

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 XI

January 27, 2019

No. 4

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

Marty R. Adams..... (256) 503-8843
Tommy Coblentz..... (256) 232-3312
Jerry McGlocklin..... (256) 232-7620
Kenneth Smith..... (256) 777-6737
Bonnie Sutton (256) 232-2081

Deacons

Joel Hamm (256) 278-1977
Danny Holt (256) 206-2746
Larry Mitchell..... (256) 230-0185
Marcus Morris..... (256) 232-8871
Russ Wulfekuhl..... (256) 683-9396

Evangelist

David A. Cox..... (256) 233-8910
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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

A Great Question

Adam Shanks

As a Christian, I'm always looking for a way to simplify my decision-making process. If I have to go through an in-depth study every time I need to make a decision regarding whether I should or should not do a particular activity, I'm more likely to engage in the wrong side of the activity. One unemotional and non-confrontational example for the sake of this article is whether I should or should not speak to someone else about how they've offended me.

The answer is often not to cast aside the thinking process and just paint with a broad brush. I cannot just argue that I should always engage in every possible confrontation with others when they've offended me. We all know that not all situations are equal. If it were truly a small issue, I might end up escalating the situation and "make a mountain out of a molehill." Likewise, if I let what is a major issue go neglected because I never rebuke others, I might doom this person to never learning better or doom my relationship with this other person.

The answer is often not to argue only what is lawful. God gives us certain freedoms in His laws. He doesn't tell us to confront every person when they've offended us. Matthew 18 does not tell us to go and talk to every person who offends us. In context, after speaking of this process of confrontation in verses 15-18, He speaks of forgiveness "seven times seventy" in verse 21-22. Within God's law, I have the right to confront the other person and I have the right to forgive them out right and never bring up the offense.

The answer, it seems to me, is to ask myself the question Paul gives us multiple times in 1 Corinthians:

"All things are lawful for me," but not all things are helpful. 'All things are lawful for me,' but I will not be dominated by anything" (6:12)

"All things are lawful,' but not all things are helpful. 'All things are lawful,' but not all things build up" (10:23).

Here we find three principles to ask ourselves when it comes to a permissible activity, but not a necessary activity.

- Is the activity profitable or helpful? If not, don't . If so, do.

- Is the activity going to dominate my time, my energy, or my relationship? If not, do it. If so, don't do it.
- Is the activity going to build up my relationship with God or with others? If not, don't. If so, do.

These are easy questions to answer. Take the example we've used through this article. If engaging in the difficult conversation is going to be helpful to them, going to be something I can do without dominating my time, and is something that will build my relationship with them, I should have the conversation. If I cannot argue for those benefits, then I should avoid the conversation.

These principles apply in so many areas of life where we are given freedom to choose our course of action. Just remember – It's not just about what is right and wrong, but about what is wise.

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



A Thousand Times...No!

David Deistekamp

Ever notice that you can say “no” a thousand times, but all those no's are canceled by one “yes”? “No, you can't have a cookie, can't have a cookie, can't have a cookie! Okay, yes!” The cookie will be eaten! To concede and fail you don't have to say yes as many times as you must say no to remain steadfast and succeed.

A thousand no's to fornication are deleted by one yes that robs one of his/her virtue and virginity. A thousand no's to adultery are swept away by a yes that destroys family, home and soul. A thousand no's to drugs are erased by a yes that opens the door to all kinds of destruction and excess. A thousand no's to stealing are forgotten by a yes on our record when we stand before the law. A thousand no's to pornography are overwhelmed by a yes that writes indelible images in the mind. It applies across the board to all sin.

While it is certainly true that forgiveness in Christ is available for any sinful yes decision we make, this must not be seen as license to make that errant decision even once. We are called to completely die to sin (Romans 6) — it is to have no part in us, or us in it.

Parents often tire of the “May I have a cookie?” question and finally concede with a yes. Kids know this. Satan knows this. We tire of saying no and looking different from others. We tire of our “no” answer causing abstinence from activities that appear pleasurable and fun. We tire of always being the one to say no. In time, sin nags us to the point where we finally want to say, “Okay, yes just this time.” How much more can God expect us to resist — how many more times must we say no?

The Hebrew writer reminds us, “You have not yet resisted to bloodshed, striving against sin” (Hebrews 12:4). We're not just talking about saying no to the point of alienation and missing out on some of life's pleasures. Resisting “to bloodshed, striving against sin” means saying no to sin until it kills us! That means a thousand times no to the sin that tempts us from within and from without. And when we have said no a thousand times it is then time to say it a thousand and one times, and more!

~via *Northside Proclaimer*; Hillsboro, Ohio.



“What Is A Man Profited?”

Michael Hickox

“For what is a man profited, if he gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?” – Matthew 16:26

In Matthew 16:26, Jesus showed the folly of focusing one's life on earthly pursuits while disregarding God.

The writer of Ecclesiastes is one whose life demonstrates this principle. He sought pleasure through earthly wisdom, hobbies, possessions, fame, prestige, and the like (Ecclesiastes 1:16-2:10). After gaining all of this, he called it “vanity and a chasing after wind, and there was no profit under the sun” (Ecclesiastes 2:11).

Much of the things he sought after were not wrong in themselves, but they were prioritized wrongly. Many live today with similar misplaced priorities.

Understanding what lies after our brief time on earth should encourage us to focus foremost on being

right with God (see Hebrews 9:27; 2 Peter 3:10-12).

Our life on earth is likened to “a vapor that appears for a little time, and then vanishes away” (James 4:14). The chief thing each of us can do is to please God and thus prepare for what comes after our brief time on earth. May we remember Jesus’ words, and choose the eternally profitable path of obeying God.

~via *Olney Bulletin*; Olney, Illinois.



The Conversion of Cornelius

Steven Matthews

Prior to Acts 10, the kingdom of God had not yet been opened to the Gentile nation. But everything changes in Acts 10. Cornelius’ conversion in Acts 10 is important for many reasons. Let’s look at four:

Being good is not good enough (v. 1-2): If ever there was a good man who had not yet heard the gospel of Jesus Christ, Cornelius certainly was one. But was Cornelius saved at this point? Cornelius was still a man in need of salvation. He was lost and he needed the gospel preached unto him.

God is no respecter of persons (v. 34): A conversion takes place within Peter as well. The purpose of the vision to Peter (v. 9-16) was to get through to Peter that the Gentiles were no longer unclean. The Lord’s invitation is to all.

Get out of your comfort zone (v. 28): Do you think Peter was comfortable in Cornelius’ house? God called him out of his comfort zone. Spiritual growth requires doing some difficult things. If we only ever do what comes easy, we will never grow.

Cornelius was saved the same way we’re saved: He heard the Word (10:33); believed (15:7); repented (11:18); and was baptized (10:48). If you have not been baptized in water for the remission of your sins, you haven’t done what Peter told Cornelius to do. Do what Cornelius did so you can become what Cornelius became — a Christian.

Cornelius’ conversion also offers us an opportunity to look at ourselves. It is not enough to be good. One

must become a Christian. However, it is not enough for one to be a Christian. One must also be good. It’s worth taking a closer look at Cornelius’ character to see how we measure up.

- Am I devout to God (v. 2)?
- Do I fear God (v. 2, 22)?
- Do I influence others for God (v. 2, 24)?
- Am I generous (v. 22)?
- Do I pray to God often (v. 2)?
- Am I an honest, fair person (v. 22)?
- What kind of reputation do I have with others (v. 22)?
- Am I humble (v. 7-8)?
- Am I eager to learn and to do (v. 33, 48)?

Let us all use the story of Cornelius as a means to examine our lives, and let us be determined to make the changes in our lives where they need to be made.

~via *Tidewater Bulletin*; Chesapeake, Virginia.

News & Notes

THE SICK:

Pat Nixon	Helen Blankenship
Bonita Dollar	Wayne Vaughn
Beverly Sutton	Bonnie Morris
Anita Wheeler	JoAnn Gilbert
Loretta Warner	Bobbie Adcock
Doris Lovell	Ann Bush
Dawn Gentry	

Those Undergoing Treatments or Chronic Illness:

Lona Jackson	Paul Hasting
Janice Cagle	Jeanette Weir
Patsy Thomas	Ella Melvin
Marvin Putman	Cornelia Pepper
Al Pollard	Charles Burns
Cindy Glass	Una King Currier
Susan Cox	Gene Carpenter
Cindy Walker	Phillip Harwell
Wayne Wooldridge	Kenneth Fisher
Matt Poff	

In The Hospital/Rehabilitation:

Bettye Harrison; Athens-Limestone Hospital, rm. 304
Dean Holt; Huntsville Hospital
Norman Hamm; Millenium Rehab - Huntsville

Athens Health & Rehabilitation:

Mattie Murray, rm. 2 Christine Hudson, 77

Evelyn Hogan, 36 Dorothy Draper, 73
 Joyce Martin, 63 Valeria Dalton, 7

Limestone Health Facility:

Paul Hasting, rm. 112

Shut-In or Away From Home:

Robert & Mot Beasley, at City Center, Decatur
 Frances Bowers, Limestone Manor
 Gwen Bullock, at granddaughter's in Huntsville
 Mary Ruth Gardner, at Merrill Gardens, Madison
 Carl Hargrave, at granddaughter's home in Hartselle
 Bettye Harrison, Traditions Assisted Living
 Irene Inman, at home
 Virginia Meyer, Traditions Assisted Living
 Stan Stanford, at home
 William Thomas, Madison Manor, Madison
 Kathleen Wales, Limestone Manor

Updates:

Paul Hasting moved Thursday evening to the Limestone Health Facility...**Beverly Sutton** is hoping to get the MRI done on Monday in Athens...**Ernest Roberts**, a preacher in Grenada, has returned home last week following his surgery on his eyes...**Patsy Thomas** continues still suffering with the shingles...**Bettye Harrison** fell and broke her hip this past Wednesday and is in the Athens-Limestone Hospital.

WORK GROUPS: Work Group Three will be meeting after our evening service. If you are in group three, remember to meet with your group tonight.

OUT OF TOWN: Steve Bradley continues to be in Texas for several more days...**Joe Hinkle** has gone to Port St. Lucie, Florida to visit with family.

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

Sunday: Bible Classes 121
 Morning Worship 160
 Evening Worship 126
 Wednesday: Bible Classes 96

Eighth Annual Singing

February 22, 2019 – 7:00 p.m.

Song Leaders: Jim Deason, Wiley Deason & Johnny Felker



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

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, January 27th:

Morning Worship

Announcements..... Albert Haraway
 Song Leader Hunter Cox
 Prayer..... Marcus Morris
 Preaching..... David Cox
 Lord's Supper
 Presiding..... Marty Adams
 Assisting Steve Usery
 Serving Charles Vaughn Danny Johnson
 David Terry Sam Gregory
 Closing Prayer Roger Hammonds

Evening Worship

Announcements..... Albert Haraway
 Song Leader Tony Thomas
 Prayer..... Wayne Vaughn
 Preaching..... Song Service
 Lord's Supper Terry Andrews
 Closing Prayer Nathaniel Adams

Other Assignments for the week of January 27th:

Ushers..... Russ Wulfekuhl/Steve Bradley
 Work Sound System..... Will Chumbley

Wednesday, January 30th:

Song Leader Joel Hamm
 Bible Reading Danny Johnson
 Mark 12:28-37
 Prayer..... Hunter Cox
 Invitation David Cox
 Closing Prayer Dan Reed

Sunday, February 3rd:

Morning Worship

Announcements..... Terry Andrews
 Song Leader Tommy Burns
 Prayer..... Tommy Coblenz
 Preaching..... David Cox
 Lord's Supper
 Presiding..... Albert Haraway
 Assisting Keith Hinkle
 Serving Matthew Usery Kenneth Adams
 Heath Dollar Christian Usery
 Closing Prayer Larry Mitchell

Evening Worship

Announcements..... Terry Andrews
 Song Leader Bob Broadus
 Prayer..... Larry Holt
 Preaching..... David Cox
 Lord's Supper Albert Haraway
 Closing Prayer Steve Usery

Other Assignments for the week of February 3rd:

Ushers..... Dwaine Allfrey/Danny Holt
 Work Sound System..... Landon Adams