

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

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No. 48

Missing In Action

Joel Hamm

The first week after his inauguration as President of the United States, a member of his cabinet insisted on an urgent meeting at 10:00 Sunday morning to handle a threatened national crisis. President James A. Garfield refused to attend because he had a more important appointment. The cabinet member demanded to know what it was. The president replied, "I will be as frank as you are. My engagement is with the Lord to meet Him in His house at His table at 10:00 tomorrow, and I shall be there."

How do you feel when you miss an important meeting? How about an appointment that has been scheduled for some time? How does it feel to miss one of your childrens' ballgame that you have been looking forward to? Usually, there is a sense of failure or disappointment to some extent on our part. Maybe it is just a little remorse or maybe it actually makes you feel bad, you know in the "pit of our stomach" as we say sometimes.

How about when we miss our appointment with the Lord to learn about His Will guiding our lives. Do we carry on our normal activities as if nothing is wrong? Or do we exchange that time with keeping ourselves busy so that our mind is distracted from where we know we should be? 1 Thessalonians 5:11 tells us to "encourage one another and build up one another". Seems to me that would be hard to do if you are not assembling with the saints on a regular basis.

Now I know what you're thinking - here we go with the "forsaking the assembly" talk. Let me be clear. I'm not referring to being sick. I'm not referring to having to work. I'm not referring to unforeseen circumstances that prohibit you from making it to services occasionally. I am talking about making a decision to not attend services.

Philippians 2 says *"If there be therefore any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any tenderness and mercies, fulfill ye my joy, that ye be likeminded, having the same love, being of one accord and of one mind. Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem the other better than himself. Look not every man to his own things, but every man also to the things of others. Let*

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

Evangelist

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

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*is published in the interest of New Testament
Christianity and to enhance the work of the
Market Street church.*

David A. Cox, Editor

this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus.” Have you ever really stopped to think about the effects of not attending services on other people? I don’t know about you, but I can’t think of a better place to find consolation in Christ, comfort of love, fellowship of the Spirit, tenderness, joy, and love than with meeting with the saints at my local congregation. But if I’m not there, I can’t do these things. And if you’re not there, we can’t reciprocate these blessings. You see, every joint supplies and causes the “growth of the body for the building up of itself in love” - Ephesians 4:16.

So what are some other results of missing services on other people? How about worry? When a brother or sister misses services, it should and does cause concern from other members. Are they sick? Are they struggling spiritually? Do they have problems with family or work that they need help with but don’t know who to ask for help? I don’t know about you, but I have found that there is a fine line between “genuine concern” and “meddling” with some people. If I tell you I have missed you at services, it does not mean I’m mad at you or even wondering what you were doing or why you missed... it simply means I’m concerned and in a way, asking “Is there anything I can help with?” Again, some people simply don’t want you to know all their problems.

May we all strive to increase in our faithfulness to the Lord and to His Church so that we might increase our brotherly kindness, knowledge, and love so that we are never found “Missing in Action.”



Beacon of Truth Radio Program

Every Sunday Morning

on WVNN

770AM – 92.5 FM

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

Market Street church of Christ
514 West Market Street
Athens, Alabama

Faith and Love Give Hope

Gary Henry

“ . . . remembering without ceasing your work of faith, labor of love, and patience of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ in the sight of our God and Father” (1 Thessalonians 1:3).

Faith, hope, and love are closely related in the gospel of Christ. Each virtue helps the others to grow, and on the other hand, a failure of any of the three will hinder the other two. In our meditations on “reaching forward,” we have seen how very important hope is in the Christian’s life. Hope is perhaps the principal thing that moves us toward God and toward heaven. So despair, the loss of hope, is a problem of eternal proportions. Today, let’s see how faith and love can keep us from losing our hope.

The Hopefulness of faith

Faith, when all is said and done, comes down to “trust.” It means that, based on the mountain of evidence that God has kept His word in the past, we make the decision to leave the future in His hands. So faith makes possible a hope that is based on trust — trust in the Creator of heaven and earth.

The Hopefulness of love

Love is the ultimate optimist. It is not naive, and if the evidence requires a negative assessment, love will go with the evidence. But love is a defender of hope. Rather than give up at the first sign of trouble, love “bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things” (1 Corinthians 13:7).

So in the gospel, we have faith, hope, and love, these three. But Paul said the “greatest of these is love” (1 Corinthians 13:13). When all else fails and our hopes hang by a thread, it will always be love that keeps that thread from breaking. How could we give up on the one who has never, not even in his darkest hour, given up on us?

In our text for today, Paul spoke of three things in the Thessalonians’ lives: their work of faith, their labor of love, and their patience of hope. When our work is based on our trust in God’s faithfulness and our labor grows out of a love that is pure and strong, then the hope that is in Christ will produce a steadfastness that would hardly be possible any other way. As long as our hope is fed by a hard-working faith and a long-laboring love, the devil simply doesn’t have what it takes to keep us from going toward God.

“He who despairs wants love and faith, for faith, hope, and love are three torches which blend their light together, nor does the one shine without the other” (Pietro Metastasis).

~via *North Terrace Church Bulletin* ; Chattanooga, Tenn.



What Do You See?

Don Truex

It's easy to criticize and complain. In fact, it takes no special ability or intellect at all to be a first class malcontent. And so, it is easy to chastise brethren, deride decisions, and generally be disagreeable and troublesome. But I tell you, there is a lot of good in the church of our Lord. I unashamedly believe that the church is composed of the very best people on God's earth. What could be better than scores of men and women devoted and dedicated to doing right? And even in this day of unbridled luxury and indulgence, what could be more pleasant to find than multitudes of Christians ready to make and expenditure of time, money, or effort in order that the Lord Jesus might be proclaimed and His brethren in the local church edified?

It is refreshing to see Christians who live life with exuberance; who look at life from the highest of perspectives because they, like Andrew of old, “have found the Messiah” (John 1:41). And, too, it is a pleasure to find brethren everywhere who speak good things of both the Lord and their brethren, and who share with untold multitudes of other faithful Christians that very real hope of inheriting a Home with God Almighty. No, we are not perfect but our deficiencies pale in comparison to the good among us. We are, my friends, a marvelously blessed people.

~via *Sowing The Seed*; Plainfield, Indiana.

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

News & Notes...

THE SICK:

Mary Will Johnston	Cornelia Pepper
Bettye Harrison	Patsy Thomas
Doris Lovell	Cindy Glass
Al Bush	Shaun Carruth
Everette “Bud” Dollar	Ann Bush
Wayne Bolton	Wayne Gooch
Ashley Sims	Pamela Simon (Grenada)

Updates:

Mary Will Johnston continues her treatment for low blood counts. She has some days that are better than others... *Alvis McLemore* is doing better with the bout of pneumonia... *Ella Melvin* learned last week that the new medicine she was on was not being effective. She continues on her old medicine... *Peggy Pepper* came home from rehabilitation at Valley View on Tuesday and is home with rehab... *Dusty Tucker, Charles and Angela Vaughn's son-in-law*, had surgery on Tuesday in Madison for severe kidney stones ... *Cindy Glass* will be going to Nashville for her next Treatment on Wednesday... *Drew Ogles* learned that he does have some allergies, but they can be treated with medicine... *Linda Jones, Kim Rogers' aunt*, who is at home under hospice care.

Those Undergoing Treatments or Chronic Illness:

Joe Leopard	Ella Melvin
Reba Byram	Irene Inman
Gayle Ball	Janice Cagle
Gilbert Hardy	Jeanette Weir
Diane Kilpatrick	Daniel Ogles
Wayne Wooldridge	Cindy Walker
Jenny Pickens	Gene Carpenter
Linda Ordonez	Charles Burns
Al Pollard	Ava Brooke Campbell
Elizabeth Howard	Matt Poff
Phillip Harwell	Una King Currier
Shayna Tollison	Eli Williams
Anita Willis	Brittany Bates Carter
Betty Christopher	

In The Hospital:

Norman Hamm; Millenium Rehab - Huntsville
Shelly Scruggs; Decatur General - Decatur

Athens Rehabilitation & Senior Care:

Nelva Reed, rm. 61 William Thomas, rm. 82

Judith Groce, rm. 10-B	Dorothy Draper, rm. 104
Matty Murray, rm. 2	Helen Trousdale, rm. 43
Valeria Dalton, rm. 7	Grady Tomerlin, rm. 40
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. 73	Sharon Parker, rm. 10

Limestone Health Facility:

Jerry Gilbert, rm. 55

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

GOSPEL MEETING: The *Ardmore church* in Ardmore is beginning a meeting today and it will continue through Wednesday evening. The speakers in this meeting will be: *Sunday morning – Steve Curtis; Sunday evening – Jeff Archer; Monday – Bill Hall; Tuesday – Steve Klein; Wednesday – Alan Yeater.*

CALL MESSAGES FROM MARKET STREET:

From time to time the church at Market Street uses an automated calling system to inform the members of the information that needs to be disseminated quickly. The phone number of the church for these calls is 256-297-2307. If you receive a call from this number, it will be the Market Street church message system. The message system is voice activated, so this will require you to say something and then the message should follow. There may be a slight delay in the start up of the message.

SONG SERVICE: This afternoon at 4:00 will be the time for regular monthly song service. I hope that everyone will make their plans to be present.

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

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.

THE RECORD: Attendance for the week of Nov. 20th

Sunday:	Bible Classes..... 125
	Morning Worship..... 163
	Evening Worship..... 110

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, November 27th:

Morning Worship

Announcements.....	Keith Hinkle
Song Leader	Tommy Burns
Prayer.....	Joel Hamm
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord's Supper	
Presiding.....	Dwaine Allfrey
Assisting.....	Kenneth Smith
Serving	Jordan Lovell..... Charles Vaughn
	Landon Adams..... Danny Johnson
Closing Prayer	Marty Adams

Evening Worship

Announcements.....	Keith Hinkle
Song Leader	Hunter Cox
Prayer.....	Terry Andrews
Preaching.....	Song Service
Lord's Supper	Dwaine Allfrey
Closing Prayer	Russell Melvin

Other Assignments for Sunday, November 27th:

Ushers.....	Heath Dollar/Keenon Currier
Work Sound System.....	Nathaniel Adams

Wednesday, November 30th:

Song Leader	A. J. Price
Bible Reading.....	Ephesians 2:11-22
	Tommy Coblentz
Prayer.....	Bonnie Sutton
Invitation.....	Mike Ogles
Closing Prayer	Steve Usery

Sunday, December 4th:

Morning Worship

Announcements.....	Terry Andrews
Song Leader	Joel Hamm
Prayer.....	Jerry McGlocklin
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord's Supper	
Presiding.....	Tommy Coblentz
Assisting.....	Mike Ogles
Serving	Marvin Putman..... David Terry
	Russ Wulfekuhl..... Kenneth Adams
Closing Prayer	Keenon Currier

Evening Worship

Announcements.....	Terry Andrews
Song Leader	Tony Thomas
Prayer.....	Steve Usery
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord's Supper	Tommy Coblentz
Closing Prayer	Nathaniel Adams

Other Assignments for Sunday, December 4th:

Ushers.....	Danny Johnson/Keith Hinkle
Work Sound System.....	Landon Adams