

# 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

### 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](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*

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## “One Thing Is Needed”

David A. Cox

*“But Martha was distracted with much serving, and said, ‘Lord, do You not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Therefore tell her to help me.’ And Jesus answered and said to her, ‘Martha, Martha, you are worried and troubled about many things. But one thing is needed, and Mary has chosen the good part, which will not be taken away from her’” (Luke 10:40-42).*

If the question was asked, “What is the most needed thing in your life?” the responses would most likely be varied. In Luke 10, we read of an incident that occurred in the life of Christ when He visited some of His dear friends in Bethany. The friends were Mary, Martha, and Lazarus. During the visit of Jesus, Martha was doing everything to make Jesus’ stay enjoyable. But as Martha was busy, her sister Mary was sitting at Jesus’ feet and hearing the things He taught. Martha asked Jesus to tell Mary to help her in the serving she was doing in a moment of frustration at her sister’s apparent lack of concern. Jesus responded, “One thing is needed” (Luke 10:42). Let us focus on the statement here that Jesus made, “One thing is needed.”

### Many Things vs. One Thing

In life, there are so many things that demand our attention. It may even seem that these things are of great importance and may well be. In Martha’s case, the serving of her company was important. But she failed to realize that something else was of even greater importance. It may be that even in our own daily affairs of life that things such as work, school, etc., cloud out what is truly the most important thing. Jesus made it clear to Martha what the proper priority should be. It was the very thing that Mary had chosen. It was that “good part” Mary chose that Jesus compared to the “many things” that troubled Martha.

The “many things” in this passage refers to the temporal or physical things of this life, and the “good part” deals with the heavenly or the eternal things which “shall not be taken away.” While we must attend to

physical things, let us not become preoccupied and lose sight of the one thing that is needful; the things that will help us get to heaven.

### **The Needed Thing**

Mary, in choosing the “good part,” had not lost sight of her priorities. She was absorbed with the spiritual and eternal things of God. Jesus said, “Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God” (Matthew 4:4). Mary understood this and was not sidetracked by the physical things around her.

Let’s remember this great lesson that Mary teaches us and not neglect what will help us build a spiritual and close relationship with God. Let’s read and study our Bibles, feeding on the word of God daily. Let us be faithful in our attendance with the saints on every occasion possible. Pray and communicate with our Father in heaven. Remember, our close relationship with God is the key to enjoying the abundant life now (John 10:10) and the joys of heaven for eternity (John 14:1-3).

May we ever be aware of putting first the “one thing that is needed” if we are going to form an abiding relationship with our heavenly Father and His Son, Jesus Christ. Let us give strict attention to hearing and heeding what the scriptures teach, which will help us to grow in our relationship with Him.



## ***The Man Who Knew Too Much***

**Kris Emerson**

Is it possible to have too much knowledge? I’m not talking about meaningless information, like the lyrics to every Taylor Swift song. I’m asking about true wisdom. Is it possible to know too much about life under the sun? Can one simply have too much understanding about God? It seems the answer should be, “No way!” Wouldn’t all the shortcomings in our daily lives be minimized if we just knew more? After all, the more you know, the further you go.

Certainly there is a strong argument to be made for reading the Word of God daily and surrounding yourself with wise, godly people who can educate you

as to how to live. But if knowledge is the ultimate key to success, then what about Solomon?

You remember the story of Solomon, right? In 1 Kings 3, God offered to grant the new king anything he asked. Solomon sought wisdom from God, and he was given “an understanding heart to ... discern good and evil” (3:9). Many of us have heard the story about the two mothers recorded later in the same chapter, how Solomon demonstrated his wisdom to determine which of the two was the mother of the baby.

The Bible says, “when all Israel heard of the judgment which the king had handed down, they feared the king, for they saw that the wisdom of God was in him to administer justice” (3:28).

In fact, people travelled from great distances just to hear Solomon speak. He wrote many incredibly profound things in Proverbs. The book of Ecclesiastes closes with this testament to Solomon’s wisdom: “In addition to being a wise man, the Preacher also taught the people knowledge; and he pondered, searched out and arranged many proverbs. The Preacher sought to find delightful words and to write words of truth correctly” (12:9-10). No one can deny the immense depth of Solomon’s knowledge.

If knowing is all that’s needed, Solomon should have been the most godly man who ever lived, right? But how can we explain this record from the end of his life? “Now King Solomon loved many foreign women ... from the nations concerning which the LORD had said to the sons of Israel, ‘You shall not associate with them...’ He had seven hundred wives, princesses, and three hundred concubines, and his wives turned his heart away. For when Solomon was old, his wives turned his heart away after other gods, and his heart was not wholly devoted to the LORD his God” (1 Kings 11:2-4).

How can this be? How can a man who knew so much about life under the sun and the God who made it all choose the wrong path and follow it deep into idolatry? Well, I can’t answer that. But it might cue us in on something about knowledge. Wisdom is powerful and helpful, but pleasing our Creator is about so much more than the accumulation of facts. The knowledge of amazing truths can’t make up for a lack of genuine, personal faith.

Interestingly, in the book of Ecclesiastes, this man of incredible wisdom kept his conclusion quite concise: “The words of the wise are like goads, and masters of these collections are like well-driven nails; they are given

by one Shepherd. But beyond this, my son, be warned: the writing of many books is endless, and excessive devotion to books is wearying to the body. The conclusion, when all has been heard is: fear God and keep His commandments, because this applies to every person” (Ecclesiastes 12:11-13).

We are hopeful that this was written at the very end of Solomon’s life, after he turned back to faithfulness to God. Perhaps it’s unfair to say he was a “man who knew too much.” It wasn’t knowledge that led him from God. But we must also acknowledge that knowing things will never be a substitute for believing things. Knowing about life will never be enough to replace adopting and fulfilling life’s purpose. Knowing about God and His will for my life will never make up for failing to submit to God and keep His commandments.

By all means, let’s learn, grow, and know. Let’s study the Bible as often as possible. But let’s also be sure to use that knowledge to fuel our faith and lead us humbly to the God of all knowledge, lest we “know too much” and believe too little. We are saved by what He offers us, not by how much we know about it. Our learning should bring us to tears, to our knees, and to His throne of grace every single day. May God bless us with all the knowledge we need to faithfully seek His mercy and find Him every time.

~via *Charlestown Road Bulletin*; New Albany, Indiana.



## ***Church Members Hitchhikers***

### **Bob Dickey**

With his thumb, a hitchhiker says, “You furnish the car, gas, attend to the repairs and upkeep, supply the insurance, and I’ll ride with you. But you must be going my way, and if you have an accident, I’ll sue for the damages.” Sounds pretty one-sided, doesn’t it?

There are hitchhikers in other places than just along the roadways. Unfortunately, there are sometimes hitchhikers in local churches. These members seem to say, “You go to the Bible classes, attend the various assemblies, do the visitation and personal work, shoulder the responsibilities, take care of the meeting house and

grounds and all of the things that need doing, and I’ll go along for the ride. But if things aren’t done to suit me, I will complain, criticize, and probably get out and hitchhike to another group.”

You’ve seen them too, haven’t you? You’ve seen professing Christians that seem to just be along for the ride. They frustrate the growth and progress of the local church. Because of indifference or lack of total commitment, they add nothing to the furtherance of the Lord’s cause. The only thing they add is more work for the faithful.

~via *Courtland Avenue Bulletin*; Kokomo, Indiana.

## ***News & Notes***

### **THE SICK:**

Shirley Miller	Leigh Ann McGlocklin
Harold Davis	Mary Davis
Tommy Coblentz	Allison Usery
Bobbie Adcock	Ronnie Locke
Tony Thomas	JoAnn Gilbert
Jimmy Johnson	Doris Lovell
Glynda Walker	Bobby Ogles
Ann Bush	Marsha Young
Bill Faulkner	

### ***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:***

*Betty Pepper*, Restore Rehabilitation  
*Peggy Pepper*, Valley View Rehabilitation

### ***Athens Health & Rehabilitation:***

Mildred Lambert, rm. 15    Elase 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

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

Marci Bassett, Limestone Manor  
Deanie Britton, Limestone Lodge  
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:**

**Betty Pepper** continues in the Athens Limestone Hospital and is making gradual progress ... **Leigh Ann McGlocklin** is doing well this week as she is recovering from her surgery last week ... **Tommy Coblentz** had surgery on Tuesday for a skin cancer on his head which required a skin graft... **Delmer Carter's** surgery has been delayed and he will be hoping to get it done next month... **Tony Thomas** is scheduled for back surgery on February 4th in Huntsville... **Frank Melton** has been having a haze or foginess with his eyes and has been to the doctor with it ... **Albert & Brenda Haraway's grandson, Justice Gentry**, is scheduled for surgery on Tuesday at Children's Hospital in Birmingham... **Brenda Eden's son-in-law, Adam Lee**, had surgery to replace his pacemaker this past Thursday and all went well... **Donna Wright** will be having a biopsy done on the spot on her lung... **Don & Kay Bates** have been sick with the virus this past week and are better now ... **Wade Williams, David Barnett's son-in-law**, is undergoing treatments for lymphoma.

**SYMPATHY:** We want to express our deepest sympathy to **Betty Bolton & Peggy Mitchell** in the passing of their aunt, **Sally Hess**. She passed away Thursday morning.

**OUT OF TOWN: The Putmans:** *Marvin and Irene* have been 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 January 17<sup>th</sup>:**

Sunday:      Bible Classes ..... 99  
                 Morning Worship ..... 114  
                 Evening Worship ..... 75  
Wednesday: Bible Classes ..... 69

**Men Privileged To Serve:**

**Sunday, January 24<sup>th</sup>:**

*Morning Worship*

Announcements..... Joel Hamm  
Song Leader ..... Hunter Cox  
Prayer..... Larry Tucker  
Preaching..... David Cox  
Lord's Supper  
Presiding..... Tommy Coblentz  
Assisting ..... Stephen Lynn  
Serving ..... Matthew Vaughn.... Keenon Currier  
..... Hunter Cox ..... Matthew Usery  
Closing Prayer ..... Roger Hammonds

*Evening Worship*

Announcements..... Joel Hamm  
Song Leader ..... Bob Broadus  
Prayer..... Kenneth Smith  
Preaching..... Song Service  
Lord's Supper ..... Tommy Coblentz  
Closing Prayer ..... Frank Melton

Other Assignments for the week of January 24<sup>th</sup>:

Ushers..... Keith Hinkle/Russ Wulfekuhl  
Work Sound System..... Landon Adams

**Wednesday, January 27<sup>th</sup>:**

Song Leader ..... Tommy Burns  
Bible Reading ..... Stephen Lynn  
..... (1 Peter 3:13-25)  
Prayer..... Joel Hamm  
Invitation ..... Dan Reed  
Closing Prayer ..... Bob Broadus

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**Sunday, January 31<sup>st</sup>:**

*Morning Worship*

Announcements..... Harvey Nixon  
Song Leader ..... Hunter Cox  
Prayer..... Larry Tucker  
Preaching..... David Cox  
Lord's Supper  
Presiding..... Larry Holt  
Assisting ..... Joel Hamm  
Serving ..... Marvin Putman .... Kenneth Adams  
..... Clayton Hamm .... Keenon Currier  
Closing Prayer ..... Nathaniel Adams

*Evening Worship*

Announcements..... Harvey Nixon  
Song Leader ..... Tony Thomas  
Prayer..... Landon Adams  
Preaching.....  
Lord's Supper ..... Larry Holt  
Closing Prayer ..... Tommy Burns

Other Assignments for the week of January 31<sup>st</sup>:

Ushers..... Heath Dollar/Larry Mitchell  
Work Sound System..... Terry Andrews