

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 4:00 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

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

December 20, 2015

No. 51

"Do It With All Your Might"

Larry Houchen

The writer of Ecclesiastes, as he discusses how to live life right now, states, "Whatever your hands find to do, verily, do it with all your might..." (9:10). Several observations need to be made from these motivating words of the wise man.

The word "whatever" includes opportunities. The apostle Paul spoke of "making the most of your time" (Ephesians 5:16). The one talent man of Matthew 25 did not use his opportunity to invest his master's money. The five foolish virgins of the same chapter did not take advantage of the opportunity to adequately prepare for the wedding feast. In contrast to them, Paul, while in prison, prayed "that God may open up to us a door for the word" (Colossians 4:3). Are you taking advantage of your opportunities?

The inspired writer also discusses how we're to perform our work and engage in opportunities. Legion are the passages which discuss doing a particular thing with diligence. We're taught to keep the heart with diligence (Proverbs 4:23), love the Lord with all of our heart, soul, and mind (Matthew 22:37), and to be diligent in our studying (2 Timothy 2:15). Someone has said, "Anything worth doing at all is worth doing well" – there is nothing more important than to do the will of God and do it well.

A second chance is not going to be granted to us. The conclusion of the passage is, "for there is no activity or planning or wisdom in Sheol where you are going." As someone has said, "Life is not a dress rehearsal - this is it!" The import of the passage is to do what you can now, while you can.

Use your opportunities, work to your best capabilities and do it now! Life is too short and the work that we are engaged in is too important to do otherwise.

~via **Folsom Point View**; Folsom, California.

“A Little Fire”

Marc R. Hinds

A couple years ago, a forest servicewoman intentionally set a huge wildfire near Denver, Colorado that ravaged one of our nation's beautiful forests. Around the same time in Arizona, a part-time firefighter also intentionally started a wildfire that consumed half a million acres, destroying hundreds of homes along its path.

Both blazes cost several millions of dollars in property damage as well as in the efforts of thousands of firefighters. Each, however, started as a small contained fire that was purposely permitted to spread and reach gigantic proportions. And, to make matters worse, both arsonists were employed to protect the destroyed property from the very fires they set.

“See how great a forest a little fire kindles!” wrote James in his epistle (James 3:5b). He wasn't just talking about forest fires, though. He was comparing them with something far more powerful: the human tongue. In comparison with other muscles in the body, the tongue is very small. Comparing it with the bits placed in horses' mouths (v. 3) or the rudder on a great ship (v. 4), he states that “the tongue is a small part of the body, and yet it boasts of great things” (v. 5). A horse or a ship is controlled by something comparatively tiny. It is like a fire that starts out small and then burns down an entire forest.

It is amazing how something so small can spread devastation so far and wide. Similarly, our tongues can spread insidious gossip like a forest fire, permeating a congregation of God's people and wreaking havoc for years to come.

To gossip is to talk behind someone's back. This sin is described by such words as “whisperer” (Romans 1:29) and “backbiter” (Romans 1:30) which are included in a list of other sins that cause one to be worthy of death (Romans 1:32)! Often we broadcast gossip by saying, “I'm not trying to spread a rumor here, *but did you hear about such-and-such?*” Or we salve our conscience by prefacing what juicy details we repeat about someone else by saying, “Bro. So-and-so, bless his heart...”

If someone begins a conversation with, “I really shouldn't be telling you this...” immediately finish their sentence for them with: “then just don't say it.” That's

easier said than done, but it's the only way to put out the flames of gossip.

Consider also that words spoken cannot be taken back. When a fire gets out of hand and becomes impossible to contain, it is again like our tongues that utter words we wish could be taken back. James goes on to say that the tongue “sets on fire the course of our life, and is set on fire by hell” (v. 6b). When a fire is intentionally started, there is no wishing it away once it is out of control. The words we say that are intended to tear into others cannot be taken back. Remember the adage, “A friend is gained by many words and lost by only one.”

Your word is your bond. Mean what you say and “do not lie to each other” (Colossians 3:9). When lying lips betray the trust of others, no manner of words will likely restore it. Liars, we are warned, will have their place “in the lake that burns with fire and brimstone” (Revelation 21:8). Christians, of all people, should watch what they say. Those forest fires started in the western United States were intentionally set by people who had sworn to protect against such catastrophes. Similarly, how can disciples of Jesus utter words that are intended to cut down and destroy, rather than to build up and encourage? May our “speech always be with grace, seasoned, as it were, with salt” (Colossians 4:6). Heed the words of James' epistle: “From the same mouth come both blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not to be this way” (3:10).

The tongue, like a little fire, is a powerful tool for good. But when it is misused or abused, it will set ablaze an unquenchable fire that may only be matched by the flames of hell.

~via ***Think On These Things***; Texarkana, Arkansas.



Fifth Annual Singing

Friday, February 26, 2016 — 7:00 p.m.

Market Street church of Christ

514 West Market Street
Athens, Alabama

The Worship Service

Bubba Garner

"I was glad when they said to me, 'Let us go to the house of the Lord'", wrote David in Psalm 122:1. It seems that we are losing our sense of delight and enthusiasm when it comes to worshipping with the people of God. What a grand opportunity that we have been afforded, yet we often dread its coming instead of rejoicing with what it brings. We owe it to ourselves and to the Lord to give Him the very best of what we have to offer on His day.

Be here. There is no way that you can benefit or be benefitted if you choose not to come. The purpose of worship is not only to praise and express gratitude to our God, it is to draw closer to one another as we draw closer to Him. By being here, you demonstrate your interest in spiritual things and your desire to please Him; showing up, however, is not the only thing required of you.

Be prepared. This speaks not only of the need to prepare your lesson for Bible class, but to prepare your mind. We go to great lengths to watch what we put into our body, but take no thought as to what our minds are exposed to. Let's not pollute our senses or the house of God with such immoral and filthy thoughts that are prevalent in the world today. Rather, let's come in His presence with prepared hearts and minds for worship.

Be reverent. Remember what you're doing. This is not some sporting contest or entertainment event, this is a worship service. We are communing with the same God that spoke the world into existence, created man from the dust of the ground, and authorized the plan of salvation. Does He not deserve our upmost respect and admiration? "Let us show gratitude, by which we offer to God an acceptable service with reverence and awe" (Hebrews 12:28).

Be a participant. Nothing is more discouraging to the song leader than one who does not sing and to the preacher than one who does not listen. More importantly, the Lord is displeased with one who does not participate in the service. "I will give thanks to the Lord with all my heart in the company of the upright and in the assembly" (Psalm 111:1). Acceptable worship means whole-hearted worship and making an

effort to be an active participant in the activities of the service. Just because you are not the one leading the singing, saying the prayers, or doing the preaching does not mean your duties are relinquished. Be in tune with what is going on.

Worship is a commandment, worship is a blessing, and worship is a choice. You will get no more out of the service than what you put into it. Give the Lord your best today and receive the best of what worship can do for you.

~via *Southside Sunday*; Pasadena, Texas.

News & Notes...

THE SICK:

Keith Hinkle
Frances Bowers
Mot Dollar
Bobbie Adcock
Ella Melvin
Allison Usery
Reba Byram
Janice Cagle
Gilbert Hardy
Essie Hardison
Jeanette Weir
Shaun Carruth
Elizabeth Howard
Eli Williams
Abi Gilbert
Linda Ordonez
Al Pollard
Phillip Harwell
Gene Carpenter
Faye Allen

Mitzi Carruth
Bettye Harrison
Alvis & Ann McLemore
Gayle Ball
Christian Usery
Marjorie Dunnivant
Robert & Mot Beasley
Irene Inman
Gwen Bullock
Carl Hargrave
Ann Bush
Ben Hinkle
Ava Brooke Campbell
Charles Burns
Betty Hamm
Matt Poff
Una King Currier
David Richardson
Analynn Tegg

In The Hospital:

Donald Cole; Huntsville Hospital, rm. 493

Stan Carter; Hospital – Sylvania, Ohio

Margaret Frost; Athens-Limestone Hosp., rm. ICU

Athens Rehabilitation & Senior Care:

Nelva Reed, rm. 111 Grady Tomerlin, rm. 102
Matty Murray, rm. 2 Dorothy Draper, rm. 97
Judith Groce, rm. 45 Evelyn Hogan, rm. 36
Terry Camp, rm. 91 Mildred Frantz, rm. 31
Gayle Mills, rm. 15 Valeria Dalton, rm. 7
Mable Crafts, rm. 98 Helen Trousdale, rm. 43

Limestone Health Facility:

Mildred Landers, rm. 103
Geneva Davis, rm. 14-E

Limestone Lodge:

Jerry Gilbert, rm. 20W

Limestone Manor:

Mary Ruth Gardner, rm. 86

Shut-In:

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

THE MARKET STREET WEBSITE: The Market Street church's website address is:

marketstreet-church.com

There is much information on the website for the public and even more for the member. The sermons preached at Market Street are upload and can be heard over the internet. You can listen online or download them. Also, the *Market Street Messenger* is uploaded each week. The singing from our past annual singings is also on the website. As a member, you can have access to the member's area that requires a login. If you do not have a login, please request one. The website contains the church's directory that is maintained and updated as changes come in, job assignments, events calendar, a song tracker, a place to request songs to be lea and many others things. Please make regular visits to the website.

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

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.

THE RECORD: Attendance for the week of Dec. 13th

Sunday: Bible Classes..... 138

Morning Worship 178

Evening Worship..... 135

Wednesday: Bible Classes..... 120

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, December 20th:

Morning Worship

Announcements Kenneth Smith
Song Leader Joel Hamm
Prayer Marty Adams
Preaching Jordan Lovell
Lord's Supper
Presiding Mike Ogles
Assisting Keith Hinkle
Serving Bill Claxton Matthew Vaughn
..... David Terry Nathaniel Adams
Closing Prayer Keenon Currier

Evening Worship

Announcements Kenneth Smith
Song Leader Tommy Burns
Prayer Larry Mitchell
Preaching David Cox
Lord's Supper Mike Ogles
Closing Prayer Jason Conn

Other Assignments for Sunday, December 20th:

Usher Seth Todd
Work Sound System Terry Andrews

Wednesday, December 23rd:

Song Leader Tony Thomas
Bible Reading..... (1 Corinthians 15:35-58)
..... Steve Usery
Prayer Tommy Coblenz
Invitation David Cox
Closing Prayer Kenneth Adams

Sunday, December 27th:

Morning Worship

Announcements Joel Hamm
Song Leader Tyler Cox
Prayer Russell Melvin
Preaching David Cox
Lord's Supper
Presiding Jerry McGlocklin
Assisting Steve Usery
Serving Stefan Fudge..... Marvin Putman
..... Cody Kennedy Seth Todd
Closing Prayer Arvid McGuire

Evening Worship

Announcements Joel Hamm
Song Leader Tony Thomas
Prayer Norman Brown
Preaching Song Service
Lord's Supper Jerry McGlocklin
Closing Prayer Bonnie Sutton

Other Assignments for Sunday, December 27th:

Usher Russ Wulfekuhl
Work Sound System Marty Adams