

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**
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Volume XIII

June 27, 2021

No. 26

How Will You Answer the Question?

Dee Bowman

"What is your life?" asks James, the Lord's brother. He then gives his own answer, as one inspired of God to do so: "It is even as a vapor that appeareth for a little time and then vanisheth away" (James 4:14).

Life is time. Time is life. Nobody knows just how much of it he has.

"What is my life?" That is the question. And it's a question ever man must answer for himself, for that life belongs to each person and to that person alone.

Every person plots his own course, plans and predicts his own route to pursue.

Here are some scripture-based suggestions to help each one of to make good choices when we're about to answer the question, "what is your life?"

Life is the little. It's a little health so that, you can participate. It's a little peace so you can sleep well. It's a little happiness so you can enjoy what you do and enjoy those with whom you do it. It's a little joy to offset the burdens you have to bear. It's a little sorrow to keep you from being too happy with this life and keep you looking forward to a better one. Little stuff is better than big stuff most of the time. Read Ecclesiastes 9:7-12.

Life is the less. It's not more money. You can only buy so much. It's not more things. You can only play with one thing at a time. You can only watch one show at a time, listen to one song, read one page. Life— it's not more repute, not who and how many know you. So what if somebody does or does not know you? How much difference will that make in the finality of things? Popularity is fickle, fame is fleeting. Read Proverbs 10:16-17.

Life is the unimportant. Few people will make much of a dent in history. And there are only so many "big" events anyhow. It's the little, everyday things that really make up life. A new baby. A new bride, a new neighbor, a new Christian. A birthday card you didn't expect. An unexpected gift from that special someone that just said, "Happy Tuesday,

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
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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

I love you.” A new putter. A new dress. And what about a new grand baby? These things are not much reported on the news and may not be very important to anybody else, but these seemingly unimportant things are the stuff of which life is made— they’re life’s treasures. Read Psalm 92:1-5.

Live is for living. One day at a time. Life is worth living—but only if you live right. There’s really not much value to life when you have to spend all your time trying to top last week’s party, or shopping just to buy something bigger or more expensive than what you got the last time. Life is worth living, if you practice kindness, if you recommend the better and call for the good, if you take time to care. Life takes on meaning when you’re trying to help someone get better or get something fixed that’s been broken. Life is valuable when you run the risk of getting involved, when you don’t mind hurting a little yourself to keep someone else from hurting. Read Psalm 23.

Life is for getting better. Growth is a vital part of who and what we are—and not just the physical variety, but much more so—the spiritual variety. What a pleasure to find some new kernel of truth. And what an even greater joy when you apply that truth and voila—it works. And what a pleasure to teach some little one and watch as he makes applications of that teaching and becomes better. To know you helped someone get better, be wiser, be more spiritual—now that’s life. Read 2 Peter 3:17-18.

One thing is certain: it matters greatly how we answer the question. Just what is your life?

~via *Southside Sunday*; Pasadena, Texas.



The Folly of Trying to Please Everyone

Ken Weliever

*From Aesop’s Fables is this story with a great moral—
The Man, The Boy, and The Donkey.*

A man and his son were once going with their donkey to market. As they were walking along by its side a countryman passed them and said: “You fools,

what is a donkey for but to ride upon?” So the man put the boy on the donkey and they went on their way.

But soon they passed a group of men, one of whom said: “See that lazy youngster, he lets his father walk while he rides.” So the man ordered his boy to get off, and got on himself. But they hadn’t gone far when they passed two women, one of whom said to the other: “Shame on that lazy lout to let his poor little son trudge along.”

Well, the man didn’t know what to do, but at last he took his boy up before him on the donkey. By this time they had come to the town, and the passers-by began to jeer and point at them. The man stopped and asked what they were scoffing at. The men said: “Aren’t you ashamed of yourself for overloading that poor donkey of yours—you and your hulking son?”

The man and boy got off and tried to think what to do. They thought and they thought, till at last they cut down a pole, tied the donkey’s feet to it, and raised the pole and the donkey to their shoulders.

They went along amid the laughter of all who met them till they came to Market Bridge, when the donkey, getting one of his feet loose, kicked out and caused the boy to drop his end of the pole. In the struggle the donkey fell over the bridge, and his forefeet being tied together he was drowned. “That will teach you,” said an old man who had followed them: “Please all, and you will please none.”

The lesson from this ancient Greek storyteller is as applicable today as it was 2500 years ago. It’s impossible to please everyone. This is true in sports, government, business and even in the Lord’s church.

Coaches, politicians, and CEO’s as well as preachers and pastors who try to please everyone, appease every opinion, and placate every personal whim or fancy by the masses, will eventually please no one. And like the characters in the fable will probably see their donkey drown.

From a spiritual perspective our foremost desire should be to please the Lord. Paul expressed it with these rhetorical questions: “For am I now seeking the approval of man, or of God? Or am I trying to please man?” His response was simple, “If I were still trying to please man, I would not be a servant of Christ” (Galatians 1:10).

Not everyone will be pleased with the Truth. Some deny it. Others don’t like to hear it. And many disre-

gard it. Yet Pastors, Preachers, and Bible Teachers must base their teaching and their decisions on the revealed Word of God. Neither customs, culture or circumstances change what is right.

Of course, there are many things in the realm of scriptural expediency. Means and methods of ministry vary from church to church and preacher to preacher. You will never have 100% agreement in a congregation regarding a specific area of judgment. Someone always has a different opinion. A better idea. A better way to do it. A better way to say it.

There probably is a kernel of truth in every criticism. The trick is to look for it and profit from it. However, critics will drive you crazy, if you let them. Dr. Charles Lever was right when he wrote, "There comes a time in our lives when we have to tune out the antagonists and follow our own advice."

John Mason offered excellent insight when he said, "The first great commandment about critics is, "Don't let them scare you." Or as the wise man wrote, "The fear of human opinion disables; trusting in God protects you from that" (Proverbs 29:25).

When we accept that it's impossible to please everyone, then it's easier to deal with it. After all, the donkey you save, may be your own.

~via *Perry Hill Road Bulletin*; Montgomery, Alabama.



"Just A Member"

Don Truex

Have you ever felt that you have nothing to offer because you are "just a member"? Let me assure you, there is no such thing as an "ordinary member of the church." That is like saying you have an ordinary eye, or hand, or foot. Every member is vital to the body, both physical and spiritual. What can you do?

1. You can warmly welcome the visitors to our services, making them feel "at home." The

importance of this can hardly be measured.

2. You can act upon the announcements made during the assembly regarding the sick, area meetings, maintenance needs, etc.
3. You can see your neighborhood and workplace as your "mission field." Provide the proper example and then invite and teach.

~via *The Gospel Observer*, Denham Springs, Louisiana.

News & Notes

THE SICK:

Betty Pepper	Dale Adcock
Pat Nixon	Shirley Miller
JoAnn Gilbert	Jimmy Johnson
Doris Lovell	Justice Gentry
Diane Kilpatrick	Janice Cagle

Those Undergoing Treatments or Chronic Illness:

Mike Ogles	Donna Wright
Peggy Pepper	Vicki Stringer
Freddie Mae Elmore	Nikki Ogles
Anita Wheeler	Lona Jackson
Judy Vaughn	Jeanette Weir
Lloyd Adams	Phillip Harwell
Cornelia Pepper	Carrie Warner
Cindy Walker	Kenneth Fisher
Barry DeFoor	Al Pollard
Charles Burns	

Athens Health & Restore Rehabilitation:

Mildred Lambert, rm. 15	Elease Barksdale, rm. 23B
Brenda Wilson, rm. 77	Evelyn Hogan, rm. 36
Valeria Dalton, rm. 7	Christine Hudson, rm. 77
Connie Brock, rm. 62	Doris Reid, rm. 103

Limestone Health Facility:

Opal Conn, rm. 102	Bettye Harrison, rm. 59
Joy Warner, rm. 14	Mary Ruth Gardner, rm. 38
Frances Bowers, rm. 67	Ann Bush, rm. 75
Alice Roberson, rm. 49	

Shut-In or Away From Home:

Bobbie Adcock, at home
 Nell Barksdale, at home
 Marci Bassett, Limestone Manor
 Deanie Britton, Limestone Lodge
 Gwen Bullock, at granddaughter's in Huntsville
 Barbara Carter, Traditions

Unaking Currier, Riverside Sr. Living, Decatur
 Irene Inman, at home
 Bobby Ogles, Merrill Gardens, Madison
 Stan Stanford, at home
 William Thomas, Madison Manor, Madison
 Alan Thornton, Limestone Lodge
 Kathleen Wales, Limestone Manor

Updates:

Opal Conn fell last week at the rehabilitation and bruised her ribs ... **Betty Pepper** is to have surgery on her knee... **Dale Adcock** is doing her therapy on her knee as out-patient ... **Pat Nixon** had some medications changed which has not helped. She will be having some heart tests done on July 8th ... **Shirley Miller** is doing some better and able to eat enough to maintain her weight. She is return to doctor in September ... **Mike Ogles** went to the hospital for fluids this week... **Lona Faye Jackson** fell on Tuesday morning and cut her head, but did not break any bones ... Remember our expecting mothers **Heather Cox** and **Casey Curry** in your prayers.

SYMPATHY: We want to express our deepest sympathy to **David Barnett** in the passing of his niece, **Brenda Owens**, last Saturday. She was also the cousin of **Jerry McGlocklin**. May the Lord bless all this family at this time.

CARD WRITING: The card writing group will meet next Monday morning, July 5th at 10:30, to write and mail out cards. If you would like to be a part of this, please join them next Monday morning at 10:30.

PICTURES MADE: Pictures are continuing to be made after services. If you need to get your picture made go to room 22 in the east wing.

GOSPEL MEETING: The **Tri-Cities church** in Muscle Shoals is beginning a gospel meeting today and it will continue through Friday evening. The speaker in this meeting will be **Adam Kendall-Ball**.

OUT OF TOWN: **The Burns:** Tommy & Susan have been in Colorado... **The Adams:** Nathaniel & Laura have been in Alaska... **The Wulfekuhls:** Russ, Lisa & Ali have been at the Gulf this week..... **The Coxes:** Hunter & Heather are in California **The Coxes:** David & Kerry are in California... **The Stiles:** Chuck & Benita are in Vicksburg, Mississippi.

THE RECORD: Attendance for week of June 20th:

Sunday:	Bible Classes.....	138
	Morning Worship.....	170
	Evening Worship.....	119
Wednesday:	Bible Classes.....	81

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, June 27th:

Morning Worship

Announcements.....	Marcus Morris
Song Leader	Stephen Lynn
Prayer.....	Larry Holt
Preaching.....	
Lord's Supper	
Presiding.....	Tommy Coblentz
Assisting	Larry Mitchell
Serving	Matthew Vaughn..... Sam Gregory
.....	Clayton Hamm Matthew Usery
Closing Prayer	Roger Hammonds

Evening Worship

Announcements.....	Marcus Morris
Song Leader	Tommy Burns
Prayer.....	David Barnett
Preaching.....	Song Service
Lord's Supper	Tommy Coblentz
Closing Prayer	Wayne Vaughn

Other Assignments for the week of June 27th:

Ushers.....	Marvin Putman/Danny Holt
Work Sound System.....	Nathaniel Adams

Wednesday, June 30th:

Song Leader	Larry Holt
Bible Reading	Hunter Cox
.....	(3 John 1:1-14)
Prayer.....	Nathaniel Adams
Invitation.....	David Cox
Closing Prayer	Tommy Burns

Sunday, July 4th:

Morning Worship

Announcements.....	Stephen Lynn
Song Leader	Tommy Burns
Prayer.....	Bonnie Sutton
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord's Supper	
Presiding.....	Harvey Nixon
Assisting	Marcus Morris
Serving	Danny Johnson.. Roger Hammonds
.....	Russ Wulfekuhl Hunter Cox
Closing Prayer	Terry Andrews

Evening Worship

Announcements.....	Stephen Lynn
Song Leader	Bob Broadus
Prayer.....	Keith Hinkle
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord's Supper	Harvey Nixon
Closing Prayer	Kenneth Adams

Other Assignments for the week of July 4th:

Ushers.....	Larry Mitchell/Heath Dollar
Work Sound System.....	Landon Adams