

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

June 11, 2017

No. 24

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

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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

I Was Born This Way

Blake Edwards

"I was born this way." That is the reason many people give for their recurring problems. Whether they are drug users, greedy, lustful, homosexual, angry, or have numerous other troubles, this is a reason that they might provide. It is the same line of thinking we sometimes have when we struggle with our own problems that seem too hard to change. Are we helpless because we can't change who we are? Are there some desires we are born with that are uncontrollable?

No.

While there are some temptations I may have that others do not struggle with as much that does not offer excuse for succumbing to those desires. Each one of us is a unique individual having our own strengths and weaknesses, but that does not justify sin. I want to provide you with an argument for the next time you try to rationalize giving into temptation. "That's just who I am," is not a defense. Also, when you talk to people that hold to this idea of being born a certain way you can give them something to think about.

In Colossians 3, as Paul is helping the Christians deal with their problems and the influences around them he touches on this subject.

"Therefore put to death your members which are on the earth: fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry" (Colossians 3:5).

So what if you are born with certain desires. Even the deepest desires we have are to be put to death as we "seek those things which are above." Some say men are "wired" a certain way to struggle with sexual sins, but not if we put those passions to death. Others will say that women are "wired" a certain way and the need for security is always present which can lead to greed or materialism and that's just the way it is, but once you bury those desires they're gone. Set your mind on things above.

Romans 6 is another passage that makes this point. Beginning in verse 2, the Holy Spirit through Paul explains that anyone that has been baptized into Christ has buried the old man. As Christ rose from the

dead we are to rise from the waters to “walk in newness of life.” Sin and lust don’t have the power to control a Christian unless it’s allowed.

Possibly the most compelling argument is found in Jesus’ teaching in John 3:3-8. He tells Nicodemus a person must be “born again” to see the kingdom of God. Nicodemus’ response to this is understandable.

“Nicodemus said to Him, ‘How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother’s womb and be born?’” (John 3:4).

Jesus then tells him that one must be “born of water and the Spirit” to enter the kingdom. So how do you respond to someone that says they were born the way they are and can’t change it? Don’t become frustrated or get into a heated argument, but respond with the words of Christ. It’s time to be born again and become a new person.

Temptation does not equal sin. We will have the temptations and desires arise even after becoming a Christian, but giving in to them is where the sin is. We can control what we do. Whether we are dealing with a prideful person or a homosexual, there is no adequate excuse for continuing in sin. We aren’t wired or born being forced to sin. We need to remember that and we need to emphasize it to others.

There is hope for all of us because of the new life Christ offers. No one is enslaved to the vile passions of the world and the sins that have always enticed us. Whether it is drugs, money, lust, or anger, we can overcome it. We can put to death the fleshly desires and live for Him as new creatures setting our focus on things above. Thank God for the new beginning available to us all.

~via *College View Family Report*; Florence, Alabama.



“Just Like You”

Drew Jones

One of the great problems many non-believers have with faith in the Lord is that, by their estimation, the God described in the Bible and confessed by Christians today does not seem deserving of that faith. “If He is supposed to be the all-wise, all-loving ruler of the world,

then He’s not doing a very good job of it,” seems to be the prevailing thought. The agnostic asks why there is suffering in the world. The atheist asks why people are punished with hell if God wants people to be saved. The secular humanist asks why people can’t just do what they want to do and be happy.

When these questions are meant as challenges to belief in the Creator, they are usually asked with ignorance (or denial) of one crucial, though basic, fact: God is not human. He sets standards that men may find difficult because it is His right to do so. He is God. He looks to eternity while most of humanity looks to the present ‘here-and-now’. He is God. He demands love, worship, respect, and awe, because He is a being greater than man in every conceivable way.

The Lord speaks while judging His people in Psalm 50. He describes His pleasure with the righteous, ‘His godly ones’ (v. 5), of whom He says, “I shall rescue you, and you will honor Me” (v. 15). However, His judgment comes upon the wicked, as well. As He concludes His speech to the ungodly, after listing the charges against them, Jehovah says, “These things you have done, and I kept silence; you thought that I was just like you; I will reprove you, and state the case in order before your eyes” (v. 21, emphasis added).

The mistake has been made for thousands of years; people excuse sin, find fault with God, and lead themselves down a well-worn path to destruction because they believe an untruth: ‘God is just like me’. It becomes more difficult to love God, because very few people would love a man who is responsible for death and pain (humanity’s first and greater responsibility in this regard is conveniently ignored). Worship becomes unnecessary, because only a fool worships a man. Respect, awe, and reverence are thrown out the window. Since this is a man whom I’ve never seen nor met, why would I show honor? Repentance and obedience fall by the wayside, and judgment is laughed off; we assume that, like any other man, God can be bartered with, forestalled, cajoled, or hoodwinked.

Of course, the foolishness in these decisions lies in the point we’ve already observed; these things are necessary because God is not a man, He is God. However, we must also realize that His position as one so far beyond ourselves is a blessing, something to be grateful for and cherish. God does not make uninformed, unjust decisions when weighing and judging us; He will choose that which is utterly right when deciding our fate. He does not speak rashly, say things He does not mean,

say things which are untrue or untrustworthy. He is not prone to fits of selfishness and unhelpfulness; He always has our ultimate best interest in mind. He cannot be overburdened, faced with too many problems to help tackle our most minor concerns. He does not gossip about our lowest moments to others; He is not envious of our greatest triumphs. He does not encourage recklessness and foolishness; He will never get us into an even deeper mess than the one we may currently find ourselves in. He never hides from those looking for Him, never turns away from a true gesture of love, never ceases to care. If God "was just like you", how hopelessly lost would you be!

Let us be sure that we strive to see our Lord as He truly is. He is a God of inscrutable judgments and unfathomable ways, with wisdom beyond comprehension (Romans 11:33). He is high above the lowly state of man (Isaiah 55:9), yet He was willing to make the long journey below for the sake of such limited creatures as ourselves. God is not just like us; be thankful for it!

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

News & Notes...

THE SICK:

Bobbie Adock	Doris Lovell
Patsy Thomas	Cindy Glass
Linda Jones	Ashley Sims
Sara Ogles	Shaun Carruth
Shelly Scruggs	Wayne Gooch
Ann Bush	Everette "Bud" Dollar

Updates:

Opal Conn fell last Sunday and broke two bones in her left foot. She had surgery Tuesday afternoon and is now in the Limestone Health Facility for rehab... **Priscilla Tucker** was not able to have the treatments this week as scheduled. She will begin this week.

Those Undergoing Treatments or Chronic Illness:

Joe Leopard	Gayle Ball
Irene Inman	Janice Cagle
Jeanette Weir	Priscilla Tucker

Jenny Pickens
Daniel Ogles
Linda Ordonez
Cindy Walker
Gene Carpenter
Betty Christopher
Al Pollard
Elizabeth Howard
Phillip Harwell
Eli Williams

Ella Melvin
Diane Kilpatrick
Wayne Wooldridge
Brittany Bates Carter
Charles Burns
Bobby McLemore
Ava Brooke Campbell
Matt Poff
Una King Currier

In The Hospital/Rehabilitation:

Norman Hamm; Millenium Rehab - Huntsville

Athens Rehabilitation & Senior Care:

Reba Byram, rm. 64	Nelva Reed, rm. 61
Helen Trousdale, rm. 43	Judith Groce, rm. 10-B
Dorothy Draper, rm. 73	Oneal Martin, rm. 81
Joyce Martin, rm. 73	Gayle Mills, rm. 15
Mattye Murray, rm. 2	Christine Hudson, rm. 77
Valeria Dalton, rm. 7	Evelyn Hogan, rm. 36
Mable Crafts, rm. 39	Mildred Frantz, rm. 31

Limestone Health Facility:

Opal Conn, rm. 115	Jim Sasser, rm. 113
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Shut-In or Away From Home:

Robert & Mot Beasley, at River City Health, 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

SINGING AT NURSING HOME: Remember the singing at *Athens Rehab & Senior Care* on Tuesday evening at 5:30.

MEETINGS/VBS: The *College View church* in Florence will be having their annual lectureship this week. The theme this year will be *"A Kingdom That Cannot Be Shaken."* There will be morning sessions at 9:30 & 10:30 and evening sessions begin with a singing at 6:30 followed by a session at 7:00 & 7:50. *Chuck Durham*, *Leon Goff*, *David Thomley* & *Jeff Wilson* will be the speakers in the lectures... The *Pepper Road church* is beginning a meeting today and it will continue through Thursday. *Rick Duggin* will be the speaker... The *Westview church* will be conducting their VBS this week through Friday morning. There will be different speakers in their adult class... The *Hickory Heights church* in Lewisburg, Tennessee will be engaged in a

meeting this week through Friday. *Johnny Felker* will be the speaker in the meeting.

OUT OF TOWN: *The Bradleys:* Steve and Marilyn are in Texas with family... *Jim Whitt* has been in Oklahoma this week with his work... *Austin Hobson* has been out of town the past couple of weeks... *The Wulfekubls:* Russ, Lisa and Ali are in Florida on vacation... *The Rogers:* Mark, Kim & Peyton have been in Knoxville, Tennessee this week... *The Burns:* Tommy and Susan are out of town on vacation.

DOOR TO DOOR: Remember next Saturday morning, June 17th, will plan to go out knocking on doors and inviting people to Market Street and telling them about our VBS in July. We will meet at the building at 9:00a.m. and leave from here.

ELDERS & DEACONS: Remember the elders announced last week the names of the men being put before the congregation to serve as elders and deacons. The men will be appointed next Sunday, June 18th. Also, the elders and deacons will need to plan to have group pictures made of them next Sunday.

BUC CHUMBLEY TO MARKET STREET: The elders announced last Sunday that *Buc Chumbley* will be moving to work with the Market Street church in a two-preacher arrangement. We look forward to *Buc, Martha and Molly* being here with us and the work that we can do here. Buc plans to begin work here on September 1st.

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 tonight.

THE RECORD: Attendance for the week of June 4th

Sunday:	Bible Classes	130
	Morning Worship	170
	Evening Worship	130
Wednesday:	Bible Classes	103



July 17 – 20, 2017
(Monday through Thursday)
10:00 a.m. to 11:15 a.m.

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

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, June 11th:

Morning Worship

Announcements	Marcus Morris
Song Leader	Hunter Cox
Prayer	Ashton Gatlin
Preaching	David Cox
Lord's Supper	
Presiding	Kenneth Smith
Assisting	A. J. Price
Serving	Matthew Vaughn..... Landon Adams
	Marvin Putman..... James Johnson
Closing Prayer	Kenneth Adams

Evening Worship

Announcements	Marcus Morris
Song Leader	Tyler Cox
Prayer	Keith Hinkle
Preaching	David Cox
Lord's Supper	Kenneth Smith
Closing Prayer	Larry Mitchell

Other Assignments for Sunday, June 11th:

Ushers	Keenon Currier/Steve Usery
Work Sound System	Terry Andrews

Wednesday, June 14th:

Song Leader	Tony Thomas
Bible Reading	Colossians 3:1-11
	Dan Reed
Prayer	Joel Hamm
Invitation	Mike Ogles
Closing Prayer	Dwaine Allfrey

Sunday, June 18th:

Morning Worship

Announcements	Terry Andrews
Song Leader	Tommy Burns
Prayer	Larry Mitchell
Preaching	David Cox
Lord's Supper	
Presiding	Joel Hamm
Assisting	Mike Ogles
Serving	Griffin Holt..... Tony Thomas
	Charles Vaughn..... James Johnson
Closing Prayer	Landon Adams

Evening Worship

Announcements	Terry Andrews
Song Leader	Ashton Gatlin
Prayer	Tommy Coblenz
Preaching	David Cox
Lord's Supper	Joel Hamm
Closing Prayer	Danny Holt

Other Assignments for Sunday, June 18th:

Ushers	Heath Dollar/Danny Holt
Work Sound System	Nathaniel Adams