

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

July 17, 2016

No. 29

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

Evangelist

David A. Cox..... (256) 233-8910
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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

How Do You Respond To Gospel Preaching?

Max Dawson

In Luke 8:18 Jesus said, "Therefore take heed how you hear." In Matthew 11:15 He said, "He who has ears to hear, let him hear!" That last statement about "ears to hear" is found in Matthew, Mark and Luke. I believe it is found seven times in total.

In none of those places is Jesus merely talking about our ears. In all of those places He is talking about hearing God's word. But it is not merely about hearing in itself. It is about how we respond to the preaching of God's word. How do you respond?

I have preached the gospel for a little more than 45 years. I have seen lots of different kinds of responses to the preaching over those years. Here are a few of those responses.

Sleep: Sometimes people fall asleep during the preaching. Not a response we are looking for. But I don't think we should always be judgmental about that. Some folks take meds that cause them to easily fall asleep.

Laughter: Sometimes folks may laugh during my preaching—even when I say something that is not funny. Perhaps something is going on at the moment that I am not aware of.

Crying: I have seen some who have cried. Maybe a verse I used brought back a memory of a long departed loved one.

Argument: Some have wanted to argue a point after the lesson. I always appreciate those who would point out a mistake I have made. I find it hard to appreciate those who want to argue for argument's sake.

Anger: Some are angered by a lesson from God's word. They simply did not like what was taught. Possibly a guilty conscience was the real cause of their anger.

Indifference: I have seen some folks who were indifferent to the preaching. It didn't make them angry or excited, happy or sad. Just didn't seem to care much one way or the other.

Disappointment: My own response to my preaching is that I sometimes

feel as though I have fallen short. Every preacher knows that no matter how hard he works there are times when the preaching just doesn't go the way it was planned. I preached a sermon like that a week ago. It was entitled "Love Your Enemies." While I taught the truth, I felt that the points were not as clear as they should have been. I was not really happy with the lesson. But that lesson evoked a response...

One hearer came up to me with tears in his eyes. His voice was quivering. He told me that the lesson touched him and provoked him to try to settle a conflict from the past that he felt bad about. Ah! The response the Lord is looking for! The response of a changed life!

Jesus said, "He who has ears to hear, let him hear." Someone heard. If you were at worship yesterday, how did you hear? What was your response to the preaching?

Whether the preacher makes a good presentation of God's word or not, ultimately the power is not in his presentation. It is in God's word (Romans 1:16).

The next time you listen to preaching, pay less attention to the speaker (his voice, his appearance, the length of his sermon), and more attention to the content of his lesson. If the content is biblical and accurate, let it change your life.

~via *Eastside Bulletin*; Indianapolis, Indiana.



Complaining

David Maxson

And the people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we loathe this worthless food." (Numbers 21:5)

What was the number one sin of Israel in the wilderness? Complaining!

The people complained as soon as they crossed the Red Sea all the way till this story which is near the end of their pilgrimage. There are at least ten unique stories during Israel's wilderness days where we find the people

complaining against God and/or Moses (Exodus 16:2; 17:2; 32:1; Numbers 11:1; 14:2; 16:3 17:6,28; 20:2; 21:5).

Grumbling is a problem. None of us is above the temptation to murmur or complain. We need to learn from the book of Numbers that this is a serious issue with God. He never took grumbling lightly. He sent fire to consume some, swallowed up others with the earth, and sent fiery serpents among the people, all because of complaining!

What lies at the heart of a complaining spirit?

1. *A lack of faith.* Israel usually complained because they failed to see God's ability to provide for them.

2. *A selfish heart.* This is seen in the rebellion of Korah. He and his family were jealous of the position God had given Moses.

How do you remedy a complaining spirit?

1. *Remind yourself that God is in control.* Your life may look like a wilderness with no food or water in sight, but God has not abandoned you. He will guide you home.

2. *Give thanks.* Instead of grumbling about what you don't have, turn your attention to what God has given you.

Father, forgive us of our ingratitude and lack of faith. Cultivate in us a heart of thankfulness and trust in your ability to provide.

~via *Auburn Beacon*; Auburn, Alabama.



Count My Blessings

Buc Chumbley

"When I'm worried and I can't sleep, I count my blessings instead of sheep," so sang Bing Crosby in the Holiday classic, White Christmas. Worry does have a way of stealing our sleep as well as our health. It can destroy the faith of the strongest saint.

In James 1:16-18, James gives us three reasons why we should count our blessings. First, because God loves us. James speaks of, "my beloved brethren" (v. 16). A loving father will never let his child be overcome with

something they can't handle. Neither will our Father in heaven (1Corinthians 10:13).

Secondly, remember God's goodness. "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning" (v. 17). All we have comes from a Father who loves us.

Thirdly, remember God's grace. "Of His own will He brought us forth by the word of truth, that we might be a kind of first fruits of His creatures" (v. 18). Through God's grace we have been born again into His family. There is no greater blessing in this world than to be called a child of God. With all these blessings going for us, why worry?

In the classic novel, Robinson Crusoe, author Daniel Defoe has his leading character, Crusoe, cast upon a deserted island off the coast of South America following a violent shipwreck. For more than 28 years he suffered under conditions that most would consider unbearable. On one occasion, as Crusoe sat down for his evening meal he said the following, "I sat down to my meal with thankfulness, and admired the hand of God's providence which had thus spread my table in the wilderness. I learned to look more on the bright side of my condition, and less on the dark side, and to consider what I had rather than what I wanted."

Instead of worrying over what you don't have, try counting your blessings and be thankful for what you do have. Maybe you will sleep better.

-via *The Hueytown Bulletin*; Hueytown, Alabama.



Singing — *At the Gathering Place*

Sunday, July 24th

Following the our service

Come Join Us As We Sing Together

News & Notes...

THE SICK:

JoAnn Gilbert
Nikki Ogles
Reba Byram
Patsy Thomas
Doris Lovell
Fredia Lowman
Ann Bush
Linda Jones

Cornelia Pepper
Bobbie Adcock
Cindy Glass
Irene Inman
Gilbert Hardy
Wayne Gooch
Shaun Carruth
Charlie Christopher

Those Undergoing Treatments or Chronic Illness:

Ella Melvin
Mot Dollar
Janice Cagle
Gene Carpenter
Linda Ordonez
Gladys Sandlin
Ray Kennedy
Elizabeth Howard
Phillip Harwell
Shayna Tollison
Anita Willis
Diane Kilpatrick
Betty League

Gayle Ball
Jeanette Weir
Eli Williams
Betty Hamm
Charles Burns
Al Pollard
Ava Brooke Campbell
Matt Poff
Una King Currier
Daniel Ogles
Jenny Pickens
Cindy Walker

In The Hospital:

Glenda Lankford; Athens-Limestone Hospital, rm. 218

Athens Rehabilitation & Senior Care:

Nelva Reed, rm. 61	William Thomas, rm. 70
Judith Groce, rm. 10-B	Dorothy Draper, rm. 104
Matty Murray, rm. 2	Helen Trousdale, rm. 30
Valeria Dalton, rm. 7	Grady Tomerlin, rm. 38
Terry Camp, rm. 82	Mildred Frantz, rm. 31
Gayle Mills, rm. 15	Evelyn Hogan, rm. 36
Mable Crafts, rm. 39	Christine Hudson, rm. 77

Limestone Health Facility:

Jerry Gilbert, rm. 55	Geneva Davis, rm. 14-E
Hazel Brooks, rm. 57	

Shut-In or Away From Home:

Robert & Mot Beasley, at Merrill Gardens, Madison
Hazel Brooks, Nursing Home In Pulaski, Tennessee
Gwen Bullock, at granddaughter's in Huntsville
Wynell Casteel, at home
Marjorie Dunnivant, at Brookdale Farms, Huntsville
Mary Ruth Gardner, at Merrill Gardens, Madison
Carl Hargrave, at granddaughter's home in Hartselle

Essie Hardison, at home
Ruby Jean Tinnon, at home

GOSPEL MEETINGS: The *Cartwright church* is beginning a gospel meeting today and it will continue through Wednesday. *Jim Deason* will be the speaker in this meeting...The *Westview church* in Hartselle is beginning a gospel meeting today and it will continue through Friday. *David Maxson* will be the speaker in this meeting...The *Capshaw church* in Capshaw is beginning a meeting today and it will continue through Wednesday. *Larry Rouse* will be the speaker...The *Jennings Chapel church* is beginning a meeting today and it will continue through Wednesday. *Ralph Walker* will be the speaker...The *Jones Road church* is beginning a meeting today and it will continue through Friday. *J. R. Bronger* will be the speaker.....The *Wooley Springs church* is beginning a meeting today and it will continue through Friday. The speakers in the meeting will be as follows: Sunday morning – *Caleb Smithson*; Sunday afternoon – *Michael Persall*; Monday – *David Watson*; *Zac Huff*; Tuesday – *David Posey*; Thursday – *Matt Lannom*; Friday – *Trenton Barksdale*.

OUT OF TOWN: *The Melvins*: *Ross and Louise* are out of town on vacation...*The Jason Conn Family* has been on vacation this past week...*Ida Nell Griffin* is out of town this week.

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 July 10th*

Sunday: Bible Classes 141
Morning Worship 193
Evening Worship 162
Wednesday: Bible Classes 124



Remember Our Study Periods

Sunday Mornings at 9:45 a.m.
Wednesday Evenings at 7:00 p.m.
Come Join Us As We Study Together

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, July 17th:

Morning Worship

Announcements..... Dwaine Allfrey
Song Leader Hunter Cox
Prayer..... Joel Hamm
Preaching..... David Cox
Lord's Supper
Presiding..... Terry Andrews
Assisting..... Keith Hinkle
Serving Jason Conn Marion Mitchell
..... A. J. Price Charles Vaughn
Closing Prayer Bonnie Sutton

Evening Worship

Announcements..... Dwaine Allfrey
Song Leader Stefan Fudge
Prayer..... Tommy Coblentz
Preaching..... David Cox
Lord's Supper Terry Andrews
Closing Prayer Keenon Currier

Other Assignments for Sunday, July 17th:

Ushers..... Steve Usery/Russ Wulfekuhl
Work Sound System..... Landon Adams

Wednesday, July 20th:

Song Leader Tony Thomas
Bible Reading 2 Corinthians 12:11-21
..... Seth Todd
Prayer..... Jordan Lovell
Invitation Marty Adams
Closing Prayer Tommy Burns

Sunday, July 24th:

Morning Worship

Announcements..... Harvey Nixon
Song Leader Tommy Burns
Prayer..... Jerry McGlocklin
Preaching..... David Cox
Lord's Supper
Presiding..... Kenneth Smith
Assisting..... Marcus Morris
Serving Bart Brown Cody Kennedy
..... Tony Thomas Marvin Putman
Closing Prayer A. J. Price

Evening Worship

Announcements..... Harvey Nixon
Song Leader Hunter Cox
Prayer..... Steve Usery
Preaching..... Song Service
Lord's Supper Kenneth Smith
Closing Prayer Landon Adams

Other Assignments for Sunday, July 24th:

Ushers..... Steve Usery/Terry Andrews
Work Sound System..... Nathaniel Adams