

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) 233-2081

Deacons

Marty R. Adams.....(256) 233-5147
Tommy Coblenz(256) 232-3312
Joel Hamm.....(256) 278-1977
Larry Mitchell(256) 230-0185
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 VII

May 24, 2015

No. 21

As For Me And My House

Russ Bowman

Chris Kennedy lived across the street from me when I was a kid. Those of us who lived on West Garza Street spent our days playing ball or "hide and seek" or "kick the can" like most children do. Yet, the primary determining factor in our activities was Chris. If Chris wanted to play "follow the leader," we did, and Chris was the leader. She made the decisions and set the rules for our group. She was the oldest. She was the biggest. She was the toughest. On our street, you followed Chris or Chris beat you up. The concept of leadership was quite clear.

As we progress through life, we see leaders emerge in almost every circumstance. In organized sports, every team has at least one person who inspires his/her teammates to follow. In the business world, there are employees who take the initiative and blaze the trails. In politics, in education, in music, in every facet of human activity we find people who rise to the forefront of the group and assume the role of leader and the reasons behind such leadership are often myriad. Some are leaders because of their talents, others because of their knowledge, others because their position demands such and others by simple virtue of a personality that inspires confidence. But, regardless of the reasons, leaders surface in almost every human activity.

Nowhere is such leadership more important or needed than in the home. As the corruption of our age has an ever-increasing impact upon our homes, the concept of leadership is suffering. The assimilation of feminist philosophies has confused the roles which God ordained for the efficient operation of the home, and the increasing divorce rate has simply removed from the home fathers and mothers and the important functions that they perform. For those of us who desire godly homes, the necessity of spiritual leadership is absolutely vital. And that responsibility is given, by Jehovah, to husbands and fathers (1 Corinthians 11:3; 1 Timothy 2:11f; Ephesians 5:22-6:4). Whether or not we are possessed of a personality that naturally takes the lead, whether or not we are comfortable with the responsibility, whether or not we blaze the trails in any

other aspect of our life, Christian husbands and fathers desperately need to commit ourselves to lead our families in the service of God.

In Joshua 24:15, Joshua demands of the Israelites, "Choose you this day whom you will serve." Yet it is Joshua's own determination that is so inspiring: "as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." Here is the kind of dedication that should set for us a pattern of spiritual leadership.

Spiritual leadership begins with a commitment to personal service. There are few things as offensive as one who tries to lead without personal involvement. An athlete who aspires to lead his teammates must excel in discipline, his practice, his devotion to the team, or he stands as a hypocrite before his colleagues. Husbands and fathers must declare with Joshua, "As for me...I will serve the Lord." How can we inspire respect in our family if they do not see us active in our pursuit of godliness? How can we seek the spiritual well-being of our mate if we are not maturing spiritually ourselves? How can we bring up our children in the training and discipline of the Lord if we do not first become earnest disciples? If I'm concerned about godliness in my home, I need to be godly myself.

Spiritual leadership assumes responsibility for the spiritual growth of the family. I realize that each person is individually accountable to God. But the great opportunity of familial relationships is that of godly influence. Joshua made a commitment for his entire family: "as for...my house, we will serve the Lord." Such a commitment demands that we provide an environment for spiritual growth, establishing standards in our marriage and for our children which are based upon God's character and Word. As husbands, we must make the spiritual prosperity of our wife a priority, for such is the demand of "Husbands, love your wives" (Ephesians 5:25). As fathers, we must involve ourselves in the teaching of our children (Deuteronomy 6:3f; Ephesians 6:4) and not leave such instruction to our wives or the local church. It is our job to establish godliness as a standard, demand compliance with discipline. We must supply the opportunities for growth, such as prayer and Bible study, within our homes. We must make commitment on behalf of our family, and then dedicate ourselves to fulfilling it.

In my home, I am the leader, not because I'm bigger or older or smarter or wiser or even because it comes

naturally to me. I'm the leader because God ordained man to take the lead. It is my job. It is among the most influential factors in the spiritual lives of my wife and children. It demands my commitment to serve the Lord, "for me and my house."

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

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Following Jesus

Carl Witty

Luke 9:23 "And he said to them all, if any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me." Many people were following Jesus at the time referred to by Luke. Some followed for one reason, others another. Jesus speaks on this occasion of the seriousness of really following Him. Parallel passages are Matthew 16:24-28 and Mark 8:34-9:1. The coming kingdom of God (to come in the lifetime of some who heard Jesus) would require a commitment far beyond what they may have imagined.

Jesus begins with the word "If." This is a very big "if." Many say they are following Jesus, others plan to do so someday, but have little idea as to what is involved. An old song asks the question and includes some practical details:

"Who will follow Jesus?"

"Standing for the right
Holding up His banner
In the thickest fight
Listening for His orders
Ready to obey
Who will follow Jesus
Serving Him today?"

When someone would come to Bro. Gus Nichols, stating their desire to serve the Lord, he would ask them the following three questions:

1. Do you really want to follow Jesus?
2. Will you let Him tell you through His word how to follow Him?
3. Will you begin to follow Him today?

Paul, the apostle to the Gentiles, tells the Corinthians (1 Corinthians 1:18-31) that “not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called” (vs. 26). The pure gospel does not appeal to certain people. While God would have “all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of truth” (1 Timothy 2:4), not all men are interested in their own salvation.

Jesus says two fundamental things are required to follow Him: (1) self-denial (2) daily cross bearing. Self-denial is the most difficult of denials if done consistently. Self-denial may involve many things and may differ in different people. The list Paul gives in Colossians 3:5-9 includes sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, covetousness, anger, wrath, malice, slander, obscene talk, and lying. Other passages (and other translations of this passage) would make a rather long list of matters for self-denial. In the three accounts (Matthew, Mark, Luke) of this remarkable statement of what is truly involved in following Jesus He goes on to ask “for what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?” Following Jesus is a commitment of such magnitude as to cause Him to say “For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: but whosoever will lose his life for my sake, the same shall save it” (Luke 9:24). Following Jesus is giving all to Him. “All to Jesus I surrender, all to Him I freely give”. What would you give in exchange for your soul? Your job, home, car, some prized possession, a moment's passion, — the list could go on. Such thoughts lead us logically to the second requirement for following Jesus.

Daily cross bearing is the result of a true commitment to follow Jesus. It is “24/7” and involves all that we are and can be. The “cross” was used literally and symbolically. One Jewish King (Alexander Jauneus 103-76BC) is said to have ordered the crucifixion of 800 Pharisees for holding to their convictions! “Daily” shows that Jesus is not using the word “cross” literally, however, but is speaking of the daily responsibility and struggle to follow Him. It is a daily dying to self and choosing to live for Him. It is the ultimate unselfish life; it is altruistic love in action. Paul clearly understood cross-bearing as he wrote “God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is crucified unto me, and I unto the world.” Many of our songs emphasize this principle: “If Jesus goes with me, I'll go anywhere...”; “None of self and all of Thee;” “Must Jesus bear the cross alone — no,

there's a cross for everyone, and there's a cross for me.”

A great promise involving the time when the “Son of Man shall come in the glory of His father with His angels,” follows these statements about cross-bearing spoken by Jesus. The promise is that “He shall reward every man according to his works” (Matthew 16:27). Often the path to glory lies through the Valley of suffering and always through self-denial. The rewards to come are worth it! Are you following Him today?

-via *Teaching Truth*; Madison, Alabama.

News & Notes...

THE SICK:

Marie Nave	Robert & Mot Beasley
Jeanette Weir	Sherry Davis
Pattsy Thomas	Irene Inman
Lona Killen	Buddy Pepper
Marjorie Dunnivant	Carl Hargrave
Gwen Bullock	Essie Hardison
Linda Ordonez	Bennie Pepper
Ray Kennedy	Pam Perry
Phillip Harwell	Eli Williams
Ann Bush	Ava Brooke Campbell
Michael Vaughn	Pat Goodin
Al Pollard	Elizabeth Kate Miller
Anita Willis	Helen Rushing
Matt Poff	Una King Currier
Charles Burns	Gene Carpenter
Analynn Tegg	

In The Hospital:

Crutcher Harbin; Athens-Limestone; rm. ???
Dan Williams; Vanderbilt Hospital; Nashville, Tenn.
Ben Hinkle; Houston Hospital; Houston, Texas

Athens Rehabilitation & Senior Care:

Nelva Reed, rm. 111	Grady Tomerlin, rm. 102
Dorothy Draper, rm. 97	Evelyn Hogan, rm. 36
Robert Johnson, rm. 18	Matty Murray, rm. 2
Gayle Mills, rm. 15	Valeria Dalton, rm. 7
Mable Crafts, rm. 100	Mildred Frantz, rm. 31

Judith Groce, rm. 21 Terry Camp, rm. 91
Helen Trousdale, rm. 63

Limestone Health Facility:

Geneva Davis, rm. 14-E Elizabeth Ann Gray, r. 104
Earl Davis, rm. 109 YuVawn Blakley, rm. 92

Limestone Manor:

Jerry Gilbert, rm. 84 Mary Ruth Gardner, rm. 86

Floyd E. "Tut" Fann Veterans Home - Huntsville:

Albert Bowers, rm. 115-C

Shut-In:

Hazel Brooks, at home

Wynell Casteel, at home

Yvonne Sherbert, at son's home

Ruby Jean Tinnon, at home

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.

BACK HOME: It is good to see **Brettlyn Currier** back home after being in the *United Kingdom* for the last several months with her schooling. We are thankful for her safe travels and that she has returned safe and sound.

GRADUATES: We want to congratulate those who have graduated this past week. **Keenon Currier** on his graduation on Thursday night from *Athens High School*... **Christian Usery** who graduated on Thursday night from *Athens Bible School*. We wish the very best for these fine young men as they continue their education in college.

THE RECORD: Attendance for week of May 17th

Sunday: Bible Classes..... 154
Morning Worship 195
Evening Worship 135

Wednesday: Bible Classes..... 126



June 15 – 18, 2015

(Monday through Thursday)

10:00 a.m. to 11:15 a.m.

MARKET STREET CHURCH OF CHRIST

514 WEST MARKET STREET
ATHENS, ALABAMA

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, May 24th:

Morning Worship

Announcements Dwaine Allfrey
Song Leader Tommy Burns
Prayer Kenneth Smith
Preaching David Cox
Lord's Supper
Presiding Joel Hamm
Assisting Tommy Coblenz
Serving Nathaniel Adams Cody Kennedy
..... Tony Thomas Heath Dollar
Closing Prayer Keenon Currier

Evening Worship

Announcements Dwaine Allfrey
Song Leader Stefan Fudge
Prayer Keith Hinkle
Preaching Song Service
Lord's Supper Joel Hamm
Closing Prayer Tyler Cox

Other Assignments for Sunday, May 24th:

Usher Marvin Putman
Work Sound System Terry Andrews

Wednesday, May 27th:

Song Leader Marty Adams
Bible Reading (1 Corinthians 4:1-13)
..... Russ Wulfekuhl
Prayer Steve Usery
Invitation Hunter Cox
Closing Prayer Keenon Currier

Sunday, May 31st:

Morning Worship

Announcements Terry Andrews
Song Leader Hunter Cox
Prayer Keith Hinkle
Preaching David Cox
Lord's Supper
Presiding Dwaine Allfrey
Assisting Kenneth Smith
Serving Ronnie Locke Tommy Burns
..... Keenon Currier Steve Usery
Closing Prayer James Johnson

Evening Worship

Announcements Terry Andrews
Song Leader Tyler Cox
Prayer Marty Adams
Preaching Joel Hamm
Lord's Supper Dwaine Allfrey
Closing Prayer Mike Ogles

Other Assignments for Sunday, May 31st:

Usher Ronnie Locke
Work Sound System Nathaniel Andrews