

# 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  
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Phone (256) 232-1525

Volume IV

May 20, 2012

No. 21

## *A Little May Go A Long Way*

**Dee Bowman**

A young man preached his heart out. He was barely 23 years old and this was his first gospel meeting. How his heart did beat when he received the invitation to come and preach for the small group of brethren in this little community. Visions of huge crowds, high excitement, lots of responses filled his head as he contemplated the coming event. When the time came he was almost out of breath with excitement.

Although the crowds were fair, there was seemingly very little excitement during the meeting. Brethren listened attentively, but their reaction was basically one of quiet politeness. He preached his heart out for two weeks. When the meeting was concluded, one person-a little girl 12 years old-obeyed the gospel. He was discouraged, disappointed.

Before returning home, he called together the Elders of the little congregation and apologized to them. "I guess I'm not as far along as I thought I was," he said, "I'm sorry for the fact that only one person responded to the invitation." "I'll try and do better the next time-that is if there is a next time," he said. The Elders sought in vain to console him as he went on his way.

Years passed. The little girl grew up. She married a fine Christian man. To this union was born five sons. All five of the sons became gospel preachers. Through their efforts thousands of people learned about Jesus and obeyed the gospel.

All this, because of the effort of one young, inexperienced gospel preacher.

Influence is interesting. You never know how much you have or what that influence may accomplish. Even people who think themselves to have very little of it have been known to have a profound effect on the lives of others. And influences are not always huge, either. Lots of times it's little acts that impress us. And many times we don't even realize our influence is being felt.

### 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

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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*

One thing is certain: we need to learn that there's power in influence—power for good, power for evil. You have such power. So do I. For instance, if you're an older person, chances are younger people are watching you and some of them are apt to follow your example, whether you know it or not. If you are younger, there are still kids who are younger still who may well be patterning their lives after you. So it's important to "watch out where you're going" as my Dad used to say. How sad it would be to lead some person down the wrong path.

Paul, in 1 Corinthians 11:1, said, "Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ." The best following you will ever do is following Christ. And the best example you can possibly be is one where Christ is the dominant feature in your life. Lead yourself well and you'll lead others well.

And you don't have to be a gospel preacher to preach the gospel. All you need is a love for the souls of men, coupled with a burning desire to make the words of Jesus known. We need to be so fascinated by the gospel that we can hardly keep from telling people about it. Further, that gospel should have such an effect on us personally that it's obvious to all that we belong to the Lord, and that He alone guides our footsteps.

"And at that time there was a great persecution against the church which was at Jerusalem; and they were scattered abroad throughout the regions of Judea and Samaria, except the apostles... therefore they that were scattered abroad went everywhere preaching the word" (Acts 8). I fear the gospel message doesn't influence us like it did them. One small rejection and we're apt to quit. And our folding up in our obligation may well cause someone else to do so as well. We can do better. We must do better. We have to be like the early saints and keep on teaching.

How's our influence for good? Do others see Jesus living in us? Do they see the joy we have in seeking and serving Him? Do we shrink back at the slightest set-back? We may not know how much influence we're having, but we do know that it's right to keep on trying. It might turn out like the young preacher, who knows?

~via *College View Columns*; Florence, Alabama.

## *Vacation Bible School*

June 18-21, 2012 — 10:00 a.m.

## *Realizing Our Great Salvation*

**Randy Harshbarger**

What would you say to an apathetic Christian? Is there any spiritual advice you might offer that would shake someone out of their spiritual dullness? What is the greatest threat to the purity and faithfulness of God's people today? New Testament Christians struggled through trials and persecutions (Hebrews 11). They contended with faith problems (Hebrews 3). Some lost their spiritual focus and turned away from Christ (Hebrews 6:4-6). The social gospel, cults, "felt needs," a this-world reward mentality, etc., pose threats to believers and unbelievers alike. Still, it seems even more tragic when those who "were once enlightened" fall away. Does the devil work harder to gain and keep those who have been exposed to the truth? What can we say to encourage continued fidelity to the Lord?

The Hebrew Christians were told: "Therefore we ought to give the more earnest heed to the things that were heard, lest haply we drift away from them" (Hebrews 2:1). We must make sure we are not carried beyond the point of no return. The great, superior, salvation Christ provides demands our utmost care and concentration. Just as boats are sometimes adrift at sea, floating aimlessly, with neither chart or compass, Christians who do not listen to Christ will drift away. The Hebrew writer strengthens his argument by saying: "For if the word spoken through angels proved steadfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just recompense of reward; how shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation?" (Hebrews 2:2-3). Here the argument is from the lesser to the greater. First, the Old Law was mediated by angels (cf. Acts 7:53). Second, if God meant what He said through His law given to the Jews (and He did), and if that law could not be resisted without punishment (which it could not be), then how much more is our responsibility to pay attention to the will of God in these last days which is expressed through Jesus Christ, the one who is superior to the angels. With the Old Law came the imposition of pain and penalty; the Jews were exhorted to obey God. If that is true (and it is), then how much more are we to listen to the message spoken by the Lord. This message was "confirmed" through the ministration of the Holy Spirit: "God also bearing witness with them, both by signs and wonders, and by manifold powers,

and by gifts of the Holy Spirit, according to his own will” (Hebrews 2:4).

The message of Jesus Christ is redemptive in nature. Lost in sin, men and women must look to the perfect, adequate sacrifice in order to be saved. But the message of Christ also is uncompromising in its demands. Jesus, as the way, the truth, and the life, is clear about our need to come only to Him. That was the fundamental mistake made by the Hebrew Christians. They jeopardized their spiritual standing before Christ by reverting back to Judaism. Christ is not simply one voice among many. He is the final, ultimate voice to all men for all time.

How will this help me shore up my faith and commitment to Christ? First, Christ gives me confidence. His salvation is great. Second, this great salvation demands my complete commitment to the seriousness of service to Jesus. Serving the Lord is not an “all you can eat Sunday morning breakfast buffet.” It is an all or nothing proposition. Those who merely play around at serving Christ evidence a lack of faith, and will finally perish in the wilderness of sin and rebellion. Jesus has given us every opportunity to know and understand that His salvation is great. When are we going to start acting like we believe Him?

-via *Stallings Drive Bulletin*; Nacogdoches, Texas.

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## *The Sin of Jealousy*

**J. C. Choate**

Jealousy has been called a green-eyed monster. This is because of the many marriages it has destroyed, and many homes it has wrecked. When a husband or wife becomes suspicious of the other, always wondering about each other, naturally no good is going to come from it.

Not only is this sin prevalent in relation to the institution of the home, but it can be found in the church itself. Congregations all over the brotherhood have been known to compete with one another for recognition and power. Various elders and leaders have been plagued with it. Many preachers are so jealous of one another that they would do almost anything to make

the other look bad. Teachers refuse to associate with one another. And members of the church puff up and refuse to speak. All of this is very deplorable but true.

Look again. It was because of a jealous heart that Cain slew his brother Abel (Genesis 4). Christ was crucified because of envious men (Matthew 27). Jealousy can separate friends. It can make enemies, and it can lead an individual on from one sin to another (James 1:14-15).

If jealousy will do all of this, then the important thing is to find a cure. Is there one? Yes. Have a little more faith in those with whom you are dealing. Don't jump to conclusions but stick to honest facts. Be yourself regardless of what the other fellow does. You can be as big as you want to be by being calm and doing right. If you want to be little, just stoop to low tactics.

Remember, a jealous heart is a dead heart to all that is good and right. “...jealousy is cruel as the grave: the coals thereof are coals of fire, which hath a vehement flame” (Song of Solomon 8:6).

-via *Truth Magazine*; Vol. 3 No. 6; March 1959.

## *News & Notes*

### **THE SICK:**

Betty Pepper	Joe Leopard
Mary Ruth Gardner	Wynell Casteel
Yvonne Sherbert	Gilbert Hardy
Wayne Gooch	Betty Faye Holt
Leroy Davenport	Charles Burns
Brent Lowman	Ava Brooke Campbell
Faye Cary	Matt Poff
Phillip Harwell	Hailee Walton
Una King Currier	Barbara Ogles
Paige Phillips	Gladys Sandlin

### ***In The Hospital:***

*David Terry*; Huntsville Hospital –CVICU  
*Kathleen Wales*; Health South Rehab. – rm. 222-B  
*Kenneth Pressnell*; Decatur General Hosp. – CCU  
*Josh Hurn*; UAB Hospital; Birmingham  
*Eli Williams*; St. Jude's Hospital; Memphis, Tenn.  
*David Hartsell*; Houston, Texas

### ***Athens Convalescent Care:***

Hazel Toone, rm. 10

**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 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

**WEEKDAY LADIES CLASS:** There has been some interest and discussion about having a weekday ladies' class meeting one weekday morning at the building. If you would be interested, or have comments or questions about this, please speak to me.

**CONFESSION:** This past week **Mary Ruth Gardner** confessed that she had not attended services in the past at times when she could have. She asked for prayers and God's forgiveness for her unfaithfulness. She wanted the church here to know how extremely sorry she is for this. We are thankful for the heart that Mary Ruth has and her desire to be pleasing to God. May the Lord grant both her and David days of good health.

**GRADUATES:** We want to take this opportunity to congratulate our graduates this year. **Landon Adams, Brettlyn Currier** and **Hunter Cox** are graduating from High School this week. **Landon** is graduating from **West Limestone** on Thursday, **Brettlyn** is graduating from **Athens** on Friday and **Hunter** is graduating from **Athens Bible** on Tuesday. We are proud of the three young people and their accomplishments, but we are even more pleased with their desire to please God. We wish the very best to Landon, Brettlyn and Hunter.

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

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

**THE RECORD: For the Week of May 6th**

**Sunday:** Bible Classes..... 124  
Morning Worship ..... 167  
Evening Worship..... 100  
**Wednesday:** Bible Classes..... 97

**Men Privileged To Serve:**

**Sunday, May 20th:**

*Morning Worship*

Announcements ..... Dwaine Allfrey  
Song Leader ..... Hunter Cox  
Prayer ..... Todd Williams  
Preaching ..... David Cox  
Lord's Supper  
Presiding ..... Joel Hamm  
Assisting ..... Jerry McGlocklin  
Serving ..... Stefan Fudge..... David Terry  
..... Will Chumbley..... Maurice Dolllar  
Closing Prayer ..... Marion Mitchell

*Evening Worship*

Announcements ..... Dwaine Allfrey  
Song Leader ..... Tommy Burns  
Prayer ..... Marcus Morris  
Preaching ..... Stuart Wilson  
Lord's Supper ..... Jerry McGlocklin  
Closing Prayer ..... Larry Mitchell

Other Assignments for Sunday, May 20th:

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

**Wednesday, May 23rd:**

Song Leader ..... Tyler Cox  
Bible Reading..... Isaiah 43:8-13  
..... Russ Wulfekuhl  
Prayer ..... Marcus Morris  
Invitation ..... Bonnie Sutton  
Closing Prayer ..... Nathaniel Adams

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**Sunday, May 27th:**

*Morning Worship*

Announcements ..... TBD  
Song Leader ..... TBD  
Prayer ..... TBD  
Preaching ..... David Cox  
Lord's Supper  
Presiding ..... TBD  
Assisting ..... TBD  
Serving ..... TBD..... TBD  
..... TBD..... TBD  
Closing Prayer ..... TBD

*Evening Worship*

Announcements ..... TBD  
Song Leader ..... TBD  
Prayer ..... TBD  
Preaching ..... Song Service  
Lord's Supper ..... TBD  
Closing Prayer ..... TBD

Other Assignments for Sunday, May 20th:

Usher ..... TBD  
Work Sound System ..... TBD