

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 VIII

March 20, 2016

No. 12

The Key To Happiness

Robert Harkrider

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 Coblentz(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

“Some people do not know what they want, but they are certain they don’t have it.” What a miserable person is the one who is incapable of being happy with what he has or what he is doing. The grumbler or constant complainer has never learned the meaning of contentment, hence he is deprived of real joy in life. Those who always have a long face and can only think of their own hardships in life are shallow-minded, for they have failed to recognized that they have blessings too.

We all need to remember the man who was sad because he had no shoes until he saw a man who had no feet. Every cloud has a silver lining, but sometimes we have to look in order to find it. Happiness is a state of mind. It cannot be purchased with money nor by the helping up of material possessions. The beggar can be as happy as the wealthy and the fool as contented as the wise, but which ever may be our lot in life, happiness can come only if we learn how to count our blessings. As Paul said, “for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content” (Philippians 4:11).

How often do we fail to recognize the good things of life until they are removed? Hospitals are filled with people who want a return to good health. Funerals are acquainted with the grief of families and friends who wish they had one more opportunity to express appreciation for their loved ones. Even things of lesser importance are likewise taken for granted until lost. We complain about our jobs until there is a strike or we get laid off, and then we wish we could work again. We grumble about things around the house until fire or storm damages it, and then there is no place like “home sweet home.”

The key to happiness is so simple. It comes through having the right attitude toward life. Solomon said, “For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he” (Proverbs 23:7). The Christian should be the happiest person on earth because his thinking should be right. he has forgiveness of sins, One in whom to trust, and the promise of eternal life. But not all Christians

are happy. Some do not have strong faith; they have never learned contentment and trust in God. Hear God's word: "Let your way of life be free from the love of money, being content with what you have; for He Himself has said, I will never desert you, nor will I ever forsake you, so that we confidently say, The Lord is my helper, I will not be afraid. What shall man do to me?" (Hebrews 13:5-6, NASV).

-via *Words of Life*; Knoxville, Tennessee.



Serpents and Doves

David Smitherman

"Behold I send you forth as sheep in the midst of wolves: be ye therefore wise as serpents, and harmless as doves" (Matthew 10:16). Serpents and doves—two creatures that have little in common. And yet, in the development of our character, we are to be "as" they are in some respects. Quite a paradox, isn't it? Well, much of the Christian's character is a paradox. For instance...

We are to control our tongues (James 3:1-f) but also speak boldly (Ephesians 6:20). There is no virtue in a bold tongue that is uncontrolled or one so controlled that it is never bold. Our tongues need a "controlled boldness" in order to rebuke sin both publicly (Galatians 2:11-f) and privately (Matthew 18:15). Though the consequences may be unpleasant (Mark 6:16-18) we must speak boldly and when occasion demands it our bold tongues must be blunt (Matthew 23:15). Fear of saying a wrong thing should not keep us from saying the right thing (Matthew 10:26-27). Someone has wisely said, "Silence is not always golden; sometimes it is just plain yellow."

Paul's humility (1 Corinthians 15:9) and yet his confidence (2 Timothy 4:7-8) exemplify yet another paradox. Humility should not breed timidity but neither should confidence give rise to arrogance. Humility will keep us aware of our own weaknesses but should never cause a hesitancy to point out sin in the lives of others (1 Corinthians 5:1-13). We are humbled by our liability to err in opinions and understanding of Truth, but are confident that there are some things that cannot

be compromised (Galatians 2:5).

The virtue of longsuffering (Galatians 5:22) must be balanced with intolerance (Colossians 2:4,8,16,18). Longsuffering is needed as attempts are made to progress toward maturity, but intolerance is demanded when progress is not made and goals not reached (1 Corinthians 3:1-3; Hebrews 5:11-f). It is one thing to suffer long with sinners as they attempt to conquer sin but quite another thing to tolerate wrong-doing (Revelation 2:15-16,20-21).

We must certainly care what others think about us (Matthew 5:13-16) but at the same time think little of how others evaluate us (Galatians 6:10). The virtue of living to influence others (Philippians 2:12-16; 1 Peter 2:11-12) can so easily become the vice of living to please others (Galatians 2:11-f).

Some are prone by "nature" to be "as serpents" or "as doves" and the Devil uses our "natural inclinations" to cause an imbalanced character. He would have us emphasize what comes easily and de-emphasize what doesn't. As a consequence we often go to extremes: either a pseudo-sophisticated person who thinks that "cultured" people avoid bold speech, confident affirmations, intolerance of sin, and conduct that may "offend" others; or a crudeness that is abusive in speech, arrogant, intolerant, and unconcerned about what others think.

The development of a balanced, yet paradoxical, character does not come quickly (Hebrews 5:12—"by reason of time") nor is it easy (1 Corinthians 9:25—"striveth...self control"), but there are no shortcuts to maturity.

-via *The Heights Newsletter*; Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Beacon of Truth

Radio Program

Every Sunday Morning

on WVNN

770AM – 92.5 FM

8:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.

Market Street church of Christ

514 West Market Street

Athens, Alabama

Confessing Sin

Mike Thomas

Pride can be a problem for any of us, especially in response to sin. “Why should I have to confess my sins publicly? It’s nobody’s business what I have done; this is a matter between me and God.” Yet, an erring Christian should want to confess his public sins for various reasons:

1. **God Commands It:** (1 John 1:9; James 5:16). Has the erring sinner learned his lesson? Does he realize the seriousness of his sin? Has he repented? Is he sorry for offending God? These questions are answered in a genuine, public confession.

2. **Shows A Contrite Heart:** (Luke 15:21), which is necessary in restoring one’s relationship with God (2 Corinthians 7:10). If one is truly sorry for his sins, he will want others to know of his repentance. He will want to remove the shame he brought on the name of Christ (Romans 2:23-24) and replace it with honor and glory.

3. **To Restore Relationship With Brethren:** (Matthew 18:15-17). The erring injured those who love and trusted him (2 Corinthians 2:5). He slandered them in charging them with evil for insisting that he repent. His confession affirms that it was not wrong to rebuke his sin and restores brotherly affection between them (v. 8). His confession also makes it possible for brethren to defend him in the community when people make reference to his sin (Acts 9:26-28).

4. **Shows Personal Accountability:** (Psalms 51:3-4). As long as an erring sinner has the attitude that “I’ve done nothing wrong,” he hasn’t sincerely repented of his sin. This attitude keeps him in sin (Acts 8:21-22).

A Christian who will not confess his public sin has either not repented of it, or is too proud to admit his mistakes, which is another sin. God says, “He who covers his sins will not prosper, but whoever confesses and forsakes them will have mercy” (Proverbs 28:13).

-via *Standing Firm*; Beaver Dam, Kentucky.

Remember Our Study Periods

Sunday Mornings at 9:45 a.m.

Wednesday Evenings at 7:00 p.m.

News & Notes

THE SICK:

Cornelia Pepper
Virginia Meyer
Barbara Carter
Bobbie Adcock
Patsy Thomas
Doris Lovell
Irene Inman
Linda Jones
Ann Bush
Gary Barksdale

Jane Meredith
Opal Conn
JoAnn Gilbert
Frances Bowers
Charles Vaughn
Gilbert Hardy
Reba Byram
Wayne Gooch
Shaun Carruth
Cynthia Smith

Those Undergoing Treatments or Chronic Illness:

Jeanette Weir
Mot Dollar
Janice Cagle
Gene Carpenter
Linda Ordonez
Annalynn Tegg
Ray Kennedy
Elizabeth Howard
Phillip Harwell
Shayna Tollison
Staley Jackson

Ella Melvin
Gayle Ball
Eli Williams
Betty Hamm
Charles Burns
Al Pollard
Ava Brooke Campbell
Ben Hinkle
Una King Currier
Daniel Ogles
Anita Willis

In The Hospital:

Tim Craig; Huntsville Hospital, rm. 264
Ricky Felker; ECM Hospital-Florence, rm. 564
Matt Poff; Vanderbilt Hospital, Nashville

Athens Rehabilitation & Senior Care:

Nelva Reed, rm. 111	William Thomas, rm. 70
Matty Murray, rm. 2	Dorothy Draper, rm. 97
Judith Groce, rm. 45	Grady Tomerlin, rm. 102
Terry Camp, rm. 91	Mildred Frantz, rm. 31
Gayle Mills, rm. 15	Evelyn Hogan, rm. 36
Mable Crafts, rm. 98	Helen Trousdale, rm. 43
Valeria Dalton, rm. 7	

Limestone Health Facility:

Geneva Davis, rm. 14-E

Limestone Lodge:

Jerry Gilbert, rm. 20W

Limestone Manor:

Mary Ruth Gardner, rm. 86

Shut-In or Away From Home:

Robert & Mot Beasley, at home

Hazel Brooks, at home

Gwen Bullock, at granddaughter’s in Huntsville

Wynell Casteel, at home

Marjorie Dunnivant, in Huntsville in assisted living
 Carl Hargrave, at granddaughter's home in Hartselle
 Essie Hardison, at home
 Ruby Jean Tinnon, at home

GOSPEL MEETINGS: The *Anderson church* is beginning a gospel meeting today and it will continue through Wednesday evening. *Kasey Harbin* will be the speaker in this meeting... The *Somerville Road church* in Decatur is beginning a meeting today and it will continue through Wednesday. *Steve Klein* will be the speaker in this meeting.

TEACHER'S MEETING: There will be teacher's meeting this afternoon at 4:15. It will be in the west auditorium.

MILDRED MARIE LANDERS (1929— 2016): It is with sadness that we note the passing of sister *Mildred Landers*. Sister Landers was a longtime member of the Market Street church. We have missed sister Landers at services the last several months. Her funeral was Friday afternoon at the McConnell Funeral Home. She was laid to rest in Roselawn Cemetery. We want to express our deepest sympathy to all the family in her passing.

WORK GROUPS: **Work Group two** will be meeting this evening after our evening service. If you are in group two, remember to meet with your group.

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

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

Sunday: Bible Classes..... 132
 Morning Worship 174
 Evening Worship..... 135

Wednesday: Bible Classes..... 112

Please Join Us For Our
Gospel Meeting

April 17 – 21, 2016

Schedule of Services

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

Evangelist – Buc Chumbley

MARKET STREET CHURCH OF CHRIST
 514 WEST MARKET STREET
 ATHENS, ALABAMA

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, March 20th:

Morning Worship

Announcements Dwaine Allfrey
 Song Leader Stefan Fudge
 Prayer Larry Mitchell
 Preaching David Cox
 Lord's Supper
 Presiding Kenneth Smith
 Assisting Steve Usery
 Serving Jason Conn..... Kenneth Adams
 Nathaniel Adams A. J. Price
 Closing Prayer Marcus Morris

Evening Worship

Announcements Dwaine Allfrey
 Song Leader Joel Hamm
 Prayer Hunter Cox
 Preaching David Cox
 Lord's Supper Kenneth Smith
 Closing Prayer Norman Brown

Other Assignments for Sunday, March 20th:
 Usher Keenon Currier
 Work Sound System Landon Adams

Wednesday, March 23rd:

Song Leader Tommy Burns
 Bible Reading..... (2 Corinthians 5:11-21)
 Mike Ogles
 Prayer Dan Reed
 Invitation Harvey Nixon
 Closing Prayer Joy Warner

Sunday, March 27th:

Morning Worship

Announcements Marty Adams
 Song Leader Hunter Cox
 Prayer Joel Hamm
 Preaching David Cox
 Lord's Supper
 Presiding Keith Hinkle
 Assisting Russell Melvin
 Serving Cody Kennedy Heath Dollar
 Charles Vaughn Danny Johnson
 Closing Prayer Steve Usery

Evening Worship

Announcements Marty Adams
 Song Leader Tommy Burns
 Prayer Harvey Nixon
 Preaching Song Service
 Lord's Supper Keith Hinkle
 Closing Prayer Jerry McGlocklin

Other Assignments for Sunday, March 27th:
 Usher Larry Mitchell
 Work Sound System Terry Andrews