

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 VII

August 9, 2015

No. 32

How Do You Approach Things?

Matthew H. Allen

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) 232-3312
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

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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

Our attitude is the primary force that will determine whether we succeed or fail spiritually. How do you approach things? Do you often see difficulty in every opportunity, or do you see an opportunity in every difficulty? Our attitude determines the approach we take in leading our spirituality. Adopting a healthy attitude is essential for our spiritual lives! Paul is a great example in this when we consider how he overcame his past and examine the optimistic view he held on his future.

1 Timothy 1:13-15 treats us to the grimy detail of Paul's past. He was formerly a blasphemer and a persecutor and a violent aggressor. Later he writes, Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, among whom I am foremost of all. Paul had a terrible background to overcome. After his conversion, he possessed an extreme desire to know Jesus in a greater way. Forgetting his past, Paul turned his passion into laying hold of Jesus. See Philippians 3:8-13. His attitude was essential for his spiritual success! We are responsible for our view of life. Whatever a man sows, this he will also reap, Galatians 6:7. Think about it. Your spiritual life is filled with infinite potential! Don't hold it back by a poor outlook on life and neglect of the precious spiritual blessings God so richly bestows.

Part of our problem today is that we have taken heed to the lie that life has to be fair, and if it is not, then it is an excuse to be sour on life. I hope we all grow to realize that life is not fair. While it is impossible to trim all situations and circumstances to fit our loves perfectly, it is possible to craft our attitude to fit every situation life hands us. We read, I know how to get along with humble means, and I also know how to live in prosperity; in any and every circumstance I have learned the secret of being filled and going hungry, both of having abundance and suffering need. I can do all things through Him who strengthens me, Philippians 4:12-13. This is learned behavior. Developing a healthy attitude will influence our entire outlook on life. When confronted with a difficult situation, a person with an outstanding attitude makes the best of it while he gets the worst of it. It has been said, whether life grinds us down or polishes us depends on what we are made of. Consider for a moment the success of these men

and the importance of their attitude:

- **Joseph – Genesis 39-42.** Thrown into the pit, sold into slavery, jailed wrongly before coming to the throne to serve Pharaoh.
- **Moses – Exodus 2-3.** He spent time in the wilderness before leading the people of Israel.
- **Peter – Matthew 26:69-75.** Peter denied Jesus three times. Matthew 26 concludes by telling us he went out and wept bitterly. He could have allowed this failure to wreck his life. However, his attitude propelled him to rise out of the ashes of failure to become one of the leading apostles in the early years of the church. It has been said that the opportunities of life lie directly in our problems. Thomas Edison wrote, there is much more opportunity than there are people to see it. Use the problems that confront you as opportunities to grow your spiritual life and trust in God.

Christianity can be an extremely liberating experience. It frees us from the weight of sin and gives us a way to lead a focused and purpose filled life. An optimistic spirit can help us accomplish our spiritual goals. Remember, as long as we live, we are forming, changing, and reinforcing our attitude. You can change for the better! Are you aiming toward spiritual success? Not that I have already obtained it or have already become perfect, but I press on so that I may lay hold of that for which also I was laid hold of by Christ Jesus. Brethren, I do not regard myself as having laid hold of it yet; but one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and reaching forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus, Philippians 3:12-14.

-via *New Living*; Brownsburg, Indiana

Gospel Meeting

September 13-17, 2015

(Sunday through Thursday)

Gardner Hall, Speaking

Market Street church of Christ

514 West Market Street
Athens, Alabama

Make Me A Servant

Edwin L. Crozier

We have started singing a song from our supplemental book entitled, "Make Me a Servant." I wonder if we realize what we are singing. For my part, I am happy to serve. That is, as long as it fits in with my schedule and doesn't get in the way of my goals and my favorite activities and tv shows. I am happy to serve on my terms, when it pleases me and when I will get credit for it from others. I am happy to serve when others are watching and take notice.

But am I really happy to be a servant? A servant doesn't serve when it is convenient. A servant is one who serves because the master says to (cf. Luke 17:7-9). A servant simply serves because that is his job. He doesn't stop to ask if it fits in his schedule. He doesn't stop to ask if it meets his terms. He doesn't stop to see if anyone is looking. He simply serves.

I don't mind serving as long as I get to remain in control. I get to choose when, where and how far I am going to go in my serving. Once I lose that control, I become vulnerable. If I take this serving thing too far, you might take advantage of me. I certainly don't want that to happen. Surely God doesn't expect me to let that happen, does He?

Do I really want God to make me a servant, just like His Son? Do I really want to spend my life in the service of God and others knowing full well that most of the people I strive to serve won't appreciate it, won't care about me and might even turn on me? Do I really want to be a servant knowing it will cost me my life in more ways than one?

That is the struggle we face when we become Christians. According to I Peter 1:22, we were purified for a sincere love of the brethren. One of the reasons we obeyed the truth and received cleansing was so we could love God's children. Further, in Philippians 2:3-4 we are told to view others as more important than ourselves. Being a servant is merely a natural response from those who truly love and truly see others as more important.

The next time my wife wakes me from a doze asking me to do something I know she could do for herself, I must not gripe and complain. I must not lash out. I should serve. After all, I am to be a servant.

The next time a brother or sister puts out a plea for help, I shouldn't rely on everyone else to get the job done. Rather, I should be there to love and serve. After all, I am to be a servant.

Don't get me wrong. I am not saying I have this servant thing down. I am growing in it as well. However, if we are going to sing "make me a servant just like Your Son," then I am going to have to be ready for the consequences. I am going to have to quit serving on my time and become a servant.

-via *Franklin Bulletin*; Franklin, Tennessee.

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Divide and Conquer

Al Diestelkamp

There is little doubt that one of Satan's tactics, in his effort to "kill and destroy" (John 10:10), is to divide and conquer. He knows that if he can get Christians to "bite and devour one another" (Galatians 5:15) that he will not only win the parties involved, but will also turn others away from Christ.

Satan doesn't care whether the division among Christians arises from personal disputes, cultural differences, or doctrinal issues. He's willing to use any and all avenues of driving wedges and splintering the body of Christ, one congregation at a time.

Knowing this to be one of Satan's devices should motivate Christians to foil his plan by being determined to "be of one mind" (2 Corinthians 13:11). Of course, in order to do this we must have "compassion for one another; love as brothers, be tenderhearted, be courteous" (1 Peter 3:8).

Diverse personality traits will sometimes provoke disputes among brethren. When that happens we need to remember that we are commanded to "pursue peace with all men" (Hebrews 12:14). That means work at it! Otherwise, it is bound to result in bitterness, which

will "cause trouble, and by this many become defiled" (Hebrews 12:15).

The handling of doctrinal differences is another area in which we need to work hard in order to maintain, if at all possible, peace among our brethren. There is no doubt that we must be willing to "contend earnestly for the faith" (Jude 3), but we can do that without being contentious. Our defense of the truth must be accompanied by a sincere desire to "keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace" (Ephesians 4:3).

News & Notes...

THE SICK:

Betty Pepper
James Abernathy
Lona Killen
Jeanette Weir
Irene Inman
Carl Hargrave
Linda Ordonez
Bennie Pepper
Phillip Harwell
Ann Bush
Michael Vaughn
Al Pollard
Anita Willis
Matt Poff
Charles Burns
Analynn Tegg

Helen Balnkenship
Marjorie Dunnivant
Doris Lovell
Buddy Pepper
Essie Hardison
Gwen Bullock
Abby Gilbert
Pam Perry
Eli Williams
Ava Brooke Campbell
Ben Hinkle
Elizabeth Kate Miller
Helen Rushing
Una King Currier
Gene Carpenter

In The Hospital:

Ray Kennedy; UAB-Hospital, rm. 360
Jackson Ramos; Birmingham Hospital
Oswaldo Ramos; Birmingham Hospital

Athens Rehabilitation & Senior Care:

Reba Byram, rm. 73 Grady Tomerlin, rm. 102
Nelva Reed, rm. 111 Dorothy Draper, rm. 97
Helen Trousdale, rm. 43 Evelyn Hogan, rm. 36
Robert Johnson, rm. 18 Mildred Frantz, rm. 31
Gayle Mills, rm. 15 Valeria Dalton, rm. 7
Mable Crafts, rm. 100 Mattye Murray, rm. 2

Judith Groce, rm. 21 Terry Camp, rm. 91

Limestone Health Facility:

Geneva Davis, rm. 14-E

Frances Bowers, rm. 104

Limestone Manor:

Mary Ruth Gardner, rm. 86

Limestone Lodge:

Jerry Gilbert, rm. 20W

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

Albert Bowers, rm. 115-C

Shut-In:

Hazel Brooks, at home

Wynell Casteel, at home

Ruby Jean Tinnon, at home

SYMPATHY: We want to extend our deepest sympathy to the family of **Andres Ramos**. *Andres and his brothers, Oswaldo and Jackson*, were involved in a tragic accident Thursday morning, and Andres sustained fatal injuries. The Ramos family has attended services here through the years on occasion, and the three boys have always been in our Vacation Bible Schools each summer. The arrangements for Andres are incomplete at this time due to Jackson and Oswaldo being in the hospital in Birmingham. Remember to keep this family in your prayers.

CONGRATULATIONS: We want to congratulate **Brent and Annessa (Smith) Jenkins** on their recent marriage on July 17th in Mooresville. Annessa grew up at Market Street and is the daughter of **Kenneth and Peggy Smith**. We wish for Brent and Annessa the very best as begin their married life together.

REMEMBER THE ADCOCKS: This past Monday morning the home of **Paul and Dale Adcock**, the brother and sister-in-law of **Margaret Carter**, burned and was a total loss. Keep them in your prayers.

NURSING HOME SINGING: Remember the singing at the Athens Rehabilitation and Senior Care on Tuesday evenings at 5:30.

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.

THE RECORD: Attendance for the week of August 2nd

Sunday:

Bible Classes.....	158
Morning Worship	203
Evening Worship.....	155

Wednesday: Bible Classes..... 115

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, August 9th:

Morning Worship

Announcements	Kenneth Smith	
Song Leader	Stefan Fudge	
Prayer	Jerry McGlocklin	
Preaching	David Cox	
Lord's Supper		
Presiding	Joel Hamm	
Assisting	Mike Ogles	
Serving.....	Heath Dollar	Landon Adams
.....	Bill Claxton	Jason Conn
Closing Prayer	Keenon Currier	

Evening Worship

Announcements	Kenneth Smith
Song Leader	Tommy Burns
Prayer	Russell Melvin
Preaching	David Cox
Lord's Supper	Joel Hamm
Closing Prayer	Tommy Coblentz

Other Assignments for Sunday, August 9th:

Usher	Ronnie Locke
Work Sound System	Nathaniel Adams

Wednesday, August 12th:

Song Leader	Tony Thomas
Bible Reading.....	(1 Corinthians 8:1-13)
.....	Russ Wulfekuhl
Prayer	Bonnie Sutton
Invitation	Jordan Lovell
Closing Prayer	Marty Adams

Sunday, August 16th:

Morning Worship

Announcements	Jerry McGlocklin	
Song Leader	Tyler Cox	
Prayer	Joel Hamm	
Preaching	Jordan Lovell	
Lord's Supper		
Presiding	Russell Melvin	
Assisting	Tommy Coblentz	
Serving.....	Keenon Currier	Stefan Fudge
.....	Tommy Burns	Steve Usery
Closing Prayer	Mike Ogles	

Evening Worship

Announcements	Jerry McGlocklin
Song Leader	Joel Hamm
Prayer	Landon Adams
Preaching	David Cox
Lord's Supper	Russell Melvin
Closing Prayer	Kenneth Smith

Other Assignments for Sunday, August 16th:

Usher	Marvin Putman
Work Sound System	Terry Andrews