

# 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

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No. 33

### 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

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

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

## *“Keep Your Heart With All Diligence”*

**David A. Cox**

*“Keep your heart with all diligence, For out of it spring the issues of life.” — (Proverbs 4:23)*

Solomon long ago recognized the importance of the heart. Solomon is not speaking of the physical heart, even though it is vital to our physical life. Solomon’s warning to “Keep the heart with all diligence” is focused on the heart of the Bible. The “heart” in scripture refers to the whole being of man. It involves the mind, the will, the conscience, and the emotions. Why did Solomon admonish to “Keep your heart”? It is so that we will watch, protect, and preserve our hearts from the dangers that life will throw at us. Let us consider some ways that we need to keep our hearts.

### We Need to Keep Our Heart Free From:

**Prejudice.** Many factors in life cause prejudice in the lives of people. The Jews in Jesus’ day were prejudiced against the truth of Jesus being the Christ, due to their zeal for the religion they had grown up knowing. They were blinded to fulfillment after fulfillment of the prophecies in Jesus’ life. The simple and plain truth could not change their minds. It is in this context that Jesus told the parable of the Good Samaritan. The lawyer came to Jesus, asking, “What shall I do to inherit eternal life?” (Luke 10:25). Jesus answered, “What is written in the law? What is your reading of it?” So he answered and said, ‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself.’ Jesus answered, ‘You have answered rightly; do this and you will live.’” (Luke 10:26-28) The lawyer knew the law and could quote it, but he knew that Jesus knew that he was not keeping it. The text tells us, “he wanting to justify himself, said to Jesus, ‘And who is my neighbor?’” (Luke 10:29). Jesus goes on to Luke 10:30-37, to show the glaring example of the one who was the neighbor to the man that was traveling from Jerusalem to Jericho that was beaten, robbed and left half dead. The neighbor to that man was a Samaritan. A man that the lawyer could have never seen any good. Why? Because of prejudice! We must keep our hearts diligently that we do not become

blinded to the truth because of prejudice.

**Apathy.** As we live life, the world will dull our senses. We can become indifferent to things that are good and right. We can become very satisfied with the way things are. In Revelation 3:15, the church at Laodicea is described as a church that is “lukewarm.” It is a church that is filled with satisfaction, indifference, and apathy. A severe rebuke is directed toward this group because of their apathy or lukewarmness. The church is told to “be zealous and repent” (Revelation 3:19). The one talent man in Matthew 25:14-30, gives us another picture in scripture of a man full of apathy. Happy and satisfied with what he has. The man is called “wicked and lazy” for the apathetic way he handled the talent entrusted to him. Let us keep our hearts free from the indifferent attitude that permeates life so often.

#### **How Should We Keep Our Hearts:**

**Earnest.** Our hearts being earnest means that they will be zealous, sincere, intense, and excited toward God’s things. They will be fervent in spirit to please God (Romans 12:11). Our service to God will be real, not just something we play at. Our hearts will be stirred up and zealous for all good works (Titus 2:14)

**Affections Right.** Our hearts need to have their affection focused on the things above (Colossians 3:1). Focusing on the things above means our minds are not looking at the appeals to the fleshly side. We are not going to make provisions to satisfy our fleshly lusts. Our thoughts will be focused on heaven. We will strengthen our faith by spending time in the word of God. Our mental state or tendency will not be on the things we see, but on the things we do not see. We can overcome the fleshly lust that comes upon us because we have set our mind, affections on the things above.

**Reverent and Tender.** The heart that is not kept reverent and tender is not a heart that can please God. A reverent attitude of heart means that one will have deep respect, honor, and standing in awe before God. The one whose heart is lifted with pride and arrogance cannot please God. The Pharisee in Luke 18:9-14, prayed to God with a heart filled with pride and arrogance, but the publican prayed at the temple as well with a tender and reverent heart. Jesus commended the publican’s attitude of heart, “I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other; for every one that exalts himself shall be humbled, and he who humbles himself shall be exalted.” A heart like that of the Pharisee will

become hardened and will not correct the errors in life that need correcting. Let us keep our hearts reverent and tender so that they can be easily shaped, molded by the truth, sensitive to what is right and wrong and submissive to the will of God.

Let us not neglect our hearts, but keep them “diligently” so that they will be hearts that are right with God.



## ***Battle for Peace***

**Tim Jennings**

The news is so negative. It has always been that way. However, today it seems like the negativity carries a megaphone and a bat. Despair echoes from every direction. Conflicts boil over in every relationship. We are paralyzed with anxiety and wield our opinions like swords. The devil dances with delight.

It is time for disciples of Jesus to go on the offensive. This is the moment to fight for peace. Now is the hour to rise to the occasion. But beware, our weapons are not physical, but spiritual. The battleground is not outward, but inward. The war is won by overcoming evil with good.

The path to peace does not come from human rulers, medical advances, or powerful organizations. Our peace is greater than any worldly calm. It comes from a transcendent God.

“And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.” (Philippians 4:7)

How often have I come to those words in search of peace and left frustrated!?! I felt my peace should rise each morning with the dew, but it was gone just as quickly.

I discovered that peace does not come from chanting these words like a magic formula. They are not an ointment you rub on a bad day. The peace of God is a promise that depends upon tangible actions on my part. I must engage in the battle for peace, and God will ensure I win.

The strategy for winning the battle for peace is laid

out in Philippians 4. Here are a few essential tactics.

**Stand Together.** A divided army is a defeated army. You see, there were two ladies in Philippi who were arguing, and the church felt the pain. Paul's advice to them was to, "agree in the Lord" (Philippians 4:2). How can we spread peace, when there is no peace among us?

The blazing passions of our times are setting fires among believers. Now is the time to lay down your opinions and "pursue the things that make for peace" (Romans 14:19). More than ever your world needs you to be a "blessed peacemaker" (Matthew 5:9).

**Hold on To Joy.** When days are dark it is hard to see the light of joy. You must fight for it. You must hunt it down. But it is there, in an endless reservoir, when you look in the right place. "Rejoice in the Lord always!" (Philippians 4:4). Find your joy in the Lord, for it does not crumble when the world quakes.

What makes you happy? Your anxieties reveal your true source of joy. When you are anxious about things that are temporary, worldly or selfish; when you agonize over the loss of your pleasures and plans, it is time to lay down your anxieties and "rejoice in the Lord." Counteract every crushing report of despair with a reason to hope and rejoice in the Lord (this was the practice of the prophets and the psalmists).

**Talk with God.** I'm not surprised that people are afraid, uncertain, and angry. The problems of this world are too great for us. Even a microscopic virus is too great for us! But we are not alone. Through prayer we can rest in His ensuring wisdom and power. Through prayer we can fill the halls of our hearts with thanksgiving and praise. We need more prayer warriors who will lay down their constant need to be seen, and battle for peace on their knees (Philippians 4:6, 11-13).

**Focus Your Thoughts.** You are what you think! When our thoughts are dominated by the conspiracies, uncertainties, and violence of our day, we will be walking zombies of despair, or even worse, marching soldiers of ruin.

Guard the gate of your mind like a sentinel. Beat back the hordes of negativity. Only open the eternal real estate of your heart to things that are "true, honorable, just, pure, lovely, commendable, excellent and praiseworthy" (Philippians 4:8). In this culture, if you passively sit in your chair your mind will be captured by a parade of pessimism. It is time to break the stupor,

get out of our chair, and go on the offensive and focus our thoughts on what is godly!

**Take Action.** The battle for peace has one more piece. Put on your shoes and do something to serve the Lord. Paul wrote, "What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me—practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you." (Phil. 4:9). The time you spend helping the weak, saving the lost, serving the saved, healing the broken, will fill you with more peace than another hour plugged in to this cynical culture.

Lay down your pillow of escapism. Lay down your passive guzzling of pessimism. And bring the peace of God into a reality in your world.

Paul's prayer is mine.

"Now may the Lord of peace Himself give you peace always in every way. The Lord be with you all." (2 Thessalonians 3:16)

~via *Focus Magazine*; July 8, 2020.

## News & Notes...

### THE SICK:

Lona Jackson	Joel Taylor
Betty Lovell	Marcella Coblentz
Mitzi Carruth	JoAnn Gilbert
Loretta Warner	Bobbie Adcock
Doris Lovell	Ann Bush
Tessa Bacci	Judy Whitt
Kennedy Pepper	Larry Morris

### Those Undergoing Treatments or Chronic Illness:

Ross Melvin	Donna Wright
Freddie Mae Elmore	Nikki Ogles
Anita Wheeler	Lona Jackson
Judy Vaughn	Janice Cagle
Jeanette Weir	Cornelia Pepper
Ella Melvin	Wayne Wooldridge
Cindy Walker	Kenneth Fisher
Al Pollard	Charles Burns
David Collier	Phillip Harwell
Una King Currier	Joan Carpenter
Gene Carpenter	Lloyd Adams

Carrie Warner

***In The Hospital/Rehabilitation:***

*Barbara Carter*; Huntsville Hospital — Huntsville

*Jerry Hinkle*; Athens - Limestone; ICU

*Norman Hamm*; Millenium - Huntsville

***Athens Health & Rehabilitation:***

Mildred Lambert, rm. 15 El ease Barksdale, rm. 22A

Brenda Wilson, rm. 77 Connie Brock, rm. 62

Evelyn Hogan, rm. 36 Christine Hudson, rm. 77

Valeria Dalton, rm. 7

***Limestone Health Facility:***

Bettye Harrison, rm. Alice Roberson, rm. 49

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

Deanie Britton, Limestone Lodge

Marci Bassett, Limestone Manor

Frances Bowers, Limestone Manor

Gwen Bullock, at granddaughter's in Huntsville

Mary Ruth Gardner, at Merrill Gardens, Madison

Irene Inman, at home

Stan Stanford, at home

William Thomas, Madison Manor, Madison

Kathleen Wales, Limestone Manor

***Updates:***

***Kennedy Pepper*** came home from the hospital this past Monday...***Ross Melvin*** began a series of treatments for his cancer this week... This week prior to entering school for the fall ***Addison Holt and Keenon Currier*** tested for the virus. They both tested positive... ***Steve Usery*** continues to undergo therapy for his knee...

***Louise Melvin*** finished her therapy treatments this past Thursday... ***Keith Hinkle's father, Jerry Hinkle***, is in the hospital in Athens-Limestone Hospital with the virus...

***Marcus Morris' brother, Larry Morris***, is at home following his hospitalization for the virus... ***Ross & Louise Melvin's grandson, Luke Davis***, is to have back surgery this month in Boston, Massachusetts.

**PARKING LOT SERVICE:** Last Sunday, we met in the parking lot for our worship service. We had 65 cars that gathered for the assembly.

**OUT OF TOWN:** ***Joe Hinkle*** returned home from his visit to Florida last weekend ... ***The Stiles: Chuck and Benita*** are in Vicksburg, Mississippi... ***Opal Conn*** is in Vicksburg, Mississippi... ***Christian Usery*** is in Long Beach, California.

**Remember Our Facebook Study**

Wednesday Evening at 7:00 p.m.

Market Street Private Group Page

**Men Privileged To Serve:**

***Sunday, August 16<sup>th</sup>:***

***Morning Worship***

Announcements..... Terry Andrews  
Song Leader ..... Hunter Cox  
Prayer..... Tommy Coblenz  
Preaching..... David Cox  
Lord's Supper  
Presiding..... Larry Holt  
Assisting ..... Marty Adams  
Serving ..... Sam Gregory ..... Matthew Vaughn  
..... Charles Vaughn ..... Keenon Currier  
Closing Prayer ..... Harold Ash

***Evening Worship***

Announcements.....  
Song Leader .....  
Prayer.....  
Preaching.....  
Lord's Supper .....  
Closing Prayer .....

Other Assignments for the week of August 16<sup>th</sup>:

Ushers..... Russ Wulfekuhl/Heath Dollar  
Work Sound System..... Landon Adams

***Wednesday, August 19<sup>th</sup>:***

Song Leader .....  
Bible Reading.....  
.....  
Prayer.....  
Invitation.....  
Closing Prayer .....

***Sunday, August 23<sup>rd</sup>:***

***Morning Worship***

Announcements..... Larry Holt  
Song Leader ..... Tommy Burns  
Prayer..... Keith Hinkle  
Preaching..... David Cox  
Lord's Supper  
Presiding..... Harold Ash  
Assisting ..... Marcus Morris  
Serving ..... Mike Ogles..... Kenneth Adams  
..... Matthew Usery..... Tony Thomas  
Closing Prayer ..... Marty Adams

***Evening Worship***

Announcements..... Larry Holt  
Song Leader ..... Bob Broadus  
Prayer..... Bonnie Sutton  
Preaching..... David Cox  
Lord's Supper ..... Harold Ash  
Closing Prayer ..... Frank Melton

Other Assignments for the week of August 23<sup>rd</sup>:

Ushers..... Danny Holt/Marvin Putman  
Work Sound System..... Terry Andrews