

# 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 XIV

May 29, 2022

No. 22

## 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 Coblenz..... (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*

## Wanting To Justify Self

**David A. Cox**

*“But he, wanting to justify himself said to Jesus, ‘And who is my neighbor?’” — (Luke 10:29).*

In Luke 10, a lawyer asked Jesus, “What shall I do to inherit eternal life?” (v. 25). In answer to his question, Jesus asked, “What is written in the law?” The lawyer correctly answers, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as thyself” (verse 27). Jesus told him the answer was correct, and if he did these things, he would live. We are the lawyer wanting to justify himself and asked, “And who is my neighbor?”

### Self-Justification Is Common.

How often does this happen in life? When children know what their parents’ rules are, but will try to justify themselves after disobeying. In the workplace, the boss tells some to do something, and they do not do it; instead, they begin to justify themselves by acting as if they did not understand what was expected. Not only do people try to justify their actions in these situations, but also in their relationship with God. Someone sees that their life is out of harmony with the will of God, and they may, in effect, say, “I know that is what the Bible teaches, but I ...” We see an example of this in the Garden of Eden, Adam and Eve knew they were not to eat “of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil” (Genesis 2:17). But Eve was tempted to eat and ate of the forbidden fruit and then gave it to Adam, and he ate. When God asked Adam about eating the fruit of the tree that he had told them not to eat, Adam replied, “The woman thou gave to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I did eat” (Genesis 3:12). Notice Adam tried to justify his sin by pointing to Eve, the woman that God had given to Adam. When asked about eating the forbidden fruit, Eve wanted to justify herself and said, “The serpent beguiled me, and I did eat” (Genesis 3:13). In scripture, there are other times that we see men seeking justifications for their actions before God, but Adam and Eve are the first. God was not pleased with self-justification then, and Jesus was not satisfied with the lawyer justifying himself in Luke 10.

## **We Should Seek to Be Justified By God**

We must understand that Jesus is not seeking people to justify themselves in their own eyes; rather, He wants followers to “deny” themselves and follow after Him (Luke 9:23). To deny self means that our interest will change. Paul exemplified self-denial in his life as he wrote to the Philippians concerning the things of this life that he gave up to be a Christian, a follower of Christ. Paul said, “...I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but rubbish, that I may gain Christ” (Philippians 3:8). As followers of Christ, we should no longer seek our own good but the good for the cause of Christ. There will be no room to justify self, for we will have crucified self. The lives which we live will be lives that show Christ living in us (Galatians 2:20). To “crucify” takes humility. We must humble ourselves to the will of God and seek our justification from Him.

### **The Key to Not Seeking Self-Justification**

Paul gives us the key to not seeking self-justification in the example of Jesus. Paul wrote, “Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, who being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself, and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross” (Philippians 2:5-8). The key we see in this text is that Jesus “humbled himself, and became obedient.” Seeking self-justification is not humbling oneself but is the opposite. Self-justification will cause one not to submit to the will of God and, therefore, not receive the forgiveness of sins (Acts 2:38; 1 John 1:9).

Is your life in peace with God? Or, are you seeking justification for the sins you have committed? You are the one who is responsible for your soul. God will only receive those whose lives are in agreement with His will (Matthew 7:21). Don't seek self-justification, but humbly submit to the will of God.

### **Remember Our Study Periods**

Sunday Morning at 9:45 a.m.

Wednesday Evening at 7:00 p.m.

*Come Join Us As We Study Together*

## ***Biblical Wisdom at Work***

**Dennis Tucker**

In an article by Kathy Simmons, titled “Avoiding Career Landmines”, she gives four habits to avoid. While reading I thought how all of the points are taught in the Bible.

The first landmine to avoid is the rumor mill. How many times have we all heard rumors at the work place? Somebody is angry with another, or flirting with someone, or some other bit of news about a company layoff; the list is endless. Most of these rumors are false or just plain gossip and no one's business. “A talebearer reveals secrets, But he who is of a faithful spirit conceals a matter.” (Proverbs 11:13). Have you ever known of any thing good to come from a rumor or a juicy piece of gossip?

The second deadly landmine is, badmouthing the boss. A lot of people like to complain and grumble about their boss. Bosses like most people are not perfect. If a “boss” or supervisor ask you to do some thing immoral then you cannot go along with the request. However, in most situations, people need to do their best and keep their complaints to themselves. “Do all things without complaining and disputing,” (Philippians 2:14).

The third landmine is, trying to use your peers for your own selfish purposes. Companies and managers want people who can work with and not abuse others, it is called team work. The person who thinks everybody else is there to serve them is headed for trouble. “Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself. Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others.” (Philippians 2:3-4) A little bit of team work, which is called fellowship, goes along way in the Lord's body. Since we all have one Master, one Lord, we should all be on the same page and not complain or grumble. “Do all things without complaining and disputing.” (Philippians 2:14).

The fourth and final landmine to avoid is, resisting risk. Frankly this one surprised me a little bit. However, most managers are willing to put up with your failures if you are willing to try and improve.

This relates to a principle set forth in Matthew 25. “Then he who had received the one talent came and said, 'Lord, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where

you have not sown, and gathering where you have not scattered seed. 'And I was afraid, and went and hid your talent in the ground. Look, there you have what is yours.' "But his lord answered and said to him, 'You wicked and lazy servant, you knew that I reap where I have not sown, and gather where I have not scattered seed. 'So, you ought to have deposited my money with the bankers, and at my coming I would have received back my own with interest. 'Therefore, take the talent from him, and give it to him who has ten talents.'" (Matthew 25:24-28).

The avoidance of risk often leads to failure. Success in business often requires a measure of risk. The Romans had a saying, "Victory belongs to the brave." Success spiritually often requires us to do things we are not used to doing and may even have trouble doing. However, the real risk and failure comes from the attitude of "I'll play it safe and do nothing." Remember the words of Paul, "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." (Philippians 4:13).

~via *Words of Life*; Leitchfield, Kentucky

## News & Notes

### THE SICK:

Harvey Nixon	Matthew Vaughn
Delmer Carter	Marvin Putman
Larry Mitchell	Peggy Mitchell
Betty Pepper	Brenda Jones
Brad Brown	Shirley Miller
Betty Lovell	Doris Lovell
JoAnn Gilbert	Diane Kilpatrick

### *Those Undergoing Treatments or Chronic Illness:*

Tommy Burns	Priscilla Tucker
Peggy Pepper	Vicki Stringer
Freddie Mae Elmore	Nikki Ogles
Anita Wheeler	Lona Jackson
Judy Vaughn	Jeanette Weir
Doris Reid	Lloyd Adams
Cornelia Pepper	Charles Burns
Cindy Walker	Kenneth Fisher
Al Pollard	Matt Bassford
Sadricia Wilson	Leigh Ellen Elliott
Wynell Romine	Elmina McLemore

### *Athens Health & Restore Rehabilitation:*

Mildred Lambert, rm. 15	Evelyn Hogan, rm. 36
Brenda Wilson, rm. 77	Connie Brock, rm. 62
Valeria Dalton, rm. 7	Marie Nave, rm. 117a

### *Limestone Health Facility:*

Marci Bassett, rm. 42	Bobbie Adcock, rm. 107
Bobby Ogles, rm. 113	Alice Roberson, rm. 49
Ann Bush, rm. 75	

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

Nell Barksdale; at home  
 Deanie Britton; Limestone Lodge  
 Gwen Bullock; at granddaughter's in Huntsville  
 Barbara Carter; Traditions  
 Unaking Currier; Summerford Health, Falkville  
 Irene Inman; at home  
 Stan Stanford; at home  
 Jimmy Stroud; Valley View, Madison  
 William Thomas; Madison Manor, Madison  
 Kathleen Wales; Limestone Manor

### *In The Hospital/Rehabilitation:*

*Don Bates*; Huntsville Hospital, rm. 392  
*William Thomas*; Huntsville Hospital, rm. 437

### *Updates:*

*Don Bates* had triple bypass surgery on Friday in Huntsville... *Dan Lovell* had shoulder surgery on Tuesday and is doing well in his recovery ... *Harvey Nixon* has been

## Vacation Bible School

**June 13 - 16**

(Monday through Thursday)

**10:00 a.m. to 11:15 a.m.**

Classes from 6 months through High School will be studying:



Speakers for the week in the Auditorium Adult Class:

Monday 10:00 a.m.-----	Mike Richardson
Tuesday 10:00 a.m.-----	Lonell Plyler
Wednesday 10:00 a.m.---	Lance Taylor
Wednesday 7:00 p.m.---	Stacy Crim
Thursday 10:00 a.m.-----	Eric Reynolds

**MARKET STREET CHURCH OF CHRIST**

514 West Market Street  
 Athens, Alabama

sick with the virus and is doing better. . . *Marci Bassett's* health continues with hospice care at the Limestone Health Facility . . . *Debra Holt's cousin, Anthony Sutton*, has been diagnosed with stage 4 cancer of the jaw. He is scheduled for surgery in Birmingham and will follow with many cancer treatments. Keep Anthony and the family in your prayers. . . *Ann McLemore's daughter-in-law, Elmina McLemore* continues to decline in her battle with cancer.

**TUESDAY MORNING LADIES CLASS:** The Tuesday morning Ladies' Bible class meets each Tuesday morning at 10:30 a.m. The class is studying "*The Christian in a Secular Age.*"

**CARD WRITING:** The card writing group will meet next Monday morning, June 6<sup>th</sup>, at 10:30 to write and mail out cards. If you would like to participate in this, please join them next Monday morning at 10:30.

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL:** Our VBS is scheduled for **June 13-16**. There are cards at the entrances to take and to pass along to those whom you invite. Please tell others so that they can come and join us as we study together.

**VBS MATERIAL:** Teachers, the VBS material is in the west auditorium. Please check the material and if you see anything you need please let me know.

**OUT OF TOWN:** *Nancy Hardison* and the girls are visiting with family in North Carolina. . . *The Curriers: Kevyn and Mary Glenna* will be going to San Antonio, Texas this week. . . *Mary Cecile Keenon* will be going to San Antonio, Texas this week with *Kevyn and Mary Glenna*. . . *Russ Wulfekuhl* is in North Carolina this weekend. . . *Keenon Currier* will end his training in San Antonio, Texas this week. He will be going to Monterey, California where he will be stationed.

**PICTURES:** We are continuing to make and update pictures of everyone for the Market Street directory. Please plan to get your picture made in the next few weeks.

**THE RECORD:** Attendance for week of May 22<sup>th</sup>:

Sunday:	Bible Classes .....	114
	Morning Worship .....	135
	Evening Worship .....	90
Wednesday:	Bible Classes .....	79

**Beacon of Truth**

Radio Program

Sunday Mornings

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



**Men Privileged To Serve:**

*Sunday, May 29<sup>th</sup>:*

*Morning Worship*

Announcements.....	Harvey Nixon
Song Leader .....	Hunter Cox
Prayer.....	Kenneth Adams
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord's Supper	
Presiding.....	Joel Hamm
Assisting .....	Marcus Morris
Serving .....	Matthew Usery..... Landon Adams
.....	Luke Vaughn..... Matthew Vaughn
Closing Prayer .....	Christian Usery

*Evening Worship*

Announcements.....	Harvey Nixon
Song Leader .....	Bob Broadus
Prayer.....	Harold Ash
Preaching.....	Bobby Graham
Lord's Supper .....	Joel Hamm
Closing Prayer .....	Clayton Hamm
Other Assignments for the week of May 29 <sup>th</sup> :	
Ushers.....	Larry Mitchell/Tommy Coblenz
Work Sound System.....	Larry Holt

*Wednesday, June 1<sup>st</sup>:*

Song Leader .....	Larry Holt
Bible Reading.....	Matthew Usery
.....	(John 13:1-17)
Prayer.....	Landon Adams
Invitation .....	Tommy Coblenz
Closing Prayer .....	Hayden Pierce

*Sunday, June 5<sup>th</sup>:*

*Morning Worship*

Announcements.....	Marcus Morris
Song Leader .....	Joel Hamm
Prayer.....	Kenneth Smith
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord's Supper	
Presiding.....	Harold Ash
Assisting .....	Keith Hinkle
Serving .....	Harold Davis..... Heath Dollar
.....	Sam Gregory..... Kenneth Adams
Closing Prayer .....	Frank Melton

*Evening Worship*

Announcements.....	Marcus Morris
Song Leader .....	Tommy Burns
Prayer.....	Harvey Nixon
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord's Supper .....	Harold Ash
Closing Prayer .....	Jerry Baker
Other Assignments for the week of May 29 <sup>th</sup> :	
Ushers.....	Danny Johnson/Steve Bradley
Work Sound System.....	Russ Wulfekuhl