

MARKET STREET



"And this 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

Albert Bowers.....(256) 233-4847
Jerry McGlocklin.....(256) 232-7620
Kenneth Smith.....(256) 233-2050
Bonnie Sutton.....(256) 232-2081

Deacons

Marty Adams.....(256) 233-5147
Rusty Brand.....(256) 233-7343
Tim Craig.....(256) 233-4597
Joel Hamm.....(256) 230-6223
Bobby McGuire.....(256) 232-7887
Frank Noblitt.....(256) 777-0725
Stuart Wilson.....(256) 233-6291

Evangelists

David A. Cox.....(256) 233-8910
E-mail: david.a.cox@att.net
Warren Glass.....(256) 233-6086

Visit Us On The Web

MarketStreet-church.org

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

Volume I

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No. 31

Seek and Set Your Minds On Things Above

Ron Drumm

How we think, evaluate and determine things in our mind makes all the difference as to how we live and act in this life. If you are thinking about spiritual matters and striving to reason as God's Word directs, you will do day to day activities based on godly principles. On the other hand if your thoughts revolve around earthly circumstances, then your decisions and choices will be guided by the physical world. The apostle tells Christians to seek those things which are above where Christ is sitting at the right hand of God, and to set their minds on things above, not on things that are on the earth (Colossians 3:1,2). As Christians we are to put to death our members which are on the earth: such members as fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desires and covetousness which is idolatry (vs. 5). Paul writes that we are to put off all these: anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy language of out of our mouths, and lying to one another, since we have put off the old man with his deeds. Put on the new man who is renewed in knowledge according to the image of Him who created us (Colossians 3:8-11).

Christians are given the spiritual attitudes and acts they are to develop and possess in Christ. They are directed to seek and set their minds as the elect of God, holy and beloved, by putting on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering, bearing one another, and forgiving one another...But above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfection. And let the peace of God rule in your hearts...and be thankful. Let the Word of God dwell in you richly in all wisdom...And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him (Colossians 3:12-17).

The beauty of God's Word is the clear and precise direction and guidance it gives to followers of Christ. Often the New Testament writers guided by the Holy Spirit reveal what a child of God should do and not do in one's walk in Christ. For example, we are asked to forgive others because Christ forgave us (vs. 13). Be attentive to these admonitions. Think about the qualities of character God seeks for us, and the godliness

that will result in righteous lives.

Meditate on the spiritual and heavenly principles that are in God's Word. Then set your mind and heart on doing them whether it is putting something off or putting it on – to God be the glory!

~via *Needmore Bulletin*; Haleyville, Alabama



Making Change

Tim Jennings

Most of us would love to change some things about ourselves. If you do not think you need to change, just ask a friend; I am sure he has a list of things you can work on. We would love to change certain aspects of our personality, our appearance, or our habits.

We would especially love to change spiritually. We are called to be “conformed to the image of His Son” (Romans 8:29). That requires some adjustment, to say the least. We need a spiritual makeover. All other changes are superficial and short-lived in comparison, because at the core, sin is the bane of our lives. It has stained our character, distorted our priorities, and ruined our peace, so that our souls cry out for transformation.

The good news is that the gospel is the most powerful tool of change the world has ever seen. Its pages burst with full-color illustrations of the anatomy of change. It is full of case studies about people who fundamentally changed their character and lifestyle. The gospel gives us a way to change, a power to change, and a goal for change that the world knows nothing about.

The transformation of the early Christians took the world by storm. They were no longer simply products of their families or their culture. They were a new creation in Christ. They were so totally altered that they were like “new men” who stood out like sparkling salt in a mundane landscape. They were noticeable different and gloriously changed. But how? Is such change possible for us?

In Scripture the mechanism of change is fueled by

six important elements. Practice these six elements regularly and the gospel will change you.

Hear The Truth

Every transformed life in Scripture started with “receiving the Word of God” (1 Thessalonians 2:13). The wind of change was driven by the breath of God.

One of the real problems we have with change is listening to the right source of information. People are changing all the time as a result of the things they hear. Whether the change is good depends upon its source (Proverbs 14:12; 16:25). There is no shortage of talk shows, glamorous celebrities, and venerated intellectuals who want to tell you what to change, but there is only one word that contains the truth about who you are and what you were made to be, and that is the Word according to Jesus.

Some of us are not changing as we would like because we are not listening to the right source for truth. Satan loves to get us thinking so deeply about ourselves and this world that we do not want to listen to what God has to say. The truth bounces off our hearts like seed off of hard pavement. In contrast, God's people have an unquenchable thirst for truth.

See Yourself As You Are

The truth causes us to see ourselves as we are. Most of us live in a perpetual state of self-deception. We see ourselves as we want to be rather than how we are, so we see no reason to change. If you doubt that, listen to yourself on a recording or watch yourself in a video. After that experience do you say, “I didn't know I had such a good voice and was so good looking?” No, we are shocked at how we really appear. Why? We are skilled in the art of self-deception.

We are much worse in the area of spirituality. If we could see how sinful we are in the presence of a holy God we would fall to the floor as dead (Isaiah 6; Revelation 1). In the same way that a skunk is not repulsed by its own odor, we don't understand how odious sin is in the sight of God.

In the presence of the truth of the gospel our selfishness is laid bare, our indifference toward God and man is exposed, and it is not a pretty picture. No change is possible until we take off the mask, drop the pretense, quit making excuses, and see the truth about ourselves.

Change How You Talk

Now is the time to change the way you talk. Without pretense you come clean. You admit God is right. There are many times where we know the truth about ourselves, but we dare not tell anyone else, because then we just might have to do something about it. There is something about confession that forces us to own up to what needs to change.

Then you start using your tongue to profess what you have confessed. You tell people the great truths of the gospel. The reason those early believers were so evangelistic is because they were transformed. When you have found something that completely changes your life you cannot keep quiet.

Change Your Habits

Now your talk must change your walk. You must begin to “bear fruits worthy of repentance” (Luke 3:8). You courageously cut some things out of your life. You throw those things away, you turn that thing off, and you say “no” to other commitments, because they do not fit your new priorities in Christ.

You can only change when you start doing things differently. That is why many of us never change. We hear the truth and we confess our need, but the change never affects our schedules. Why? Because our schedules are too full! We don't take anything out, so we don't put anything in, and despite our good intentions we change nothing.

Test Your Resolve

Be aware, no change will be left unchallenged. Satan will send a battalion of burdens to test your resolve. In many different ways he will try to discourage you so that you give up.

Nearly every significant change is met with persecution. If you get serious about living for God you will face some burdens that will tempt you to give up. You will face problems that will make you feel justified in quitting. The reality of your change will be seen in your perseverance in such times.

If the frontal attack of persecution does not cause you to quit, Satan will weaken your resolve by attacking your flank with pleasures. He will tempt you to value something else more than you value God. You will be forced to ask yourself, “Is this change worth all the trouble?” If not, your change will come to an end.

Reaffirm Your Decision

Once your resolve is tested, whether you have failed or not, take time to reaffirm your decision. Remember why you decided to follow Jesus in the first place. Return to the passion of your first love for Him (Revelation 2:3-5).

If you could see the Lord in all His glory, would there be any fear that things would work out right? Would there be any fear in giving him your life and bearing your cross? Not at all. When the teaching becomes challenging and your cross becomes heavy, reaffirm your decision by remembering whom you serve. See your Creator in all His power, your Savior in all His love, your Judge in all His glory, and be in awe of Him and inspired to please Him all over again.

-via *Focus Magazine*; April 2008.

Gospel Meeting

September 13-17, 2009

Jeff McCrary, Speaking

Market Street church of Christ
514 West Market Street
Athens, Alabama

News & Notes

THE SICK:

In The Hospital:

Matt Poff; Huntsville Hospital

Crutcher Harbin; Huntsville Hospital, rm. 408

At Home:

JoAnn Gilbert

Nancy Hardison

Polly Davis

Angela Green

Tony Corsbie

Jeff Waddell

Martha Faye Holt

Thomas Holt

Limestone Health Facility:

Essie Belle Bates, rm. 118 Mary Smith, rm. 85
Christine McGuire, rm. 57 J.D. Clanton, rm. 11E
Lorene Bradford, rm.117 Rosella Pugh, rm. 33

Athens Convalescent Center:

Betty Bates, rm. 17

Limestone Manor:

Ruth Owens, rm. 80

Limestone Health Facility:

Essie Belle Bates, rm. 118 Mary Smith, rm. 85
Christine McGuire, rm. 57 J.D. Clanton, rm. 11E
Lorene Bradford, rm.117 Rosella Pugh, rm. 33

Shut-In:

Sarah Halbrook, Glade Retirement, Memphis, Tenn.
Jimmy Killen, at home
Reba Adams, at home
Jerry Gilbert; at home
Majorie Lambert, at home
Albert & Mary Norton, at home

MILITARY SERVICE: Remember all those that are serving on foreign soil in the military for our country. Those who are among us or have connections to the Market Street church are:

- Cody Brown; Iraq
- Brandi Lawrence; Afghanistan
- Joel Smith; Iraq
- Whitney Smith; Japan

OUT OF TOWN: We have a number of our people that have been out of town. Among these include: **Joel, Sharma, Clayton and Ragen Hamm** in Florida... **Rusty, Beth, Anna and Walker** are back after being in Georgia... **Tim and Angela Craig** in Florida.

BIBLE DRILL: This afternoon at 4:30 we will be meeting in the small auditorium on the west wing for the children's Bible drill.

WORK GROUPS: Tonight will be the first meeting of the work groups. Work Group 1 will meet tonight in the small auditorium in the west wing following our evening service. If your last name starts with A – Cla you are in group 1.

THE RECORD: Attendance – Week of July 26th

Sunday: Bible Classes..... 122
Morning Worship 163
Evening Worship..... 128
Wednesday: Bible Classes..... 92

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, August 2nd:

Morning Worship

Announcements Frank Noblitt
Song Leader Joel Hamm
Prayer Kenneth Smith
Preaching David Cox
Lord's Supper
Presiding Stuart Wilson
Assisting Steven Bradley
Serving Hunter Cox..... Bonnie Sutton
..... Gilbert Hardy Larry Mitchell
Closing Prayer Marion Mitchell

Evening Worship

Announcements Frank Noblitt
Song Leader Joel Hamm
Prayer Larry Mitchell
Preaching David Cox
Lord's Supper Stuart Wilson
Closing Prayer Tommy Burns

Other Assignments for Sunday August 2nd:
Usher Raymond Brown
Work Sound System Cory Nelson

Wednesday, August 5th:

Song Leader Jerry McGlocklin
Bible Reading..... (Proverbs 19:1-10)
..... Tyler Cox
Prayer Marty Adams
Invitation Warren Glass
Closing Prayer Nathaniel Adams

Sunday, August 9th:

Morning Worship

Announcements Rusty Brand
Song Leader Jack Cannon
Prayer Larry Mitchell
Preaching David Cox
Lord's Supper
Presiding Wayne Vaughn
Assisting Kenneth Smith
Serving Tommy Burns Nathaniel Adams
..... Curtis Glass Russ Wulfekuhl
Closing Prayer Bonnie Sutton

Evening Worship

Announcements Rusty Brand
Song Leader Jack Cannon
Prayer Stuart Wilson
Preaching Warren Glass
Lord's Supper Wayne Vaughn
Closing Prayer Marty Adams

Other Assignments for Sunday August 9th:
Usher David Terry
Work Sound System Frank Noblitt