

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

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No. 41

When We Make It, I Make It

Edwin L. Crozier

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
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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

Can you imagine what it must have been like to be busy building a wall and then hear that the inhabitants of the land around you are about to attack? The whole purpose of having a wall is to be more ready to withstand an attack, but they are coming before the wall is completed. You've been working hard. You're tired, exhausted even. You and your family are sitting ducks. If the enemy comes, the wall won't be ready and they will overrun you.

But Nehemiah arose and said to the people: "Do not be afraid of them. Remember the Lord, who is great and awesome, and fight for your brothers, your sons, your daughters, your wives, and your homes" (Nehemiah 4:14, ESV). In Nehemiah 4:13, Nehemiah stationed people by their clans, with swords, spears, and bows. The enemy heard of it and left off the attack. Following that, Nehemiah divided the workers in half. Half worked on the wall, the other half stood guard. Those who were working, bore their work load with one hand and their weapon in the other.

Do you notice the subtle point of how the victory was achieved here? It took everyone. They had to work together. They were already working together on building the wall, now they are working together on defending the wall, the city, and especially their families.

What teamwork!

First, let's think about building the wall. Each family was dealing with their own section of wall. Do you think any family wanted to be the family that built the weak part of the wall that got breached? Of course not. They all wanted to do their best in order to keep that wall intact and protect their city and their own families. Second, let's think about the potential battle. Each man was defending not only the city, but his own family. They would have to work together to protect each other.

What a great illustration here. There is a wonderful mix of family and city here. Each family was building their section of the wall, but together they were building the city wall. Each man was protecting his

family, but together they were protecting the city.

But here is the key I hope we can recognize. When the people pulled together to rebuild and protect the city, who received the benefit of protection? Each family. This makes me think of a mantra I want each and every church to make its own.

When we make it, I make it. If every individual and family in a local congregation pulls together to protect, preserve, and grow the local congregation, who gets the benefit? Every individual of the family. Amazingly enough, too many times individuals think only of themselves and never think of the church. Attending assemblies is something they do because they think it is an arbitrary requirement to get themselves to heaven. That is not it at all. The reason God encourages congregations and the gathering of such (Hebrews 10:25) is this very reason. When we make it, I make it.

Do you want to make sure you are victorious in the struggle against the enemy and sin? Then make sure that we are victorious in the struggle against the enemy and sin. Do you want to make sure that you get to heaven? Then strive to make sure the brothers and sisters around you get to heaven. Do you want to make sure that you make it? Then make sure that we make it.

-via *Family Report*; Florence, Alabama.



Work We All Can Do

Bubba Garner

The Bible is about people. As God unfolds His great plan of redemption for man, He weaves in the stories of different men and women used to accomplish that very purpose. And while we may not be told everything we would like to know about them, we have enough information that we can not only learn from their lives, we can relate to them. Just think about how many chapters are devoted to the telling about Joseph, David, Hannah, and Peter. We know them. We see ourselves in them. We name our children after them. They are our heroes.

But the same book boasts of a supporting cast. They

are the characters whose names do not appear in a great chapter on faith. They are the people whose stories are not as familiar, even among the children of God. They are the ones who quietly enter the stage, play their part, and then just as quietly exit back into obscurity. But they are people known to God and used by God, just as He used Abraham, Moses, and Mary. In His kingdom, everyone can be a hero.

There is work that we all can do. Some people seem to suffer from the misconception that since they can't do very much they might as well not do anything at all. They think to themselves, "I'll never teach like he can" or "I'm not as talented as she is." Yet God has never said He would hold us accountable for someone else's abilities and gifts. He expects us to work with what we've been given, to do what we can do, not what he can do.

The work is for all of us, every laborer in the vineyard. God still uses people to bring about His plans and purposes. He has a place for you. I offer these three questions to help us determine if we are doing all that we can do.

How much do you give? That is, how much do you give of yourself? Everyone has something to put in. There's no gift too small, no act of service that goes unnoticed. What did Jesus recognize about the woman who broke the costly bottle of perfume and anointed His head? "She has done what she could" (Mark 14:8). And because of that, the Lord said, "wherever the gospel is preached in the whole world, what this woman has done will be spoken of in memory of her." When you give your all, you'll be amazed at what you get out of it.

Do you have room for the kingdom? We sing all the time that there is room in the kingdom for you, but do you have room for the kingdom in your life? We bend over backwards to make accommodations for everything else in our busy schedules, and the Lord usually ends up with the leftovers or is left out altogether. That's not right. Most Christians would tell you that their relationship to God is the most important thing in their life. But what would their calendar tell you? What would their checkbook tell you? What would their lives tell you? There is work that we all can do. Let's make certain to make room for it.

Is your family first? God is our Father. We are His children. That makes us brethren. That makes us family. But we are not family in name alone. There is a body of work that accompanies this body of believers,

a responsibility to be born by all. And we need every part doing its part. Jesus teaches in Matthew 25:31-46 that when we serve our brethren, we serve our Brother Himself. And even the smallest deeds of kindness, things like feeding the hungry and visiting the sick, are of first importance to our Father.

Let's not wait too late to labor. There is work that we all can do right now. And when we spend ourselves in His service, we can rest assured that our names are written in the Lamb's book of life.

-via *Southern Sunday*; Pasadena, Texas

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Cautious or Faithless?

Joe R. Barnett

"He who observes the wind will not sow: and he who regards the clouds will not reap"

(Ecclesiastes 11:4)

"Nothing ventured, nothing gained." Man must act. Those who demand "a sure thing" will never begin, much less finish, any worthless work.

"How's your cotton?" a visitor asked an old farmer.

"Didn't plant no cotton; 'fraid o' the boll weevil."

"How are your potatoes?"

"Didn't plant none; 'fraid 'o the 'tater bugs."

"What did you plant?"

"Didn't plant nothin'; just playin' it safe." He took no risks. Didn't harvest any crop, either.

There are dangers in every venture. Many of the conditions of life are beyond our control. Our text counsels us not to kill all efforts by waiting for ideal conditions that will never come. Preoccupation with problems will paralyze us.

God doesn't promise blessings to those who will walk the road only when it is perfectly smooth and sheltered. Nor does he grant us triumphs if we give up at the first sight of difficulty. Don't lay down your tools and run for cover just because the clouds have gathered.

As God's people, we are not at liberty to waste our

time and cripple our activities because of uncontrollable circumstances. Controllable circumstances are in our hands. Uncontrollable circumstances are in God's hands. His hands are stronger than ours. Leave the uncontrollable circumstances in his hands. He will handle them all right.

Caution is one thing; faithlessness is quite another. With God, nothing is too good to be true.

-via *North Birmingham Bulletin*; Birmingham, Alabama.

News & Notes

THE SICK:

Larry Mitchell	Anita Wheeler
Jim Whitt	Joe Hinkle
Mot Dollar	Betty Pepper
Frances Bowers	Robert & Mot Beasley
Ella Melvin	Gilbert Hardy
Reba Byram	James Abernathy
Lona Killen	Irene Inman
Marjorie Dunnivant	Jeanette Weir
Gwen Bullock	Essie Hardison
Carl Hargrave	Abi Gilbert
Linda Ordonez	Ava Brooke Campbell
Phillip Harwell	Gene Carpenter
Ann Bush	Pam Perry
Ben Hinkle	Al Pollard
Anita Willis	Helen Rushing
Matt Poff	Una King Carrier
Charles Burns	Analynn Tegg
Eli Williams	David Richardson
Sharon Nave	Betty Hamm
Elizabeth Howard	

In The Hospital:

Ray Kennedy; UAB Hospital – Birmingham
Brittany Murrell; Vanderbilt Hospital – Nashville

Athens Rehabilitation & Senior Care:

Nelva Reed, rm. 111	Grady Tomerlin, rm. 102
Helen Trousdale, rm. 43	Dorothy Draper, rm. 97
Judith Groce, rm. 21	Evelyn Hogan, rm. 36
Robert Johnson, rm. 18	Mildred Frantz, rm. 31
Gayle Mills, rm. 15	Valeria Dalton, rm. 7
Mable Crafts, rm. 100	Matty Murray, rm. 2
Terry Camp, rm. 91	

Limestone Health Facility:

Mary Ruth Gardner, rm.107
Mildred Landers, rm. 103
Geneva Davis, rm. 14-E

Limestone Lodge:

Jerry Gilbert, rm. 20W

Shut-In:

Hazel Brooks, at home
Wynell Casteel, at home
Ruby Jean Tinnon, at home

SYMPATHY: We want to express our deepest sympathy to **Mary Will Johnson and all the family**, in the passing of her brother-in-law, **Billy Joe Word**, this past Wednesday. The funeral was on Friday morning at 11:00 at the Bennett-May Funeral Home in Pulaski, Tennessee. He was be laid to rest in the Jackson Cemetery.

GOSPEL MEETINGS: **The Bethel church** in Bethel, Tennessee beginning a gospel meeting today and it will continue through Friday. The speaker in this meeting will be *Sunday am – Matt Lannom; pm – Jamie Persell; Monday – Kasey Harbin; Tuesday – Daniel Tucker; Wednesday – Issac Munoz* The **Elgin Hill church** in Elgin is begining a meeting today and it will continue through Wednesday. The speaker in this meeting will be *Frank Richey*.

OUT OF TOWN: **The Wulfekuhls:** *Russ, Lisa and Ali* are in the mountians this weekend.

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

PICTURES: Remember that we are currently making pictures for our directory in classroom 20 in the east wing. If you have not had your picture made, or need to have it re-made, please do so after services today.

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 Oct. 4th*

Sunday: Bible Classes..... 138
Morning Worship 185
Evening Worship..... 135

Wednesday: Bible Classes..... 123

Remember Our Study Periods

Sunday Mornings at 9:45 a.m.
Wednesday Evenings at 7:00 p.m.

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, October 11th:

Morning Worship

Announcements Marcus Morris
Song Leader Stefan Fudge
Prayer Norman Brown
Preaching David Cox
Lord's Supper
Presiding Tommy Coblenz
Assisting Mike Ogles
Serving Charles Vaughn Jason Conn
..... James Johnson Cody Kennedy
Closing Prayer Keenon Currier

Evening Worship

Announcements Marcus Morris
Song Leader Hunter Cox
Prayer Keith Hinkle
Preaching David Cox
Lord's Supper Tommy Coblenz
Closing Prayer Nathaniel Adams

Other Assignments for Sunday, October 11th:
Usher Delmer Carter
Work Sound System Terry Andrews

Wednesday, October 14th:

Song Leader Joel Hamm
Bible Reading..... (1 Corinthians 11:17-34)
..... Seth Todd
Prayer Steve Usery
Invitation Jordan Lovell
Closing Prayer Landon Adams

Sunday, October 18th:

Morning Worship

Announcements Terry Andrews
Song Leader Joel Hamm
Prayer Dwaine Allfrey
Preaching Jordan Lovell
Lord's Supper
Presiding Larry Mitchell
Assisting Keith Hinkle
Serving Marvin Putman ... Matthew Vaughn
..... Landon Adams Seth Todd
Closing Prayer Marty Adams

Evening Worship

Announcements Terry Andrews
Song Leader Stefan Fudge
Prayer Russell Melvin
Preaching Jordan Lovell
Lord's Supper Larry Mitchell
Closing Prayer Arvid McGuire

Other Assignments for Sunday, October 18th:
Usher Danny Johnson
Work Sound System Nathaniel Adams