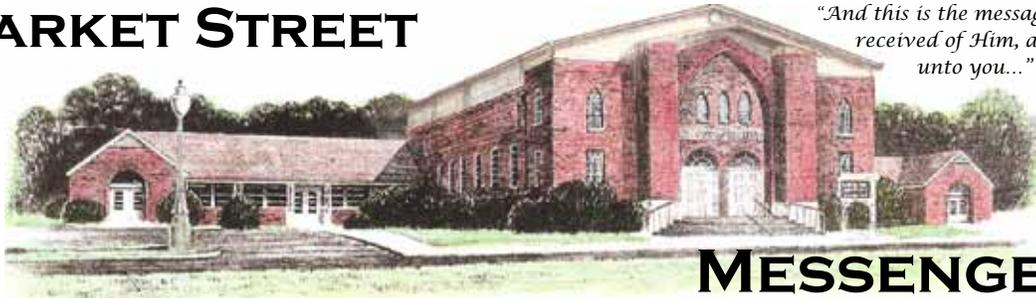


MARKET STREET



"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

March 12, 2017

No. 11

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

The Challenges of Love

Warren E. Berkley

You can love someone, even if you don't approve of their conduct. Challenging? Yes. But if you have really taken the attitude of Christ to heart, you can love someone even if you don't approve of their actions. There is no higher model of this than God himself, who loved people who were ruining their lives by their sin. "While we were still sinners," God's love for us took redemptive direction. Yes, we can love those who are living in sin. (And, we will never reach them and help them without love.)

You can love someone, even if they hate you. Now, we go beyond just generic sin. When you are hated by someone, the devil wants to use that conflict – to pull you down into the pit of bitterness. When you discover someone hates you, the devil also discovers it and the devil will seek to pull you down into the pit of bitterness. In that pit, there is nothing good for you. There is no real satisfaction. There is no sweet revenge. There is only the ruin of bitterness and malice. Read Matthew 5:43-47. Jesus makes it clear, and all of Scripture makes it clear: hating people doesn't change people, but it certainly changes us. Hate is the plaque of the brain. And the only surgery to remove it is repentance. Hate doesn't really make you feel better. It doesn't help anyone. It brings no benefit. Jesus said – just don't do it.

You can love someone, even if they are better than you. There is something called Envy. Now, look back on that familiar page (1 Corinthians 13). **Love does not envy.** Socrates said, "Envy is the daughter of pride, the author of murder and revenge, the begetter of secret sedition, the perpetual tormenter of virtue. Envy is the filthy slime of the soul; a venom, a poison, a quick-silver, which consumeth the flesh and drieth up the marrow of the bones." Webster says that envy is "chagrin or discontent at the excellence or good fortune of another; resentful, begrudging." The Bible says, "A sound heart is the life of the flesh: but envy the rottenness of the bones" (Proverbs 14:30). The writer of Proverbs also said envy is worse than wrath and anger (Proverbs 27:4). You cannot have envy in you, alongside the love, the agape, of 1 Corinthians 13.

You can love someone, even if they are different from you. A different

color, different culture, different background, different economic status, different education, different looks, habits and interests. The earlier we learn this, the better – as Christians, together in the body of Christ – we are not all the same! Same faith. Same hope. Same allegiance to the same Savior. God wants us to love each other anyway. Read the chapter that comes right before 1 Corinthians 13 (see 1 Corinthians 12:12-26).

You can love someone, even if you are better. Now, comparing yourself to someone, with a competitive spirit – *is not a recommended mode of thought.*

If you look at people, and immediately think comparatively – and focus on how much better you are ... that isn't a spiritually healthy mode of thinking. I can't recommend you develop that habit of thought – where you compare yourself to others, and then think highly of yourself, because you are better. In the New Testament – that kind of immature perspective is described and condemned (Romans 12:3-8, 16). This is written to instill in us, humility and patience and – to see ourselves, not in comparison to others. But rather, in proportion to our faith. "Live in harmony with one another. Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly. Never be wise in your own sight." The challenge here is – even if you think you are better than someone, don't be haughty and let that thought keep you from loving "the inferior." The self-interests of comparative and competitive view of people can hinder your capacity to love people.

If I'm actually better than someone, hate will only make me worse, not better. 1 Corinthians 13 tells me, love is not arrogant; is not rude; is patient. When I apply 1 Corinthians 13 to my heart – and when I imitate my Father – I'm able to love people, even if, in fact, I am better.

"Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. Love bears all things, believes all things, hope all things, endures all things." (1 Corinthians 13:4-7).

~via *Cyfair Family Notes & News*; Cypress, Texas..

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

God Is Everywhere

Shawn Jefferies

Only twelve people have been able to successfully travel to the moon. Only three people have been able to reach the bottom of the Mariana Trench, the deepest spot on the ocean floor. There have been more people on the moon than on the bottom of the ocean!

From this we see that there are limitations in what we are able to do and where we are able to go. For us to be able to travel to the moon and reach the bottom of the ocean takes huge effort and resources. But with God that is not the case! There are no limitations to where God is able to be. He is omni-present. He is able to be everywhere all the time. He is able to see and keep record of all we do!

Consider several verses that announce this truth:

"Where can I go from Your Spirit? Or where can I flee from Your presence? If I ascend into heaven, You are there; If I make my bed in hell, behold, You are there. If I take the wings of the morning, and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, even there Your hand shall lead me, and Your right hand shall hold me."

- Psalm 139:7-10

"The eyes of the LORD are in every place, keeping watch on the evil and the good."

- Proverbs 15:3

"And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are open and laid bare to the eyes of Him with whom we have to do."

- Hebrews 4:13

The omni-presence of God should impact us in two ways:

First, this reality should comfort us. The fact that God is able to be everywhere all the time means that there is never a moment when He is not with us (Matthew 28:20). There may be times when people leave us and forsake us, but God never will (2 Timothy 4:16-17). Even though we can't see God with the naked eye (because He is spirit according to John 4:24), He is there. Even though He dwells in heaven (John 14:2), His presence is always with us. He sees what we are doing; He hears our prayers; He is fully capable of helping us in our lives.

Second, this reality should also put some godly fear in our hearts. Since God is capable of being everywhere and is watching all we do, that means there is nothing

we can hide from Him. He knows the words we speak, the things we are watching, and how we are treating others. God is aware of all we do and He will hold us accountable for our actions (Ecclesiastes 12:13-14). This is something Joseph understood while living as a slave in Egypt (Genesis 39:9). Unfortunately, Ananias and Sapphira had to learn this the hard way (Acts 5:1-11).

The fact that God is able to be everywhere and see all is just another quality He possesses that makes Him so great! The challenge for us is to be mindful of this all the time. If we are constantly aware of the presence of God, we will be lifted up in our dark moments and ever mindful of how our actions impact our relationship with Him.

~via *With God's Word*; Columbia, Tennessee.



Daniel Purposed

David A. Cox

In Daniel 1, we read of the time when Judah had taken into Babylonian captivity. Nebuchadnezzar had brought Daniel and his three friends to the palace to be instructed in the ways of the Chaldeans. In the course of this, Daniel was to eat the food of the king, and the drink the wine he drank. But in verse 8 we read, "But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king's meat, nor the wine which he drank..."

Here we can learn a valuable lesson about living pure lives before God; that is we must purpose to do so. Living morally pure, and clean lives is what God expects us to do. But it does not just happen. We must decide before the time of temptation that we are going to stand for what is right. That is what we see Daniel did. When confronted with the choice of what he was going to do we read, "Daniel purposed."

Let us follow the example of Daniel in our lives by:

1. Learning what is right and wrong.
2. Purpose to do what is right.
3. Start doing what is right and putting our trust in God.

Daniel is an excellent example of conviction and determination to serve God acceptably. Living, thinking and giving the place in his life that God desires. Let us all strive to be like Daniel. To purpose in our lives to live, think and give God the place and glory He deserves.

News & Notes

THE SICK:

Kenia Adams	Mary Will Johnston
JoAnn Gilbert	Nikki Ogles
Lucille Craig	Doris Lovell
Patsy Thomas	Donna Wright
Cindy Glass	Wayne Bolton
Ashley Sims	Linda Jones
Shelly Scruggs	Sara Ogles
Wayne Gooch	Shaun Carruth
Everette "Bud" Dollar	Ann Bush

Updates:

Pat Nixon is scheduled to have shots put in her neck on Tuesday of this week ... **Kenia Adams** recieved a good report from the tumor removed lalst week. It was benign... **Rebecca Sims** is scheduled to have a procedure on her heart done on April 24th... **Mary Will Johnston** has been dignosed with Acute Lukemia ... **Dakota Kyle** is recoving from his recent surgery... **Jackie Cox** had a heart catherization done this past Friday and will need to have a valve replacement... **Bud Dollar, Bonita Dollar's brother-in-law**, has been diagnosed with cancer.

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 Ordonez
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	Betty Brackeen
Matt Poff	

In The Hospital/Rehabilitation:

Norman Hamm; Millenium Rehab - Huntsville

Athens Rehabilitation & Senior Care:

Nelva Reed, rm. 61 Helen Trousdale, rm. 43
Judith Groce, rm. 10-B Dorothy Draper, rm. 73
Mattye Murray, rm. 2 Christine Hudson, rm. 77
Valeria Dalton, rm. 7 Joyce Martin, rm. 73
Mable Crafts, rm. 39 Mildred Frantz, rm. 31
Gayle Mills, rm. 15 Evelyn Hogan, rm. 36

Limstone Health Facility:

Bobbie Adcock, rm. 113

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
William Thomas, at home

TEACHER'S MEETING: There will be a teacher's meeting this afternoon at 4:15.

SINGING AT NURSING HOME: Tuesday, April 4th, we will resume the singings on Tuesday evenings at 5:30 at Athens Rehab & Senior Care. The singing last about 45 minutes. The residents really enjoy our coming to sing and I have heard from several family members of residents of how much they appreciate it. If you are available to participate in this, I know that you would be benefitted from the time spent there.

OUT OF TOWN: *The Stiles:* Chuck & Benita are in South Dakota... *The Coblentz'* Tommy and Marcella are on vacation this week in the mountians.

GOSPEL MEETINGS: The *South Cullman church* in Cullman is beginning a gospel meeting today and it will continue through Wedensday. The speaker in the meeting will be *Mark White*... The *River Bend church* in Florence is beginning a gospel meeting today and it will continue through Friday. The speaker in this meeting will be *Leon Mauldin*.

WORK GROUPS: Work Group two will be meet- ing this evening after our evening service. If you are in group two, member to meet with your group tonight.

THE RECORD: *Attendance for the week of March 5th*

Sunday:	Bible Classes.....	143
	Morning Worship.....	171
	Evening Worship.....	129
Wednesday:	Bible Classes.....	98

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, March 12th:

Morning Worship

Announcements..... Joel Hamm
Song Leader Tommy Burns
Prayer..... Harvey Nixon
Preaching..... David Cox
Lord's Supper
Presiding..... Marty Adams
Assisting..... Marcus Morris
Serving Marvin Putman Landon Adams
..... A.J. Price..... Russ Wulfekuhl
Closing Prayer Keenon Currier

Evening Worship

Announcements..... Joel Hamm
Song Leader Tony Thomas
Prayer..... Hunter Cox
Preaching..... David Cox
Lord's Supper Marcus Morris
Closing Prayer Kenneth Adams

Other Assignments for Sunday, March 12th:
Ushers..... Heath Dollar/Dwayne Allfrey
Work Sound System..... Terry Andrews

Wednesday, March 15th:

Song Leader Tyler Cox
Bible Reading..... Philippians 2:17-30
..... Danny Johnson
Prayer..... Jerry McGlocklin
Invitation..... Kennon Currier
Closing Prayer Kenneth Smith

Sunday, March 19th:

Morning Worship

Announcements..... Keith Hinkle
Song Leader Hunter Cox
Prayer..... A. J. Price
Preaching..... David Cox
Lord's Supper
Presiding..... Dwayne Allfrey
Assisting..... Tommy Coblentz
Serving Matthew Vaughn..... Danny Holt
..... Charles Vaughn Kenneth Adams
Closing Prayer Mike Ogles

Evening Worship

Announcements..... Keith Hinkle
Song Leader Tommy Burns
Prayer..... Jerry McGlocklin
Preaching..... David Cox
Lord's Supper Dwayne Allfrey
Closing Prayer Keenon Currier

Other Assignments for Sunday, March 19th:
Ushers..... Terry Andrews/Larry Mitchell
Work Sound System..... Landon Adams