. Recently, the TV industry was ordered to rate the content of its programs as to their being suitable for children to view or not. On a recent interview, a board member of the ratings system suggested it is the industry's intent to have the hours from 9:00 P.M. (EST) and following as mature viewing time and not for children. This meant that the programming from this hour on was going to include programs with strong sexual content, strong (vulgar) language, and graphic violence. In reality, the “mature or adult” rating justifies the programmers to include just about as much sin as they want to in their programs.

To the child of God, the ratings of R, PG, and PG-13 on the movies and TV ratings for mature audiences should be a warning to turn off the TV or not purchase a ticket at the theater. Of course, Satan wants the Christian to think that if he is over 18 years of age, it is OK to be entertained by sin. The message he wants to give is that it won't hurt them to enjoy viewing and listening to sinful actions.

How different this concept is from what God teaches His children in the Bible. He tells us to “Abstain from all appearance of evil” (1 Thessalonians 5:22). In Philip-
pians 4:8 we read, “Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things

are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy - meditate on these things." In Ephesians 5:3-4 He gives this list of sins: "But fornication and all uncleanness or covetousness, let it not even be named among you, as is fitting for saints; neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor coarse jesting, which are not fitting, but rather giving of thanks." Among those listed is the sin of "jesting" which is defined as "witty speech with sinful insinuations" The idea conveyed is to laugh at sin. If we like to laugh and be entertained by sin, it could lead us to the other acts listed in these verses. Sin is not to be laughed at or considered a form of wholesome entertainment, because when we reach such a state, we will find that we will think sin is not really that bad. When we get to this place in our thinking, then Satan has us in his grip.

The child of God must not be duped into thinking that since the world considers him an adult because he is over 18 years of age, it is acceptable to expose his mind and soul to programming that glorifies and endorses sinful behavior. Remember, Jesus said that except we become as little children we cannot enter the kingdom of Heaven (Matthew 18:2). We must strive to keep our minds on that which is pure and away from sin. In James 1:14-15 we are taught, "But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed. Then, when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death." The word "enticed" comes from a word that means to be "lured by bait." If the strong sexual content, immodest dress, filthy language and graphic violence is not bait to lure one to engage in sin, what would be? We are admonished in 1 John 2:15-17, "Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world - the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life - is not of the Father but is of the world. And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever." Brethren, we need to be as innocent as children in our viewing habits for entertainment. We must not be so filled with pride, since the world tells us we are adults, that we feel we can play with the fire of Satan and not get burned. We must obey James 4:7-8, "Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. Draw near to God and He will

draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded." When we are willing to do so, then we will also be able to avoid the "mature" sins of Satan.

~via *What Does The Bible Say?*; Florence, Alabama

News & Notes

THE SICK:

| | |
|-----------------|---------------------|
| Mot Beasley | Wayne Gooch |
| Gilbert Hardy | Gladys Johnson |
| Wynell Casteel | Yvonne Sherbert |
| Abby Gilbert | Mary Ruth Gardner |
| Carrie Miller | Scott Sandusky |
| Betty Faye Holt | Charles Burns |
| Mike Wulfekuhl | Ava Brooke Campbell |
| Jeffery Miller | Matt Poff |
| David Hartsell | Marie Bates |
| Phillip Harwell | Eli Williams |

In The Hospital:

Ronnie Locke; Madison Hospital; rm. 303
Una King Currier; East Glen Rehab; Birmingham

Athens Convalescent Care:

Hazel Toone, rm. 10 Beulah Pope, rm. 100
 Mary Holt, rm. 98

Limestone Health Facility:

Janet Berryhill, rm. 75-B Mae Bragg, rm. 57
 Albert Bowers, rm. 115-B Albert Norton, rm. 36
 Bobby McGuire, rm. 33A J.D. Clanton, rm. 11E
 Billy Sutton, rm. Rosella Pugh, rm. 74

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. They are engaged in a study called "The Barnabas Factor". If you are a lady, and are able to meet with them, please join them in this study. It will do you good.

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

NURSING HOME SINGING: Remember the singing at the Athens Convalescent on Tuesday at 5:30 p.m. If it is where you can come, please come participate in this good work.

ASHLEY GOOSEN HERE: Brother *Ashley Goosen* from *Limpopo, South Africa* will be at Market Street on Sunday, September 30th. The church at Market Street helps in the support of brother Goosen in his work in South Africa. The Market Street church began helping brother Goosen in his work in 2001. He has been working in the Eastern Cape province around Port Elizabeth. In February of this year, brother Goosen moved to the Northern part of South Africa to the Limpopo province. He is working with the church in *Tzaneen*. Brother Goosen will be giving a report on his work on this evening at our service. I hope that everyone will be here to hear his report.

OUT OF TOWN: The Rogers: *Mark, Kim and Peyton* are in Vernon this weekend. *Jordan Lovell* has been working out of town working the past week. Today, he is preaching at Ephesus.

GOSPEL MEETINGS: The *New Georgia church* is beginning a meeting today and it will continue through Wednesday evening. *Tim Sutton* will be the speaker in this meeting. Services will begin at 7:00 p.m.... The *College View church* in Florence is conducting a meeting this week through Thursday. *David Banning* is the speaker in this meeting.

CHILDREN'S BIBLE DRILL: Beginning Sunday October 7th, we will begin a Bible Drill for children. The Bible drill will begin at 4:40 and last about 15 minutes. It will be in the auditorium and will end about 5 minutes prior to the beginning of our evening service. I hope that all of our children will be able to be present.

SYMPATHY: We want to extend our deepest sympathy to *James and Reba Adams* and *all the family*, in the passing of his their son, *Jamie Adams*, this past Sunday morning. His funeral was Wednesday afternoon and the burial was at Hardy Cemetery.

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, September 30th:

Morning Worship

Announcements Tommy Coblentz
Song Leader Todd Williams
Prayer Kenneth Smith
Preaching David Cox
Lord's Supper
Presiding Marion Mitchell
Assisting Jerry McGlocklin
Serving Brandon Griswold Ronnie Locke
..... Danny Johnson Marvin Putman
Closing Prayer Marcus Morris

Evening Worship

Announcements Tommy Coblentz
Song Leader Tommy Burns
Prayer Joel Hamm
Preaching Ashley Goosen
Lord's Supper Marion Mitchell
Closing Prayer Dan Reed

Other Assignments for Sunday, September 30th:

Usher Jonathan Keenon
Work Sound System Marty Adams

Wednesday, October 3rd:

Song Leader Hunter Cox
Bible Reading Isaiah 50:1-11
..... Dan Reed
Prayer Todd Williams
Invitation Warren Glass
Closing Prayer Mot Dollar

Sunday, October 7th:

Morning Worship

Announcements Marty Adams
Song Leader Tommy Burns
Prayer Jerry McGlocklin
Preaching Jordan Lovell
Lord's Supper
Presiding Terry Andrews
Assisting Kenneth Smith
Serving Keenon Currier Russ Wulfekuhl
..... Heath Dollar Dan Lovell
Closing Prayer Larry Mitchell

Evening Worship

Announcements Marty Adams
Song Leader Joel Hamm
Prayer Dwaine Allfrey
Preaching Jordan Lovell
Lord's Supper Terry Andrews
Closing Prayer Nathaniel Adams

Other Assignments for Sunday, October 7th:

Usher Marion Mitchell
Work Sound System Landon Adams