

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 IV

March 11, 2012

No. 11

Biblical Discipleship

Antoine N. Holloway

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

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

Deacons

Marty R. Adams.....(256) 233-5147
Joel Hamm.....(256) 230-6223
Stuart Wilson.....(256) 233-6291

Evangelist

David A. Cox.....(256) 233-8910
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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

To those of us who study the scriptures probably recall Jesus saying in Matthew 28:19-20, *"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."* Although we are aware this was Jesus' commission to the apostles specifically, it is also a command to the church generically, for the apostles were commanded to teach disciples to observe all things they (the apostles) have been commanded. So, if the apostles were commanded to go, make disciples, baptize, and teach these disciples to do the same, then it is our responsibility as Christians to go, make disciples, baptize, and teach these disciples to do the same.

In Matthew 28:19, I notice something many Christians are mis-educated on and that is, we are disciples before we are baptized. A "disciple" in the Bible is "someone who pledges his or her allegiance." As recorded in Scripture, God makes it abundantly clear one can be a disciple and not be a Christian (who is a different type of disciple) (Acts 19:1-3), but one cannot be a Christian and not a disciple (Acts 11:26). Listen to your Bible! In Acts 19:1-3, the Bible reads, *"And it happened that while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul passed through the inland country and came to Ephesus. There he found some disciples. And he said to them, Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed? And they said, No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit. And he said, Into what then were you baptized? They said, Into John's baptism."* These men were disciples, but they were not disciples of Jesus Christ. In Acts 11:26, the Bible reads, *"And when he had found him, he brought him to Antioch. For a whole year they met with the church and taught a great many people. And in Antioch the disciples were first called Christians."* Here we have disciples of Christ, who for the first time have been identified as Christian in Antioch. Before an individual is baptized into Christ, one must "pledge his/her allegiance" through confession of Christ before they can be baptized, changing them from merely disciples to disciples

of Christ (Acts 8:37-39).

What is a disciple? Disciples are individuals who, by their commitment, say, *"We are not satisfied merely to be part of the family of God (the church of Christ) only, but we want something more and are willing to pay the price for it."* Well, the process by which this is accomplished is called Discipleship. Every child of God must ask themselves the question, "Am I looking more like Jesus this year than I did last year?" "If not, then why not?" "What must I change about myself; my conversation (manner of life), and my spiritual and physical work ethic in order to be more and more like the Master?" Becoming more and more like Jesus is what discipleship is all about. If our goal in life is not trying to become more and more like Jesus, then we have the wrong purpose, following the wrong plan, and are at the wrong place!!!

As Christians, out of all the other disciples in the world, we have to be the best. If ungodly individuals can take an unholy, public stand for unrighteousness without humiliation or apology, how much more should the child of God be ready to take an equally, but righteous stand by the authority of the one and true God without apology? When we view the zeal of the Jews who wanted to kill Christ, they stopped at nothing until they fulfilled the will of their father, the devil. Listen to your Bible! In John 8:44, the Bible reads, *"You are of your father the devil, and your will is to do your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, and has nothing to do with the truth. Because there is no truth in him. We he lies, he speaks out of his own character, for he is a liar and the father of lies."* For three and a half years, evil men diligently made attempts to accuse Christ by trying to use His words against Him (Mark 12:13). In Matthew 26:50, their allegiance did not stop there because they falsely arrested Him. In Matthew 26:59-63, their loyalty to Satan did not stop there, for they told numerous lies by twisting the truth to accomplish their purpose during the trial of Christ. In Matthew 27:1-2, their adherence did not stop here, but they delivered Christ to Pilate to be put to death. After Pilate could not find any fault in Him, instead of seeing the error of their way, their dedication to the cause of Satan allowed them to deliver Jesus to Herod to be judged (Luke 23:7-11). Their devotion to the Devil continued, for they were willing to have a convicted murderer released unto them in order to have Christ crucified (Luke 23:18-21). The faithfulness of

Satan's disciples continued on throughout the gospels and even until today.

In pointing this out, I want us to see the commitment of those who are not Christians and ask ourselves, "Are we to be more committed or less committed than these?" I believe Jesus wants us to be more committed to Him than those who are committed to someone else. Jesus said in Matthew 5:20, *"For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven."* In other words, our entrance into heaven is based upon our fidelity to Christ through discipleship. Is discipleship in Christ important? Yes it is! It is so vital that our salvation is depended upon it. Let us make a vow right now and this year to be the disciples, not what we want to be, or what others want us to be, but what Christ desires and expects us to be.

-via *Wildercroft Church Bulletin*; Riverdale, Maryland.

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Worship Motivation

Shane Williams

If you really want to upset people, threaten their economic situation. A bad economic picture scares most people and gets politicians voted out of office. In the 1st century, the threat of a downturn nearly got the apostle Paul kicked out of Ephesus.

Here's what happened. Paul came to town "and he entered the synagogue and continued speaking out boldly for three months, reasoning and persuading them about the kingdom of God" (Acts 19:8). For more than 2 years he shared the gospel, and many began following Jesus.

Paul was successful in getting people to see that there is only one true God. Apparently many Ephesians stopped worshiping the goddess Diana. This was terrible news for the local silversmiths, who made their

living creating and selling Diana statuettes. If enough people stopped believing in her, their business would dry up. There was a commotion and an uproar when the craftsmen figured this out.

Acts 19:24-27, “For a certain man named Demetrius, a silversmith, who made silver shrines of Diana, brought no small profit to the craftsmen. He called them together with the workers of similar occupation, and said: ‘Men, you know that we have our prosperity by this trade. Moreover you see and hear that not only at Ephesus, but throughout almost all Asia, this Paul has persuaded and turned away many people, saying that they are not gods which are made with hands. So not only is this trade of ours in danger of falling into disrepute, but also the temple of the great goddess Diana may be despised and her magnificence destroyed, whom all Asia and the world worship.’”

This incident should remind us to evaluate our reasons for worshiping God. The silversmiths wanted to protect their worship as a way of protecting their prosperity. Surely we can see that it isn't acceptable to alter our worship for any worldly reason! Our worship must **only** be determined by God's Word (2 Timothy 3:16-17; John 4:24). Should it change because it could be more accepted, popular, or fun?

We worship God because of His love for us and because of who He is, not because loving Him can help our bottom line, make us more popular or help us “fit in” better. Let's worship God the right way, the way He has determined!

~via *The Lilbourn Light*; Lilbourn, Missouri.

Radio Program

Every Sunday Morning

on WVNN

770AM – 92.5 FM

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

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

News & Notes

THE SICK:

Nancy Abernathy	Bonnie Morris
Jordan Lovell	Wayne & Judy Vaughn
Margaret Vaughn	Janice Cagle
Wynell Casteel	Hazel Toone
Mary Ruth Gardner	Yvonne Sherbert
Ruth Lawson	Charles Burns
Matt Poff	Faye Cary
Joe & Sarah Collier	Betty Faye Holt
Gladys Sandlin	Phillip Harwell
Hailee Walton	Una King Currier
Kenneth Pressnell	Angeta Andersen
Brent Lowman	Paige Phillips
Barbara Ogles	

In The Hospital:

David Gardner; HeathSouth, rm. 305
Frances Bowers; Athens-Limestone Hosp., ICU
Connie Dollar; Birmingham Hospital; Spain-Wallace
Gladys Meals; Huntsville Hospital, rm. 558
Eli Williams; St. Jude's Hospital, – Memphis, Tenn.
Ava Brooke Cambell; Children's Hospital B'ham.

Limestone Health Facility:

Janet Berryhill, rm. 65	Annie Mae Bragg, rm. 57
Albert Norton, rm. 36	David Rice, rm. 111
J.D. Clanton, rm. 11E	Rosella Pugh, rm. 74

Limestone Lodge:

Martha Rice, rm. 25

Brookshire Healthcare - Huntsville:

Rachel Grubbs, rm. 112-C

Shut-In:

Reba Adams, at home
Lola Colwell, at home
Polly Davis, River City Care, Decatur, rm. 74
Ruby Davis, Valley View Health, Madison, rm. 51-A

SYMPATHY: We want to extend our deepest sympathy to *Marilyn Bradley* and *all the family* in the passing of Marilyn's father, *Ules Reid*, this past week. His funeral was Thursday morning at Spry Funeral home and he was laid to rest in the Valley View Cemetery.

CHURCHWEBSITE: The Market Street church website is undergoing a total redesign and structure. It will take a little time to get it up and going completely, but

when it is finished it will be a great resource of information for the members here, with section that will have information only available for members to access. Also, the sermons, bulletins and other teaching materials will be available for people desiring to study God's Word.

For the members section, we will be updating the directory information. If you have an email address for each person in your family or cell phone numbers that receive text messages, we would like to have that information along with your cell phone provider. This information on cell phones will not be published unless you want it published. Please provide this information on the Members Card you fill out on Sunday.

PLACED MEMBERSHIP: We are delighted that *Virginia Meyer* has expressed her desire to be a part of the work here at Market Street, She has moved here from Richmond, Virginia and we are thrilled that she is among us. She was a member of the Courthouse Road church where Gene Tope preaches. Market Street helped with his support there until a couple of years ago. Let us all extend a warm Market Street welcome to sister Meyer.

WORK GROUPS: Work Group two will be meeting tonight after our evening service. If you are in group two, remember to meet with your group.

NURSING HOME SINGING: Remember the singing at the Athens Convalescent on Tuesday at 5:30 p.m.

THE RECORD: *For the Week of March 4th*

Sunday:

Bible Classes..... 125
 Morning Worship 163
 Evening Worship..... 110

Wednesday:

Bible Classes..... 100

Gospel Meeting

April 29 – May 3, 2012

(Sunday through Thursday)

Sewell Hall, Speaking

Market Street church of Christ

514 West Market Street
 Athens, Alabama

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, March 11th:

Morning Worship

Announcements Kenneth Smith
 Song Leader Tyler Cox
 Prayer Jordan Lovell
 Preaching David Cox
 Lord's Supper
 Presiding Marty Adams
 Assisting Joel Hamm
 Serving Marvin Putman Dwaine Allfrey
 Harold Davis Tommy Coblentz
 Closing Prayer Marcus Morris

Evening Worship

Announcements Kenneth Smith
 Song Leader Stefan Fudge
 Prayer Stuart Wilson
 Preaching David Cox
 Lord's Supper Joel Hamm
 Closing Prayer Landon Adams

Other Assignments for Sunday, March 11th:

Usher Russ Wulfekuhl
 Work Sound System Danny Johnson

Wednesday, March 14th:

Song Leader Hunter Cox
 Bible Reading (Isaiah 40:1-11)
 Danny Johnson
 Prayer Bonnie Sutton
 Invitation Joel Hamm
 Closing Prayer Dan Reed

Sunday, March 18th:

Morning Worship

Announcements Dwaine Allfrey
 Song Leader Todd Williams
 Prayer Terry Andrews
 Preaching David Cox
 Lord's Supper
 Presiding Bonnie Sutton
 Assisting Tommy Coblentz
 Serving Marion Pepper Nathaniel Adams
 Stefan Fudge Russ Wulfekuhl
 Closing Prayer Hunter Cox

Evening Worship

Announcements Dwaine Allfrey
 Song Leader Tyler Cox
 Prayer Kenneth Smith
 Preaching Todd Williams
 Lord's Supper Bonnie Sutton
 Closing Prayer Joel Hamm

Other Assignments for Sunday, March 18th:

Usher Maurice Dollar
 Work Sound System Landon Adams