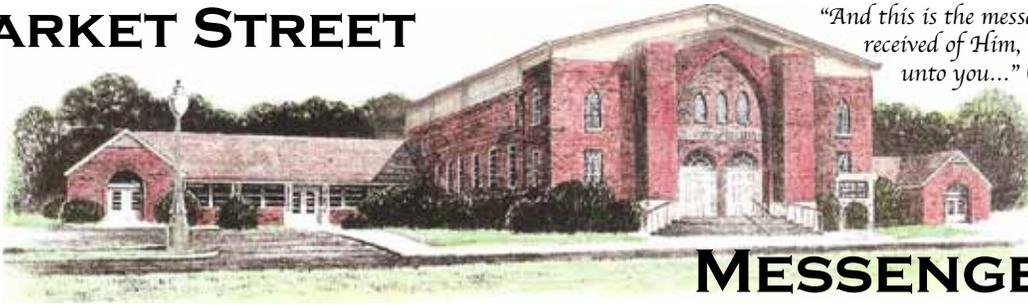


MARKET STREET



"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) 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

Evangelists

David A. Cox (256) 233-8910
Cell: (256) 614-3757
Jordan Lovell..... (256) 777-8998

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 V

April 14, 2013

No. 15

Please Join Us For Our

Gospel Meeting

April 14 - 18

(Sunday through Thursday)

Schedule of Services

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

Evangelist - Mark W. White

MARKET STREET CHURCH OF CHRIST

514 WEST MARKET STREET
ATHENS, ALABAMA

Will Your Life Make A Difference?

Mark W. White

When it comes to the problem of influence, many disciples are suffering from a tremendous inferiority complex. Not many of us have ever come to terms with just how much influence we really wield in this world. Our thinking is that unless one has wealth, political clout, physical beauty, or belongs to the "right" group, that he will have little impact on the world about him. If "making a difference" depends on this worldly criteria, then it is doubtful that the lives of most Christians I know will ever make any difference at all. And that is just the point - our influence in the world is not dependent on such earthly standards.

If we ever have any kind of influence on the world around us, it must be the kind Jesus wants His disciples to exert! Jesus tells us that we must make a difference! A portion of the sermon on the mount illustrates the influence Christ expects us to have on this spiritually dark and tasteless world. Matthew 5:13-16 states, "You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt loses its flavor, how shall it be seasoned? It is then good for nothing but to be thrown out and trampled under foot by men. You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father who is in heaven." This is the Lord's classic text on the influence of kingdom citizens.

When Jesus said this, those hearing the sermon could have immediately made the connection between the illustration and the lesson to be learned. The Greeks called salt "divine". The Romans had a saying that went, "There is nothing more useful than sun and salt." Likening the influence of His disciples to salt was a particularly impressive idea to the minds of those present when Jesus preached that sermon. Salt possesses three peculiar abilities. It is a purifier, and if the Christian is to be the "salt of the earth" he must remain pure and unadulterated. He cannot lose his "savor" (saltiness) through contamination by the impurities of the world. If he does, he loses his ability to "make a difference."

Salt also preserves. As a boy, I appreciated the preservative ability of salt when we "salted down" the hams in our "salt box" which eventually yielded that southern delicacy - country ham. Without the salt, the meat decayed and putrefied because the preservative influence was absent. Salt prevents corruption, and as William Barclay puts it, "If the Christian is to be the salt of the earth, he must have a certain antiseptic influence on life." Finally, salt changes what it touches. Nothing tastes the same when salt is added. It can enhance the flavor, or destroy it, depending on how it is used. Did you ever try and eat popcorn without salt? It's about like eating cardboard! If you add a little salt, it makes a lot of difference. The influence of the Christian should always be felt. If the Christian loses his "flavor", he has become useless. We are meant to be the salt of the earth and if we do not purify, preserve, and change we do not "make a difference."

And then there is light. Jesus describes himself as the "light of the world" in John 9:5. The text actually says that as long as Jesus was in the world he was the light of the world. Who could deny the illuminating influence Jesus has on the world? Is it not a great compliment then, for the disciples to be called the "light of the world"? Paul wrote the Philippian church and called on them to "shine as lights in the world" (Philippians 2:15). We are lights and wherever there is light, there is hope! The primary function of a light is to be seen to make a difference! Our light should shine, not to call attention to ourselves, but to bring glory to our heavenly Father. Our lights should dispel the darkness so that men can see God. Christianity must be a visible commitment. It was never intended to be a secretive thing. Our lights must shine brightly through the fog of sin to bring men to Jesus. Our lights must make the way clear. At our house, in each bedroom, we use a little "night light". What a tremendous difference their influences make in the middle of the night when you have to get out of bed for some reason. And, I can't tell you just how many monsters have been chased away because of the influence of those tiny little lights. Light is a remarkably comforting property.

"Do I really make a difference?" Jesus says, "You have to!" The world just has to be a better place because of the disciples of Christ. My neighborhood has to be a better place to live because I live there. The plant or office I work in must feel my good influence. The church of which I am a part just must be a better congregation

because of my life. May we all live so as to have it said of us when we die: "It was easier to be good when he/she was with us."

-via *College View Columns*; Florence, Alabama.



Teach Your Children To Fear The Lord

Forrest D. Moyer

When Paul had listed all the sins of the Gentiles and of the Jews and was summing up his argument as to why all need the gospel, he told us why there is so much sin in the world in these succinct words: "There is no fear of God before their eyes" (Romans 3:18). Jesus tells us that it is far more important to fear God, who can destroy both soul and body in hell, than to fear man who can only kill the body (Matthew 10:28). In order for our children to grow up into the righteous relationship with God, it is essential that we teach them to fear the Lord.

Shall we read just a few wise words from the sagacious Solomon? "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom (Proverbs 9:10) ... The fear of the Lord adds length to life, but the years of the wicked are cut short (Proverbs 10:27) ... He whose walk is upright fears the Lord, but he whose ways are devious despises Him (Proverbs 14:2). He who fears the Lord has a secure fortress, and for his children it will be a refuge. The fear of the Lord is a fountain of life, turning a man from the snares of death (Proverbs 14:26,27) ... The fear of the Lord leads to life; then one rests content, untouched by trouble" (Proverbs 19:23).

Do you want your children to be wise, to have longer life, to walk uprightly, to have a secure fortress, to have a fountain of life and to rest contentedly? Then teach them the fear of the Lord. Teach that fear by your own fear of Him. (Need I remind you that this fear is a reverential awe that would do nothing to displease

God?) Teach them this fear by teaching them the word of God. Teach them by your example in every phase of your life. Let them see that you will do everything you can to please God and nothing that will displease Him. Build a strong conscience in your children that will absolutely refuse when sin beckons them to go into evil. Your children will praise you in your old age for having taught them the fear of the Lord. Both you and they can be with God together in heaven.

-via *The Beacon*, Auburn, Alabama.

News & Notes

THE SICK:

Peyton Rogers	Bobby McGuire
Bobbie Adcock	Barbara Allfrey
Irene Mitchell	Gwen Bullock
Wynell Casteel	Jerry Taylor
Charles Burns	Matt Poff
Una King Currier	Morgan Barkdale
David Hartsell	Ronald Harrison
Phillip Harwell	Abby Gilbert
Ava Brooke Cambell	Shelia Dunnivant Douglas
Barbara Piper	

In The Hospital:

Dyral Allfrey, Athens-Limestone; room 317
Paul Thomas, Huntsville Hospital; room 473

Athens Rehabilitation & Senior Care:

Beulah Pope, rm. 100	Matty Murray, rm. 60
Harvey Pope, rm. 100	Dorothy Draper, rm. 97
Robert Johnson, rm. 18	Grady Tomerlin, rm. 102

Limestone Health Facility:

Janet Berryhill, rm. 75-B	Albert Bowers, rm. 115-B
Albert Norton, rm. 36	Frances Bower, rm 116
Jack Cannon, rm. 112	Rosella Pugh, rm. 74
J.D. Clanton, rm. 11E	

Limestone Lodge:

Yvonne Sherbert, rm. 29-E

Brookshire Healthcare - Huntsville:

Rachel Grubbs, rm. 112-C

Shut-In:

Reba Adams, at home

Lola Colwell, at home

Mary Ruth Gardner, at home

Ruby Jean Tinnon, at home

LADIES BIBLE CLASS: The Ladies' Bible class meets on Tuesday mornings at 10:30 in the west wing auditorium. They have begun a study on "Proverbs". All the ladies that can are invited to be a part of this class.

CONFESSION: This past week *James Johnson* confessed that he has not lived the life that a Christian should and that he wants to do the things that will please God. We prayed with him for the forgiveness of sins and for strength. James wants to be a part of the church here at Market Street and we welcome him. May we all encourage him as he has encouraged us.

OUT OF TOWN: *Ida Nell Griffin* will be leaving this week to visit with family in Kentucky and Ohio.

DIRECTORIES: The new directories are out this week. Please pick-up your copy this morning. Hopefully, these directories will help us in keeping in contact with one another by phone, mail or e-mail. If your information is not correct or as it changes, please make us aware of what needs to be changed.

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.

OUR GOSPEL MEETING: Our gospel meeting is beginning today and will continue through Thursday evening. Brother *Mark White* from Florence is with us this week and I know that he will have lessons that will be good for the strengthening of faith for all of us. We hope that everyone will make their plans to be at every service. Remember to tell others about the meeting and invite them to join us. Continue to pray for the meeting in the word preached and for brother White.

THE RECORD: *Attendance for Week of April 7th*

Sunday: Bible Classes..... 132
Morning Worship 168
Evening Worship..... 122

Wednesday: Bible Classes..... 103

Remember Our Service This Evening at 5:00.

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, April 14th:

Morning Worship

Announcements Kenneth Smith
Song Leader Tyler Cox
Prayer Todd Williams
Preaching Mark White
Lord's Supper
Presiding Larry Mitchell
Assisting Bonnie Sutton
Serving Keenon Currier Stefan Fudge
..... Landon Adams Mot Dollar
Closing Prayer Keith Hinkle

Evening Worship

Announcements Kenneth Smith
Song Leader Tommy Burns
Prayer Norman Brown
Preaching Mark White
Lord's Supper Larry Mitchell
Closing Prayer Kenneth Adams

Other Assignments for Sunday, April 14th:

Usher Paul Hasting
Work Sound System Marty Adams

Wednesday, April 17th:

Song Leader Joel Hamm
Bible Reading No Reading
..... Gospel Meeting
Prayer Ronnie Locke
Invitation Mark White
Closing Prayer Terry Andrews

Sunday, April 21st:

Morning Worship

Announcements Tommy Coblenz
Song Leader Stefan Fudge
Prayer Marty Adams
Preaching Jordan Lovell
Lord's Supper
Presiding Joel Hamm
Assisting Terry Andrews
Serving Dan Lovell David Terry
..... Paul Hasting Delmer Carter
Closing Prayer Marion Mitchell

Evening Worship

Announcements Tommy Coblenz
Song Leader Todd Williams
Prayer Bonnie Sutton
Preaching David Cox
Lord's Supper Joel Hamm
Closing Prayer Hunter Cox

Other Assignments for Sunday, April 21st:

Usher Jonathan Keenon
Work Sound System Nathaniel Adams