

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

October 9, 2016

No. 41

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

Evangelist

David A. Cox..... (256) 233-8910
Cell: (256) 614-3757

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

Beating Average

Rennie Frazier

The announcer's voice comes on and says, "It's out there, the voice in your head, making sure that you sleep through your yoga class. Convincing you that one doughnut hole couldn't possibly lead to another. Average blames the camera for those ten extra pounds and says, 'set the treadmill on mossy or roll or loiter.' Need an excuse? Average has em' all. Skip the gym it will probably be too crowded anyway; yeah average. Average has memory issues, "forgot to work out, again." It's crowning achievement, and everyone gets a trophy average is good! No! Average is average! You can beat average!"

I can't help but laugh every time I see this commercial, talk about art imitating life! They hit the nail squarely on the head with this one. Being average is easy by definition: "typical; common; ordinary, nothing special, only average." (dictionary.com)

In so many ways, have we settled for being average? But as we consider what the Lord calls His followers to be and do, it is anything but average. Read Luke 9:57-62. Jesus challenged His would-be disciples to consider what their faith would entail; all excuses and distractions were no substitutes for a full-out commitment on their part, "No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for service in the kingdom of God."

"What More Are You Doing Than Others...?"

Evangelism is one of these areas of faith that we must examine and challenge ourselves. Are we average? When we truly consider what it means to take the gospel to a lost and dying world, it really is a question of how much do we love those around us.

There can be no mistake about it when it comes to loving the people around us Jesus said that average wouldn't do. Let's ponder the Lord's words in Matthew 5:43-48. "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love neighbor and hate your enemy.' But I say to you, 'love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you be the sons of your Father in heaven; for He causes His sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous. For if you love those

who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax-collectors do the same? If you greet only your brothers, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same? Therefore you are to be perfect as your heavenly Father is perfect.”

Do you see the kind of love that reaches out to others? It is not ordinary; it is extraordinary; it is not on par with others; it is above par with God; it is not a common love, because that is easy to achieve, but rather it is an uncommon love. It is Christ’s love.

There are several things that I noticed in the words of Jesus.

The first thing is, being like everyone else is unacceptable, “you have heard it said...but I say to you...” “do not even the tax collectors...” “what more are you doing than others...” Being like those around us (average) has never been pleasing to God.

The other thing you’ll see is, love seeks to touch everyone, not just the “easy” few. “Love our enemies... pray for those that persecute you,” “if you love those who love you...” “if you greet only your brothers...” To love the lost, we must be willing to stretch ourselves well past comfort zones, prejudices and preferences.

Lastly, there is the expectation of excellence, “be perfect as your Father in heaven is perfect.” Our calling is our challenge, “that you might be the sons of your Father who is in heaven.” This can only be achieved if we are willing to take upon ourselves the obligation to love others in hard circumstances, with the love of Christ.

So when it comes to reaching out to our neighbors with the love of God - “what more are you doing than others?” Being average just won’t do. Let’s beat average!

~via *Tri-Cities Edifier*, Muscle Shoals, Alabama..



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

When We Begin To Doubt

T. Doy Moyer

Believers often battle with doubts. These doubts range from questioning whether we have the ability to live as we ought to questioning whether or not God is real and can be trusted. We should never just brush questions aside, for they will have a bad way of creeping back in and getting in the way of our walk. Rather, when doubts arise, we should use them as opportunities to grow and probe into the fundamentals that will help shore up our faith. Whatever the doubts may be, there are often even deeper issues underlying those questions. We know the danger. Doubts that are not addressed can become destructive to our overall faith. These will turn us into wavering people who are driven and tossed by the wind (Jas. 1:6). Following, then, are some reminders that can help us deal with doubts. When we begin to doubt...

We are not thinking highly enough of God (Ephesians 3:20).

Doubt gets to the heart of how we conceive God. If our faith is not founded on the God who can do far more abundantly beyond anything we can ask or think, then our faith will waver when we are confronted with difficulties that seem too much for us. Doubting usually starts with bringing God down to our level (or below). When we do this, we’ve already lost the battle. A high view of God is critical to strong faith.

We are thinking too highly of human wisdom in contrast to God’s wisdom (1 Corinthians 2:1-5).

The world thinks the cross foolish (1 Corinthians 1:18ff). When we take our eyes off of God’s wisdom, we will begin to doubt the power of the cross, and we will then be placing more value on human reason and wisdom over God’s. Why is it, though, that critics who place everything into the category of human wisdom do not also doubt their own sense of wisdom? We need a wisdom we can trust, and this must be founded on something deeper than what any mere man may think. Faith needs to be in the power of God, not in the wisdom of men.

We are not focusing on the resurrection (1 Corinthians 15:58).

Two primary facts about the effects of Jesus’ resurrection remind us of its power: First, we are born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus (1

Peter 1:3). Second, when our faith in His resurrection is strong, we can know that our labor is not in vain (1 Corinthians 15:58).

If Jesus were not raised from the dead, our faith is vain (1 Corinthians 15:12-19). Since the resurrection is the fact on which we base our hope, and since faith is what underlies our hope (Hebrews 11:1), then losing faith in the resurrection will 1) destroy our hope, and 2) make us question all that do as Christians. Herein lies the devastation of doubt. Doubt destroys hope.

This is one reason Paul said the death and resurrection of Jesus is “of first importance” (1 Corinthians 15:1-4). If we get the resurrection of Jesus strongly fixed in our minds, the rest will fall into place. We will know that everything we do for the Lord is worthwhile, and we will live with hope. It is through Jesus that we are introduced, by faith, into God’s grace in which we stand; “and we exult in hope of the glory of God” (Romans 5:1-2).

We are more focused on self and personal failures in contrast to the success of the worldly (Psalm 73).

By looking at the world and focusing on worldly fun, pleasure, and success, we may well be setting ourselves up for doubt. The psalmist said he almost stumbled because of it. Instead, we need a greater perspective so that we may “perceive their end” (Psalm 73:17). To do this, we must go to the right source and be renewed in our thinking (cf. Romans 12:1-2). True success is not defined by the world, but by listening to our Creator, who always knows what is best for us.

We are not looking to eternity (Hebrews 11:24-26; 2 Corinthians 4:18).

This is the “so what” of life. What happens in the end? Why do we press on in the face of difficulties? What enabled Moses to endure affliction with God’s people was that he considered “the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures of Egypt; for he was looking to the reward” (Hebrews 11:26). Our perspective needs to reach into eternity, “for the things which are seen are temporal, but the things which are not seen are eternal” (2 Corinthians 4:18). “Lord, to whom shall we go? You have words of eternal life” (John 6:68). Faith matters because eternity matters.

While doubts have the ability to destroy faith, we also have the opportunity to refocus our thinking and strengthen those areas of our faith that have wavered. Don’t brush aside the questions; deal with them honestly. At the same time, make sure to place the proper

perspective on those matters that are most important.
~via *Northside Proclaimer*, Center, Texas.

News & Notes...

THE SICK:

Mary Will Johnston	Cornelia Pepper
Patsy Thomas	Joe Leopard
Marcus Morris	Irene Inman
Doris Lovell	Reba Byram
Cindy Glass	Gilbert Hardy
Janet Jones	Everette “Bud” Dollar
Wayne Bolton	Wayne Gooch
Betty Christopher	Linda Jones
Ann Bush	Al Bush
Shaun Carruth	

Those Undergoing Treatments or Chronic Illness:

Ella Melvin	Gayle Ball
Jeanette Weir	Janice Cagle
Wayne Wooldridge	Cindy Walker
Eli Williams	Gene Carpenter
Linda Ordonez	Charles Burns
Al Pollard	Ava Brooke Campbell
Elizabeth Howard	Matt Poff
Phillip Harwell	Una King Currier
Shayna Tollison	Daniel Ogles
Anita Willis	Jenny Pickens

In The Hospital:

Bonnie Sutton; Athens-Limestone Hosp., rm. 211
Norman Hamm; Millenium Rehab. - Huntsville
Ashley Sims; Cobb County Hospital - Atlanta, Georgia
Charlie Christopher; Athens-Limestone Hospital - ICU

Athens Rehabilitation & Senior Care:

Nelva Reed, rm. 61	William Thomas, rm. 110-B
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
Joyce Martin, rm. 92	

Limestone Health Facility:

Jerry Gilbert, rm. 55 Gilbert Hardy, rm. 117

Shut-In or Away From Home:

Robert & Mot Beasley, at Merrill Gardens, Madison
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

OUT OF TOWN: *The Hamms:* Joel, Sharma, Clayton & Ragan are out of town this week on vacation in the mountains... *Dwaine Alfrey* is out of town this week. Due to the storm, he has been delayed in coming home.

DOOR TO DOOR: On Saturday morning, October 22nd, we are planning to go out door knocking to meet and invite people to our services at Market Street. We will plan to leave from the building at about 9:00 a.m.

GOSPEL MEETINGS: The *Elon church* in Owens Cross Roads is beginning a gospel meeting today and it will continue through Friday. The speakers in this meeting will be as follows: Sunday morning – *Ben Shropshire*; Sunday evening – *Murphy Priestly*; Monday – *Rodney Hampton*; Tuesday – *Jeff Archer*; Wednesday – *Issac Munoz*; Thursday – *David Cox*; Friday – *Eric Reynolds*... The *Fourth Street church* in Cullman is beginning a gospel meeting today and it will continue through Thursday. The speaker will be *Lonnice Oldag*.

CONFESSION: We rejoiced over the good heart displayed by *Kenia Adams* this past Sunday morning who came forward and confessed short comings in her life as a child of God. She asked for prayers for forgiveness and strength. May the Lord bless her and may we all encourage her as she has and will encourage us.

ADDITIONAL SUPPORT: The elders have decided to begin supporting *Larry Sharpe* in *Woodbury, Tennessee*. Larry preaches for the *West High Street church* in Woodbury... Also, they decided to begin supporting *Ben May* in *Lawrenceburg, Tennessee*. Ben preaches for the *First Street church* in Lawrenceburg.

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 Oct. 2nd*

Sunday: Bible Classes 137
Morning Worship 165
Evening Worship 118
Wednesday: Bible Classes 114

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, October 9th:

Morning Worship

Announcements..... Dwaine Alfrey
Song Leader Joel Hamm
Prayer..... Tommy Coblentz
Preaching..... David Cox
Lord's Supper
Presiding..... Mike Ogles
Assisting..... Tony Thomas
Serving David Terry Marvin Putman
..... Russell Melvin..... Bonnie Sutton
Closing Prayer Joy Warner

Evening Worship

Announcements..... Dwaine Alfrey
Song Leader Tyler Cox
Prayer..... Jordan Lovell
Preaching..... David Cox
Lord's Supper Mike Ogles
Closing Prayer Landon Adams

Other Assignments for Sunday, October 9th:

Ushers..... Hunter Cox/Danny Johnson
Work Sound System..... Terry Andrews

Wednesday, October 5th:

Song Leader A. J. Price
Bible Reading..... Galatians 5:1-12
..... Seth Todd
Prayer..... Marty Adams
Invitation..... Nathaniel Adams
Closing Prayer Tommy Burns

Sunday, October 16th:

Morning Worship

Announcements..... Kenneth Smith
Song Leader Tyler Cox
Prayer..... Tony Thomas
Preaching..... David Cox
Lord's Supper
Presiding..... Jerry McGlocklin
Assisting..... Tommy Coblentz
Serving Tommy Burns..... Landon Adams
..... Jason Conn..... Dwaine Alfrey
Closing Prayer Terry Andrews

Evening Worship

Announcements..... Kenneth Smith
Song Leader Joel Hamm
Prayer..... Keith Hinkle
Preaching..... David Cox
Lord's Supper Jerry McGlocklin
Closing Prayer Arvid McGuire

Other Assignments for Sunday, October 16th:

Ushers..... Marcus Morris/Larry Mitchell
Work Sound System..... Nathaniel Adams