

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
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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

Volume IV

June 10, 2012

No. 24



Vacation Bible School

June 18 – 21, 2012

(Monday – Thursday)

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

Adult Class Speakers and Topics: *Staying On Track By...*

Monday – Scott Richardson

...Standing Up, Standing Out and Being Different

Tuesday – Ken Chapman

...Making Good Choices

Wednesday – Chris Bates

...Thinking of Others

Thursday – Randall Hammock

...Putting Jesus First

MARKET STREET CHURCH OF CHRIST

514 WEST MARKET STREET
ATHENS, ALABAMA

The Parable of the Growing Seed

David B. Hartsell

The master teacher, Jesus, often presented great truths through the use of parables. Parables are stories designed to teach fundamental spiritual lessons. They are also used to conceal God's will from the closed-minded (Mark 4:11). Each person's ability to accurately interpret God's teachings is first determined by his love for God and His word. If we love unrighteous pleasure more than truth, then God will send a "strong delusion" that will deceive us and ultimately destroy us (2 Thessalonians 2:11-12). Therefore, we must always read the Lord's word with a sincere heart seeking the truth.

Jesus spoke parables about many different things: the leavening of bread, the growth of a mustard seed, a hidden treasure, a pearl of great price, a farmer planting a field, etc. Most of His parables are well known – especially to Christians. However, a few of them are less written about. One example of this is The Parable of the Growing Seed.

The parable begins with a farmer sowing his field. Seed falls into the ground and natural growth process begins. Jesus likens spiritual growth in God's Kingdom to the sprouting of the ear of grain. Does the Kingdom of God here refer to the worldwide spread of God's rule or is it discussing conversion and spiritual growth within a single human heart? The two thoughts are related but it is the later upon which we will focus. The Parable of the Growing Seed presents several lessons relating to spiritual growth and maturity.

A farmer does many things to aid in a bountiful harvest. He fertilizes and waters his field. He constantly pulls out the weeds. Yet, though he does all of this, the farmer knows that he must patiently wait for the sprouting of his crops (James 5:7). It takes time for the growth cycle to complete itself. Similarly, spiritual growth is gradual. Some people expect too much of themselves in regard to spiritual maturity and godly accomplishments. Jesus told Nicodemus that a person must be born again to enter God's Kingdom (John 3:3). This birth comes through the imperishable Word of God (1 Peter 1:23). Every Christian, young and old, is expected by God to develop in knowledge and in the possession of fundamental Christian virtues (2 Peter

1:5-10). This requires patience with us and with other people. Christians, especially new converts, are often frustrated because of their lack of Bible knowledge and meager spiritual strength. Some older Christians are frequently impatient with the spiritual immaturity of younger, weaker brethren. Some Christians should be ashamed of their spiritual immaturity (Hebrews 5:12-14). Many, however, are simply passing through the spiritual growth cycle. People need time to consider the gospel before they obey. Our brethren need time to learn and understand God's word to properly grow up in Christ. Let us be longsuffering with every sincere person. Let us be patient with ourselves.

~via *Words of Life*; Pleasant Grove, Alabama.

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“Jesus: Human and Divine”

Randy Harshbarger

If Jesus Christ was not who and what He claimed to be, then nothing else matters. If we cannot accept the truth He spoke about Himself, then we have no Savior. If Jesus was not God in the flesh, then those identified as antichrists were correct. But if Jesus was God in the flesh, then we have a Savior. We have a High Priest. There is one in heaven who understands and sympathizes with us as we struggle here on earth.

Some object to the deity of Jesus, appealing to Matthew 24:36. “But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son but the Father alone” (NASV). If Jesus, who claimed to be God, did not know something, then His claim was false (as the argument goes). The comments of Marcellus Kik are helpful. “The exact day and hour of the second coming is unknown not only to mortal man and immortal angels but was unknown to Christ while he was upon earth. As the Son of man, Christ did not seek that knowledge as it had no immediate connection with his work on earth” (4n, Eschatology of Victory, 161). Jesus said that the Father was greater than He was (John 14:28). Jesus

did only the Father's will (John 5:30). These statements must be understood as part of Jesus' voluntary humility or emptying Himself as described by Paul in Philippians 2:5-8, rather than some attempt to negate Jesus' power as deity. Jesus in His earthly role appears in a subordinate relationship to the Father. Jesus, possessing the essence of deity, never ceased being who He was. As deity, Jesus suspended the law of gravity; sometimes, though, He rode in a boat (John 6:19; Mark 4:36). Jesus was God in the flesh-divine!

Jesus, without ceasing to be God, took upon Himself human flesh (John 1:14). He was born of a woman (Galatians 4:4). He grew in favor with God and man (Luke 2:52). He suffered on the cross (John 19:28). As a human being, He could be and was tempted (Hebrews 4:14-16).

Jesus was God in the flesh-Deity! He was and remains the Alpha and Omega (Revelation 1:8). The angels worshiped Him (Hebrews 1:6). When men looked upon Jesus, they were looking upon God (Colossians 2:9; 1:19). He was Emmanuel – God with us!

Paul said: "And by common confession great is the mystery of godliness: He who was revealed in the flesh, Was vindicated in the Spirit, Beheld by angels, Proclaimed among the nations, Believed on in the world, Taken up in glory" (1 Timothy 3:16). Without question, Christianity is tied to the proposition that Jesus Christ, the eternal Word, was made flesh – God in the flesh. The claims Jesus made concerning His deity are testified as true by His Holy Spirit. The angels of heaven were interested in His work on earth (Matthew 4:11). Christ was preached to the Jew first and then to the Gentile. The preaching of Christ's word produced faith in Him as Savior. Can we explain it fully? No! Can we accept it completely? Yes!

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

Radio Program
Every Sunday Morning
 on WVNN
 770AM – 92.5 FM
 8:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.
 Market Street church of Christ

News & Notes

THE SICK:

Russ Wulfekuhl	Wynell Casteel
Yvonne Sherbert	Mary Ruth Gardner
Jeffery Miller	David Hartsell
Joan Greenwald	Betty Faye Holt
Charles Burns	Ava Brooke Campbell
Brent Lowman	Matt Poff
Faye Cary	Leroy Davenport
Phillip Harwell	Hailee Walton
Una King Currier	Barbara Ogles
Gladys Sandlin	

In The Hospital:

Kenneth Pressnell; Decatur General Hosp. – CCU
Eli Williams; St. Jude's Hospital; Memphis, Tenn.

Athens Convalescent Care:

Hazel Toone, rm. 10 Mary Holt, rm. 100
 Beulah Pope, rm. 100

Limestone Health Facility:

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

Brookshire Healthcare - Huntsville:

Rachel Grubbs, rm. 112-C

Cogburn Health & Rehab - Huntsville:

David Gardner, rm. 101-B

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

NEXT SUNDAY AT MARKET STREET: On June 17th, *Ed Harrell* will be here speaking at all three services that Sunday. He will give us a report on the work in India that he has been doing and also a report on the men that the Market Street church support in India and Mymar (Burma).

LADIES BIBLE CLASS: This past Tuesday, the Ladies Bible class began with a great start. They had 16 in attendance. They are meeting at 10:30 a.m. in the little auditorium in the west wing. *Mary Cecile Keenon* is teaching the class and I know that all the ladies that are able to attend these classes will profit from them.

OUTOFTOWN: *The Coblentz's: Tommy and Marcella* are in Mobile this week ... *The Hamms: Joel, Sharma, Clayton and Ragen* have been in Orlando, Florida on vacation... *Kim and Peyton Rogers* are in Vernon this weekend.

GOSPEL MEETINGS & VBS: *The Eastside church* is beginning a meeting today and it will continue through Friday. The speaker in this meeting will be *Lowell Sal-lee*... *The Wooley Springs church* near Armore will begin a Vacation Bible School on Monday morning . They will begin at 10:00 a.m. ... *The Elkton church* in Elkton, Tennessee is beginning a meeting/VBS today and it will continue through Wednesday. The speaker in this meeting will be *Jason Shackelford*... The *O'Neal church* will begin a Vacation Bible School on Monday night at 7:00.

SYMPATHY: We want to extend our Deepest sympathy to the family of *Foy Short* who passed away last week in Nashville, Tennessee. Brother Short had done much work in South Africa/Zimbabwe. The church here at Market Street assisted him in his support for many years. We wish the best for the family of brother Short. There will be a memorial service Monday afternoon in the Rollings-Lovell auditorium at Athens Bible School.

CONFESSION: Last weekend, *Beulah Pope* confessed that she had not been faithful in her service to the Lord. She asked for our prayers on her behalf. Beulah is a resident at Athens Convalescent. May we seek to encourage her and may the Lord bless her as she continues to seek to please Him.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL: It is only one short week till our Vacation Bible School. It will be *June 18-21 (Monday through Thursday)* at *10 a.m.* There will be classes for all ages and there will be a speaker each morning in the adult class. I hope everyone that is able will be here in attendance.

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 June 3rd*

Sunday: Bible Classes..... 127
Morning Worship 173
Evening Worship..... 114
Wednesday: Bible Classes..... 104

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, June 10th:

Morning Worship

Announcements Tommy Coblentz
Song Leader Stuart Wilson
Prayer Todd Williams
Preaching David Cox
Lord's Supper
Presiding Larry Mitchell
Assisting Terry Andrews
Serving Paul Hasting..... Delmer Carter
..... Landon Adams Keenon Currier
Closing Prayer Joel Hamm

Evening Worship

Announcements Tommy Coblentz
Song Leader Hunter Cox
Prayer Marion Mitchell
Preaching Jordan Lovell
Lord's Supper Larry Mitchell
Closing Prayer Marty Adams

Other Assignments for Sunday, June 10th:

Usher Maurice Dollar
Work Sound System Nathaniel Adams

Wednesday, June 13th:

Song Leader Joel Hamm
Bible Reading..... Isaiah 44:1-8
..... Dwaine Allfrey
Prayer Marty Adams
Invitation David Cox
Closing Prayer Todd Williams

Sunday, June 17th:

Morning Worship

Announcements Marty Adams
Song Leader Stefan Fudge
Prayer Jordan Lovell
Preaching David Cox
Lord's Supper
Presiding Kenneth Smith
Assisting Ronnie Locke
Serving Maurice Dollar Danny Johnson
..... Larry Mitchell ... Brandon Griswold
Closing Prayer Tommy Coblentz

Evening Worship

Announcements Tommy Coblentz
Song Leader Hunter Cox
Prayer Marion Mitchell
Preaching Jordan Lovell
Lord's Supper Larry Mitchell
Closing Prayer Marty Adams

Other Assignments for Sunday, June 10th:

Usher Paul Hasting
Work Sound System Nathaniel Adams