

# 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 IX

January 22, 2017

No. 4

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### 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.

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#### 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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**Visit Us On The Web**  
[MarketStreet-church.com](http://MarketStreet-church.com)

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**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*

## Personality Challenges

**T. Doy Moyer**

Given that God's people are diverse in how their personalities are manifested, we want to be more aware so that we can better interact with one another. Rather than being judgmental of someone's personality, we need to be understanding and merciful, knowing that all of us need that mercy (Matthew 5:7).

Following are some further matters related to personalities that we might consider:

**1. Challenge yourself to grow.** This might feel uncomfortable, but don't be content with your status quo. Try to recognize areas in your life where you need to grow. Be honest with where you are. If we know that we are deficient in an area that reflects on our spiritual vitality, then we need to know God's word well enough to see where we ought to be. It may well be that our personalities need some work, and we can't just rest easy by thinking, "That's just the way I am." Maybe the way I am needs to improve to become more like Christ. I need to pray for God's help and seek to grow (cf. Ephesians 4:15).

**2. Work harder in those areas that need changing.** Once we've identified areas in our personalities that need improving, then we need to be dedicated to working hard to improve. This in no way lessens our reliance upon God, but God does not want us sitting back and doing nothing. We need to be zealous for good works (Titus 2:11-14), and if our personalities are such that we're not inclined to put out much effort, then that needs to change. It won't happen by accident.

**3. Don't use personality as an excuse to sin.** "Therefore, to one who knows the right thing to do and does not do it, to him it is sin" (James 4:17). Perhaps this is the most dangerous part of personality considerations. It is one thing to accept the reality of our personality differences, but it is quite another matter to use our personality traits and habits as an excuse to do wrong or fail to do what is right. If one is inclined to be emotional, for example, then using that is not an excuse to get easily angry and mistreat people (cf. Ephesians 4:26-32). If another is inclined to shyness, then using that shyness is not an excuse to fail to speak up

on behalf of Christ when the need arises (cf. 1 Peter 3:15). If “the way I am” leads me to a sinful demeanor, then that needs to change, and personality cannot be an excuse. There are some aspects of our personalities that may well need to be overcome, which is why it is so important to challenge ourselves and work harder where we see the need to change.

**4. Don't be absorbed with self.** The danger in thinking about our own personalities is that we can become self-absorbed. Our culture teaches us to do just that. We are taught to “be yourself” to the point that we might run roughshod over others in order to force our “rights” to be what we want to be. If “that’s the way I am” becomes an excuse to focus so much on “me,” then I’ve overstepped the line. We need to think enough about ourselves to know where we can grow and how we ought to change, but we also need to develop, as part of who we are, a sense of humility and a desire to serve others first. This runs counter to what the world tells us, but it is a major part of what it means to be Christians (see Philippians 2:1-8). The mind of Christ has us denying ourselves. If our personalities aren’t inclined to that because we are self-absorbed, then we’ve identified a significant change that needs to occur in our lives.

**5. Consciously strive to bring God glory.** One may lean toward introversion, and another toward extroversion, but both need to share in common the goal and desire to glorify God. Where personalities are concerned and no sin is involved, we should not expect everyone to be the same way, act the same way, or manifest emotions the same way. However, we should expect that we share the same goals in Christ and that we will all bring to the table our unique abilities that will help build up the body of Christ (cf. Ephesians 4:16). This we need to do consciously, making those changes that are needed as we grow in Him. By doing so we will bring glory to God.

Various personalities are a vital part of Christ’s church, and we ought to celebrate the fact that no one is identical to another. At the same time, we need to be aware of the challenges that arise and be prepared to face them with God at our side.

~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*

## Strength and Obedience

Kyle Pope

In Deuteronomy 11:8 the Lord instructed Israel “... you shall keep every commandment which I command you today, that you may be strong, and go in and possess the land which you cross over to possess” (NKJV). As the Lord was bringing the Israelites into Canaan, instructions such as this would (quite literally) determine whether Israel was successful or whether they would face defeat. They would see at Jericho that God’s strength (and not their own) would allow them to defeat a more powerful and well protected enemy when they were faithful (Joshua 6). Then they would see at Ai how helpless they would be by their own strength (without God’s) when they were disobedient (Joshua 7).

As Christians, God has not promised to give us physical strength when we are obedient. Success in business, in warfare, material prosperity, relationships or competition is not guaranteed to the faithful Christian. However, there are a number of principles about strength and obedience which are paralleled and illustrated by the Lord’s instructions to Israel.

**1. Our Strength Must Come from the Lord.** While the number of men capable of fighting when the Israelites came out of their wanderings was significant (601,730 - Numbers 26:51), compared to the strength of walled cities and established nations of Canaan, they were helpless (if left to their own strength). This was much of the reason that their parents had been so frightened when the spies reported back to them. They recognized that they were not strong enough (by themselves). What they failed to realize was that their strength came from the Lord.

In our lives we face strong and powerful adversaries. Temptations toward materialism, sensuality, substance abuse, peer pressure to act, talk and dress like the world can be powerful forces that we often feel powerless to resist. While we must always be the one who chooses to obey, we must recognize (like Israel) that there our strength comes from God and His word. When we choose to obey we must see ourselves as surrendering our will to God and trusting that what He says is best. I once heard it put, “we must obey God and leave the consequences of our obedience to Him.”

We often ask, “what if other people laugh at me?” Or, “what if I don’t fit in?” Or even, “how can I be happy without \_\_\_\_\_?” The real questions we should

ask are, “how will I answer to God if I disobey?” Or, “how can I ever resist sin if I keep giving in to it?” Paul offers us such a wonderful example of how important it is to see God as the source of our strength. He told the Philippians that he can learned contentment in all situations, having come to recognize, “I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me” (Philippians 4:13).

**2. Disobedience Leads to Defeat.** Many people wonder why they never grow stronger in their service to the Lord, in spite of the fact that they continually surrender to disobedience. Some think to themselves, “I’ll get my life straight and then I’ll be faithful.” The Lord told Israel that obedience was the first step. Imagine that a person didn’t know how to read. Recognizing this problem they said to themselves, “I’ll read more books and then I’ll learn how to read.” They will never accomplish the first task (reading more books), if they don’t first accomplish the second task (learning to read). The same is true spiritually. Giving in to sin and disobedience weakens us for the spiritual battles we face. We will never grow stronger to be able to face these battles if we don’t first obey. Obedience is the foundation of spiritual strength and the key to spiritual success.

**3. Obedience Grants Us Strength for the Task at Hand.** We are not asked to understand why God asks certain things of us. We are not asked to like these instructions or reasonably recognize the wisdom of obedience, but we are asked to obey. When we are obedient we gain a measure of strength to face the next battle. Every small victory strengthens us to face the next. This is the way it is intended to work. The only reason it does not work is because we stop obeying and then act as if we don’t have the strength.

Sometimes we may grow arrogant. We think our strength gained the victory (cf. Deuteronomy 8:17). Or we simply forget the Lord and turn to disobedience (cf. Deuteronomy 8:11). Our love of the world may cause us to disobey (cf. Deuteronomy 29-31). What ever the reason, the problem remains simple, we must obey. The faithful soldier of the Lord who has labored obediently in the Lord’s kingdom for years didn’t just wake up one morning as strong as they have become in Christ. They took the simple steps of obedience and their strength increased along the way.

~via *Faithful Sayings*; Amarillo, Texas.

**The Market Street  
church of Christ Website at:  
MarketStreet-church.com**

# 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

## News & Notes

### THE SICK:

Jane Meredith	Mitzi Carruth
Mary Will Johnston	Cornelia Pepper
Patsy Thomas	Doris Lovell
Cindy Glass	Ashley Sims
Shelly Scruggs	Linda Jones
Al Bush	Shaun Carruth
Everette “Bud” Dollar	Ann Bush
Wayne Bolton	Wayne Gooch

### Updates:

**Delmer Carter** had surgery on Monday and came home from the hospital on Wednesday... **Gayle Ball** has continued to be sick this past week, but is improving ... **Ernest Roberts**, a preacher we help to support in Grenada, had eye surgery this past week in Munice, Indiana. He is doing well... **Diane Kilpatrick**, **Ruby Dean Ezell's daughter**, will be going for some tests this week ... **Bryan Adcock**, **Paul & Dale Adcock's son**, is now home from the hospital following his accident.

### Those Undergoing Treatments or Chronic Illness:

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

Brittany Bates Carter

**In The Hospital/Rehabilitation:**

*Norman Hamm*; Millenium Rehab - Huntsville  
*Anita Willis*; IU Methodist Hospital - Indianapolis, Ind.

**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

**Shut-In or Away From Home:**

Robert & Mot Beasley, at Morningside, Decatur  
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

**OUTOFTOWN: The Bradleys:** *Steve and Marilyn* have been in Texas for a visit... **The Curriers:** *Kevyn, Mary & Keenon* are in Auburn this weekend with *Brettlyn*... **The Rogers:** *Mark, Kim & Peyton* are home after being in Vernon last week... **Tyler Cox** is in Auburn this weekend.

**WORK GROUPS:** Work Group one will be meeting this evening after our evening service. The work groups have been modified, so please check the announcement loop to see if this is your group. If you are in group one, remember to meet with your group.

**THE RECORD:** Attendance for the week of Jan. 15th

Sunday: Bible Classes ..... 135  
Morning Worship ..... 167  
Evening Worship ..... 124  
Wednesday: Bible Classes ..... 101

## Sixth Annual Singing

February 24, 2017 - 7:00 p.m.

Song Leaders: Jim Deason, Johnny Felker & Jeff Warnke



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

## Men Privileged To Serve:

**Sunday, January 22nd:**

*Morning Worship*

Announcements.....Keith Hinkle  
Song Leader ..... Tommy Burns  
Prayer..... Kenneth Smith  
Preaching..... David Cox  
Lord's Supper  
Presiding..... Russell Melvin  
Assisting..... Tommy Coblentz  
Serving .....Heath Dollar ..... Russ Wulfekuhl  
..... Charles Vaughn ..... Danny Johnson  
Closing Prayer ..... James Johnson

*Evening Worship*

Announcements.....Keith Hinkle  
Song Leader ..... Hunter Cox  
Prayer..... Jerry McGlocklin  
Preaching..... Song Service  
Lord's Supper ..... Russell Melvin  
Closing Prayer ..... Kenneth Adams

Other Assignments for Sunday, January 22nd:

Ushers..... Keenon Currier/Steve Usery  
Work Sound System..... Landon Adams

**Wednesday, January 25th:**

Song Leader ..... A. J. Price  
Bible Reading..... Ephesians 5:13-21  
..... Joel Hamm  
Prayer..... Terry Andrews  
Invitation..... Dan Reed  
Closing Prayer ..... Arvid McGuire

**Sunday, January 29th:**

*Morning Worship*

Announcements.....Tommy Coblentz  
Song Leader ..... Joel Hamm  
Prayer..... Marcus Morris  
Preaching..... David Cox  
Lord's Supper  
Presiding..... A. J. Price  
Assisting ..... Marty Adams  
Serving .....Matthew Vaughn..... Landon Adams  
..... Larry Mitchell ..... Marion Mitchell  
Closing Prayer ..... Mike Ogles

*Evening Worship*

Announcements.....Tommy Coblentz  
Song Leader ..... Tommy Burns  
Prayer..... Harvey Nixon  
Preaching..... A. J. Price  
Lord's Supper ..... Terry Andrews  
Closing Prayer ..... Bonnie Sutton

Other Assignments for Sunday, January 29th:

Ushers..... Hunter Cox/Russ Wulfekuhl  
Work Sound System..... Nathaniel Adams