

# 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

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  
Cell: (256) 614-3757  
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**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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## *The Importance of Togetherness*

**Andy Diestelkamp**

From the beginning of the church there was togetherness (Acts 2:42-47). Those who believed were together and had all things in common. Perhaps our abhorrence of communism has caused us to skim over these texts as irrelevant, but let us not confuse government-imposed sharing of the wealth with the voluntary spirit of brotherhood.

The Jerusalem church continued with one accord in the temple, and this togetherness even spilled over into house-to-house togetherness on a smaller scale. Brethren, for us to be an influence and encouragement to one another we need to spend time together.

Certainly in some churches the problems of sinful attitudes are so acute that some might question whether assembling is as valuable as I am making it out to be. The church in Corinth was coming together supposedly to eat the Lord's Supper, but their divisiveness and selfishness was making that impossible (1 Corinthians 11:17- 21). In light of the problem, it would seem that the easiest solution would have been to just have everyone stay home. However, despite the negativity associated with their assembly, the solution that Paul offers is not to quit coming together (or to break into two assemblies), but to wait for one another (vs. 33). The Lord's Supper is the only congregational fellowship meal authorized, and churches are supposed to take it together. Apparently Paul thought being together was important.

Assembling together is something that we are not supposed to neglect. It is an important forum in which to motivate one another to do what is right (Hebrews 10:23-25). Think about those who were reading this letter in the first century. Most are agreed that the motive for the letter seems to be to encourage Jewish Christians to remain faithful despite the strong pressures to return to Judaism.

These were very likely persecuted people. Persecution may have been one of the main reasons that people were neglecting to assemble.

Assemblies, groups, and multitudes are much more conspicuous. Still, they were admonished not to forsake this important time together. Is persecution the reason why so many neglect their assembling with the church today? If our persecuted brethren of the first century were told not to forsake this important time together, and to do it all the more often, what would our twenty-first century brethren be told?

Our comfortable affluence has us convinced that we don't really need to spend time together. We are self-sufficient and "have need of nothing," (Revelation 3:17). It is just another way in which we are deceived by riches and become unfruitful (Mark 4:19). Don't be so proud of your independence, and don't put your trust in your self-sufficiency but in the living God who is the giver of all good things. "Be rich in good works, ready to give, willing to share" (even your time), that you may "lay hold on eternal life" (1 Timothy 6:17-19).

-via *Think On These Things*; Cortland, Illinois.



## *Sin Is "Against God"*

**Robert F. Turner**

If you steal my rifle, you will do me a grave injustice. Realizing this, you may decide to return the rifle and ask my forgiveness. You may throw in a new scope to make me happy, but you have not paid your just dues.

Perhaps you think I mean your debt to society. Well, we have obligations to our fellowmen, and the courts may exact a fine, or place you in jail for stealing the rifle. But you could completely satisfy me, wipe clean the records of the court, and still fail the obligations of justice. In fact, we have not yet given consideration to the primary matter.

In the initial act of stealing the rifle you not only did me an injustice, you not only sinned against our society – far more important, you failed your intended purpose and rejected the authority of your Maker. You have sinned against God! This is the fundamental factor in sin, yet it is the part very often ignored – both in recognizing sin, and in "making things right." God

existed prior to society, and deserves the prior consideration. All sin is against God!

David got right to the point when he prayed, "Against thee, thee only, have I sinned, and done that which is evil in thy sight" (Psalm.51:4). On this basis God was just in condemning and David looked to God for forgiveness. We need many Davids today.

Christ has the prodigal son confess, "Father, I have sinned against heaven, and in thy sight" (Luke 15:21). The order is significant. Twice this statement is made in the parable, and always, "against heaven" first. How differently we might look upon our sins if this order would prevail.

Paul says "godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of: but the sorrow of the world worketh death" (2 Corinthians 7:10). It is not enough that we "regret" our sins. Such regrets may stem from getting caught. Our sorrow must be in recognition of our failure before God, and our turning in keeping with His will. It is this concept of sin that makes us aware of its depth, and of our complete dependence upon God for forgiveness. Next time you sin don't "look out" – look up".

-via *Plain Talk*; Burnet, Texas.



## *What Is Inspiration?*

**Randy Harshbarger**

The word "inspired" is used only once in the NT. It is a translation of the word theopneustos as found in 2 Timothy 3:16. "All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness." Literally, the word means "Godbreathed." Of course, a number of passages refer to the Holy Spirit as the source of inspiration (Acts 2:4; Hebrews 3:7; 2 Peter 1:21). Inspiration is of God! Men were the instruments chosen by God to speak and write His word.

Jesus promised inspiration to His apostles as they

did their work of preaching. “But when they deliver you up, do not worry about how or what you should speak. For it will be given to you in that hour what you should speak; for it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father who speaks in you” (Matthew 10:19-20). The human element does not in any way diminish the message of God. Even recognizing the particular vocabulary, language, and personality of God’s human agents does not in any way mitigate against the message truly, actually coming from God. Paul said in 1 Corinthians 2:13: “These things we also speak, not in words which man’s wisdom teaches but which the Holy Spirit teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual.” Paul was an educated man (Acts 22:3). He wrote in the Greek language. He used language and arguments that people in the 1st century would and could understand. That does not lessen the impact or import of the words that came from him; he was “taught by the Spirit.”

Jesus said: “Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away” (Mark 13:31). We have confidence that God’s word has been translated accurately, transmitted faithfully, and preserved in total for us today. There are literally 1000s of Greek manuscripts that can be and have been studied. The task of examining these ancient documents is exacting; the end result is that we can have confidence that we have God’s word accurately written, preserved, and transmitted.

You and I need to do what Paul told Timothy to do in 2 Timothy 2:15. “Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.” It takes time and hard work to truly study God’s word. It takes an honest heart. Such an endeavor should be one of the main priorities in our lives today. Since we will face the message from God in judgment, it is important that we have confidence in it and that we know what it says. “He who rejects Me, and does not receive My words, has that which judges him; the word that I have spoken will judge him in the last day” (John 12:48).

Faith and reason are joined in handling aright God’s word. We have His message. Reason examines and evaluates that message. Such an exercise helps us appreciate the inspiration of the Bible.

~via *Stalling Drive Bulletin*; Nachcodoches, Texas.

**Remember Our Service This Evening at 5:00.**

# News & Notes

## THE SICK:

Albert Bowers	Mot Beasley
Margaret Carter	Gilbert Hardy
Mary Ruth Gardner	Wynell Casteel
Yvonne Sherbert	Jerry Gilbert
Faye Cary	Christine Grissom
Matt Poff	Ava Brooke Campbell
Betty Faye Holt	Leroy Davenport
Brent Lowman	Charles Burns
Phillip Harwell	Hailee Walton
Una King Currier	Barbara Ogles
Gladys Sandlin	Paige Phillips

## In The Hospital:

*Kenneth Pressnell*; Decatur General Hosp. – CCU  
*Eli Williams*; St. Jude’s Hospital; Memphis, Tenn.  
*David Hartsell*; Houston, Texas

## Athens Convalescent Care:

Hazel Toone, rm. 65

## Limestone Health Facility:

Janet Berryhill, rm. 75-B	Mae Bragg, rm. 57
Albert Norton, rm. 36	David Gardner, rm. 65
Frances Bowers, rm. 100	J.D. Clanton, rm. 11E
Rosella Pugh, rm. 74	Irene Daniel, rm 92
Marie Bates, rm. 97	

## 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  
 David/Martha Rice, Atria Regency, Mobile, rm. 17

**OUR MEETING:** What a great week we have experienced this past week at Market Street. Our meeting with *Sewell Hall* was very encouraging and uplifting. The meeting was very well attended by both Christians and non-Christians. We averaged 193 for the meeting. Brother Hall did his work very well and the lessons were beneficial to all who heard them. The singing during the meeting was very good. I appreciate our songleaders and the way in which they prepared for the work of leading the singing. Many visitors expressed to me how much they enjoyed the singing as well. The Market Street church deserves to be commended for your work inviting others, your greeting of those that came

to visit with us, and your attendance at the meeting. The average number of Market Street people that attended the meeting Monday through Thursday evening was 107. I appreciate the many invitations that were distributed for the meeting. Nearly 1500 invitations were handed out, mailed or made through Facebook. Also, an appreciation to those who had brother and sister Hall as guests for a meal. Let us continue to remember the lessons taught and the open doors it has given us. May the Lord bless our work here at Market Street.

**SCOTT TOPE HERE TODAY:** *Scott Tope* will be preaching and giving a report of the work he is doing in South Africa. I know that everyone will enjoy learning about the work that is being done and the part Market Street has in this work.

**SYMPATHY:** We want to express our deepest sympathy to *JoAnn Gilbert* in the passing of her father, *Joe Collier* this past Tuesday afternoon. His graveside service was Thursday afternoon. He was laid to rest in the Athens City Cemetery...Also, we want to extend our sympathy to *Nancy Abertnathy* in the passing of her uncle, *James Thornton*. The visitation will begin at 1:00 this afternoon and the funeral will be at 3:00 at the Limestone Chapel Funeral Home. He will be laid to rest in the Roselawn Cemetery.

**GOSPEL MEETINGS:** There is a gospel meeting beginning today at the *Sardis Springs church*. The speakers are as follows: Sunday: 9:45a.m. – *Eddie Littrell*; 10:30a.m. – *Jordan Lovell*; 3:30p.m. – *Don Miller*; Monday 7:00 p.m. – *Jonathan Reeder*; Tuesday 7:00p.m. – *Steve Klein*; Wednesday 7:00p.m. – *Kasey Harbin*... The *Hays Mill church* is beginning a meeting today and it will continue through Friday with services at 7:00 p.m. *Gary Patton* will be the speaker in this meeting... The *Brookhill church* in Killen is beginning a meeting and it will continue through Wednesday with services at 7:00p.m. *Jeff May* will be the speaker in this meeting.

**WORK GROUPS:** Work Group one will be meeting this evening after our evening service.

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

**THE RECORD:** *For the Week of April 29th*

**Sunday:** Bible Classes..... 127  
 Morning Worship ..... 185  
 Evening Worship..... 201  
**Wednesday:** Bible Classes..... 145

**Men Privileged To Serve:**

**Sunday, May 6th:**

*Morning Worship*

Announcements ..... Joel Hamm  
 Song Leader ..... Tyler Cox  
 Prayer ..... Larry Mitchell  
 Preaching ..... Scott Tope  
 Lord's Supper  
 Presiding ..... Tommy Coblentz  
 Assisting ..... Kenneth Smith  
 Serving ..... Delmer Carter..... Keenon Currier  
 ..... Maurice Dollar..... Bonnie Sutton  
 Closing Prayer ..... Todd Williams

*Evening Worship*

Announcements ..... Joel Hamm  
 Song Leader ..... Stefan Fudge  
 Prayer ..... Nathaniel Adams  
 Preaching ..... David Cox  
 Lord's Supper ..... Tommy Coblentz  
 Closing Prayer ..... Stuart Wilson

Other Assignments for Sunday, May 6th:

Usher ..... Dwaine Allfrey  
 Work Sound System ..... Landon Adams

**Wednesday, May 9th:**

Song Leader ..... Tommy Burns  
 Bible Reading..... Isaiah 42:14-25  
 ..... Marcus Morris  
 Prayer ..... Landon Adams  
 Invitation ..... Jerry McGlocklin  
 Closing Prayer ..... Marty Adams

**Sunday, May 13th:**

*Morning Worship*

Announcements ..... Marcus Morris  
 Song Leader ..... Todd Williams  
 Prayer ..... Tommy Coblentz  
 Preaching ..... David Cox  
 Lord's Supper  
 Presiding ..... Stuart Wilson  
 Assisting ..... Ronnie Locke  
 Serving ..... Hunter Cox..... Brandon Griswold  
 ..... Marion Pepper..... Nathaniel Adams  
 Closing Prayer ..... Jerry McGlocklin

*Evening Worship*

Announcements ..... Marcus Morris  
 Song Leader ..... Tyler Cox  
 Prayer ..... Bonnie Sutton  
 Preaching ..... David Cox  
 Lord's Supper ..... Stuart Wilson  
 Closing Prayer ..... Jordan Lovell

Other Assignments for Sunday, May 13th:

Usher ..... Danny Johnson  
 Work Sound System ..... Marty Adams