

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 XII

December 20, 2020

No. 50

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
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
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

“Do Not Lose Heart”

David A. Cox

“Let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart” (Galatians 6:9)

In this passage, Paul admonishes the Galatians to not become weary, lose courage, or faint in doing good. Paul saw the ever-present danger in Christians’ lives, serving faithfully for a while then becoming negligent in doing good things or minding spiritual things. The exhortation not to grow weary is due to the fact that weariness can cause one to faint or lose sight of the goal. Let us consider the things the scriptures teach us to help us not lose heart.

The Attitude of Paul’s Life

Paul’s life’s attitude is vital for one to possess if they are to not grow weary. Paul earlier had said, “I am crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.” As Christians, we must understand that the lives that we live are to be lived for Christ. We must not be looking to earthly, temporal things, but rather to the spiritual and heavenly things. We must place Christ before ourselves as Paul did in his life (Philippians 3:7-14). As Christians, we must “Set mind on things above, not on things on the earth” (Colossians 3:2).

Minding the Things That are Above

What should we do to “mind the things above” and to live a Christ-centered life? Peter speaks of the Christian diligently adding to faith “virtue, to virtue knowledge, to knowledge self-control, and to Self-control perseverance; and to perseverance godliness, to godliness brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness love. For if these things are yours and abound, you will be neither barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ” (2 Peter 1:5-8). Peter says by giving diligence and adding these things to our lives we will, “make your calling and election sure” (2 Peter 1:10). When one’s life is giving diligence to adding the graces Peter described, he will not focus on things of the earth, but on things above.

One who lives in this way will have no time to grow weary and to faint or, as Peter puts it, “if ye do these things ye shall never fall” (2 Peter 1:10).

Remember Jesus

We need to remember the admonition of the Hebrew writer, “Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God” (Hebrews 12:2). Why were the Hebrew Christians encouraged to do this? Verse 3 continues, “For consider Him, . . . lest you become weary and discouraged” (Hebrews 12:3). By reminding ourselves of the great sacrifice Christ made for us, we can be encouraged as we live and endure the trials and tribulations of this life.

Remember to Finish

In the latter portion of Galatians 6:9, Paul reminds the Galatians that “We shall reap, if we do not lose heart.” This shows the necessity of finishing what we have started. Many believe and teach that once one is saved, one can never fall. But this verse teaches us that our reaping will be determined by whether we faint, grow weary, or quit.

May we all have a strong, growing, abiding, and entrusting faith in God to prevent the weariness that may come. May we keep our sight on the things above. Continually looking to and obeying Jesus as we walk through this life.



Beacon of Truth

Radio Program

Sunday Mornings

on WVNN 770AM – 92.5 FM

8:30a.m. - 9:00a.m.

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

The Good Life

Tim Jennings

“The good life is here,” read the sign advertising the new housing development down the street. It communicates the commonly held view that “the good life” is found by being in the right place. What a sad and limiting view!

In contrast, Psalm 34 shows us that the good life comes from knowing the right person. No matter where you are, you can live the good life if you know the goodness of God.

David learned this lesson in one of the darkest moments of his life. He lost his job, was separated from his family, exiled from his country, sentenced to death and fell at his enemy’s gate (1 Samuel 21:10-15). From all angles life was not good. Yet surprisingly when David looked back on the occasion all he saw was goodness!

First, he saw the goodness of God. Psalm 34 begins with ten verses of praise (34:1-10), and ends with twelve verses of preaching (34:11-22). The order is significant. Yes, life is full of “troubles” (34:17). We are often “brokenhearted” and “crushed in spirit” (34:18-19). We are ignorant and needing direction (34:11). But these words do not paint the full portrait!

When we step back to see the activity of God the painting is suddenly engulfed in goodness. The vision of God’s goodness comes into focus through praise (34:1, personally, “I will;” :3, collectively “let us”). Worship draws our attention to how God hears the prayers of the humble (34:6, “this poor man”) and answers them with deliverance and protection (34:6-7, “saved” “encamped”), because “the Lord is good” (34:8).

David, you are singing my song! I was also brought low by circumstances, personal weakness, and moral failures. I cried out for help and the merciful Lord heard me and helped me. My song of God’s goodness has 1000 verses! Could you not sing along with me?

Life is colored by what we choose to look at the most. If we stick our nose in the dirt all we see is mud. Worship directs our eyes backward, forward and upward to see the activity, promises and character of God. Only then do we see we are surrounded by God’s goodness. See it! Taste it! Don’t just squint your eyes to believe

some facts. All of your senses tingle with the experience of his goodness (James 1:17). Once you see His goodness sing it...share it!

It is no coincidence that Peter urged believers enduring a “fiery trial” to reflect on their salvation and remember they “tasted the Lord was good” (1 Peter 2:3; quoting Psalm 34:10). Their place was temporarily unpleasant, but that could not hide the goodness of God. The same goodness that saved them would follow them all the days of their life so that they “lacked no good thing” (Psalm 23:6; 34:10).

Secondly, the good life is not only a gift from God, but it comes from following the direction of God. David asks, “Is there anyone who wants to love life and see good days?” (34:12). Yes! Me. But is it really possible to love life? Most people “endure life” or even “hate life.” How can we love life? It happens when God’s goodness teaches us to be good to others. This takes three clear forms.

1. *Talk right.* “Keep your tongue from evil and your lips from speaking deceit” (34:13). If we want to love life, we must change how we talk (Luke 6:45; Philippians 4:8). We cannot keep telling ourselves Satan’s lies without creating hell on earth.
2. *Do good.* “Turn away from evil and do good” (34:14). The good life is lived! One reason people “hate life” is because it is all about them. We are “created in Christ Jesus for good works” (Ephesians 2:10; Hebrews 10:24).
3. *Seek peace.* “Seek peace and pursue it” (34:14). An active peace between people is the pleasant breeze of the good life. Oh, the heartbreak of conflict, the grief of strife, and the pain of disunity! Blessedness is for “the peacemakers” (Matthew 5:10; Romans 12:18; Hebrews 12:14).

Peter used David’s poem to show how the “good life” is a living testimony to the gospel in a trash talking, self-centered, violent world (1 Peter 3:8-17, note Peter’s exposition of “good” talk, behavior and peace in :13,16(x2)17). The world needs you to live the good life (Matthew 5:13-16)!

The Good Life Has No Broken Bones

David was the first to admit “the afflictions of the righteous are many” (34:19), but he was certain that God “keeps all his bones; not one of them is broken” (34:20). In other words, life may land a few punches, but it will not knock him out.

But is this true? Will the good life survive? Just look at the cross! John applies these words to Jesus (John 19:36, quoting Psalm 34:20). Yes, he was dead when the soldiers came to check on him. So, Jesus’s legs were not broken as the others on the cross. Jesus had more life to live. This is John’s signpost to the resurrection. Ultimately, the good life knows no end!

~via *Focus Magazine*; November 4, 2020.

News & Notes...

THE SICK:

Dan Lovell	Leigh Ann McGlocklin
Taylor Gregory	Allison Usery
Elizabeth Usery	Steve Usery
David Barnett	Bobbie Adcock
JoAnn Gilbert	Jimmy Johnson
Doris Lovell	Fredia Lowman
Garrett Mixon	Ann Bush
Malcom Gordon	Greg Clark
Haley Gill	

Those Undergoing Treatments or Chronic Illness:

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

In The Hospital/Rehabilitation:

Bill Faulkner, UAB Hospital - B’ham

Athens Health & Rehabilitation:

Mildred Lambert, rm. 15	Elease 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. 59 Frances Bowers, rm. 67
Alice Roberson, rm. 49 Deanie Britton, rm.

Shut-In or Away From Home:

Marci Bassett, Limestone Manor
Gwen Bullock, at granddaughter's in Huntsville
Barbara Carter, Traditions
Mary Ruth Gardner, at Merrill Gardens, Madison
Irene Inman, at home
Stan Stanford, at home
William Thomas, Madison Manor, Madison
Alan Thornton, Limestone Lodge
Kathleen Wales, Limestone Manor

Updates:

Delmer Carter is waiting to hear from doctors about his surgery for an aneurysm ... **Dan Lovell** had an arteriogram on Friday and had two stints inserted ... **Ronnie Locke's** surgery schedule for this past Tuesday was delayed ... **Bonita Dollar** is doing well following her surgery last week ... **Dale Adcock** continues her treatments ... **Donna Wright** has two small spots on her lung. She will be seeing a doctor in January ... **Leigh Ann McGlocklin** will have a MRI on Wednesday ... **Brenda Haraway's brother and Doris Fisher's son, Kenneth Fisher**, has the virus and is at home as he is dealing with the affects of it. ... **Wade Williams, David Barnett's son-in-law**, is undergoing treatments for lymphoma ... **Kevyn Currier's mother, Una King Currier**, is now home from her rehabilitation.

TEACHER'S MEETING: Remember the teacher's meeting that has been scheduled for this afternoon at 4:00 in the West Auditorium.

OUT OF TOWN: **The Hamms:** Joel, Sharma, Clayton & Ragan are out of town this week ... **The Stiles:** Chuck and Benita are in Vicksburg, Mississippi ... **Christian Usery** continues working in Birmingham.

THE RECORD: Attendance for week of December 13th:

Sunday:	Bible Classes	73
	Morning Worship	93
	Evening Worship	66
Wednesday:	Bible Classes	56



Remember Our Study Period

Wednesday Evening at 7:00 p.m.
Come Join Us As We Study Together

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, December 20th:

Morning Worship

Announcements.....	Keith Hinkle
Song Leader	Larry Holt
Prayer.....	Marty R. Adams
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord's Supper	
Presiding.....	Hunter Cox
Assisting	Tommy Coblenz
Serving	Roger Hammonds ..Keenon Currier
.....	Kenneth Adams..... Charles Vaughn
Closing Prayer	Tommy Burns

Evening Worship

Announcements.....	Keith Hinkle
Song Leader	Tony Thomas
Prayer.....	Nathaniel Adams
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord's Supper	Hunter Cox
Closing Prayer	Clayton Hamm

Other Assignments for the week of December 20th:

Ushers.....	Danny Holt/Russ Wulfekuhl
Work Sound System.....	Landon Adams

Wednesday, December 23rd:

Song Leader	Tommy Burns
Bible Reading	Joel Hamm
.....	(1 Peter 1:1-12)
Prayer.....	Larry Holt
Invitation	Larry Tucker
Closing Prayer	Danny Holt

Sunday, December 27th:

Morning Worship

Announcements.....	Larry Holt
Song Leader	Tommy Burns
Prayer.....	Harold Ash
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord's Supper	
Presiding.....	Harvey Nixon
Assisting	Keith Hinkle
Serving	Heath Dollar
.....	Clayton Hamm
Closing Prayer	Danny Johnson
	Danny Holt

Evening Worship

Announcements.....	Larry Holt
Song Leader	Joel Hamm
Prayer.....	Landon Adams
Preaching.....	Song Service
Lord's Supper	Harvey Nixon
Closing Prayer	David Barnett

Other Assignments for the week of December 27th:

Ushers.....	Keenon Currier/Marcus Morris
Work Sound System.....	Landon Adams