

# Volume IV

July 8, 2012

No. 28

# Market Street church of Christ

514 West Market Street P.O. Box 388 Athens, Alabama 35612 Phone (256) 232-1525

#### Schedule of Services

#### Elders

232-7620
233-2050
232-2081

#### Deacons

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

#### Evangelist

> 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

# Sincerely Yours

# Dee Bowman

Our word "sincere" has an interesting history. Etymologists tell us that in Ancient Rome, men who made statues, sculptors, and other artistic endeavors used wax to cover up their mistakes. They became so proficient about it that only the most trained eye could spot the charade. The pretense looked good until the sun came out on a hot summer day or the wear and tear of weather came to bear. Then the wax melted and the pretender was unveiled.

The professional people, who would not stoop to such pretensions, came up with a warranty word of sorts to protect their art or product. The would say it is sine cera, without wax. This was later adopted into English and became our word "sincere."

Sincerity is a great need today. Pretensions are everywhere. Never are they more abundant then in our advertising. Promises are made and guarantees are given that are absolutely worthless. And yet, when they are done with some dulcet-toned announcer or some beautiful young starlet, all doubt is removed. The wax is applied. And what about politics? Charades are everywhere in political circles. Some well-known individual runs for office with promises abundant. The wax is applied. By the time he gets elected, the promises have been forgotten— covered up with some hastily applied excuse.

The Scriptures are filled with admonitions about integrity, honesty, reliability. "Lord, who shall dwell in thy tabernacle? who shall dwell in the holy hill," asks David (Psalm 15), "he that walketh uprightly, and worketh righteousness, and speaketh the truth in his heart." The secret to true sincerity is personal integrity, speaking the truth in one's heart. All sincerity begin there. There is no external wax on the character that speaks truth in his heart.

Philippian 1:9-10—"And this I pray, that your love may abound yet more and more in knowledge and in all judgment; that ye may approve things that are excellent; that ye may be sincere and without offence till the day of Christ." Here, Paul prays for a sincerity as people approve the more excellent life. Approval of that life is seen in a sincere and dedicated effort to follow Christ. Sincerity breeds a good life.

Peter, in his first epistle, chapter 2, verse 2, enjoins that we "desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby." The "sincere" milk of the word is the word without any admixture, the word in all its purity. The New International Version renders this "crave pure spiritual milk." The religious world is filled today with a compounded gospel, one appended with men's ideas and decisions. In many religious circles today, the gospel used is one filled with the wax of human opinion.

Paul closes his letter to the Ephesians saying, "Grace be with them that love our Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity." There must not be any duplicity in our love for Christ. It has to be a sincere love, one with true dedication, evidenced by our total dedication to His word, His gospel, His assurances. Sincere love is devoid of any false mixture; it is pure devotion to Him.

Hypocrisy is the opposite of sincerity. Jesus saved his most harsh rebukes for those who practiced religion with a mask on their faces. Matthew 23 tells of their masking their true hearts with a kind of external cloak. They covered up the real person with external rituals, facades of various sorts.

It's interesting to me that etymologists have a simple way to measure whether or not an affirmation about a word is true. Michael Quinion, the English word expert, says, "The better they sound, the more circumstantial and detailed the background, the neater the conclusion, the less likely they are to be true. Conversely, if a story (about a word, DB) is mundane and boring, it is likely to be correct." That's true about most truth. It is seldom complex and difficult to understand, but simple and direct—even sometimes boring to some of the religious "experts."

-via Southside Sunday, Pasadena, Texas.

# **Remember Our Study Periods**

Sunday Mornings at 9:45 a.m. Wednesday Evenings at 7:00 p.m.

Come and Join Us As We Study Together

# God Knows Your Name

## W. Frank Walton

Do you ever have problems remembering names? Many say, "I remember their face but not their name." Our Almighty Father in heaven never forgets your name. "The LORD answers, Can a woman forget the baby she nurses? Can she feel no kindness for the child to which she gave birth? Even if she could forget her children, I will not forget you. See, I have written your name on my hand. Jerusalem, I always think about your walls" (Isaiah 49:15-16).

The historical background was Isaiah's comfort to the Jewish exiles in Babylonian captivity. Far away from home, they wondered if God had forgotten them. Does God still care? Yes, Isaiah proclaims! A human mother surely remembers her infant child, yet great than this is God's concern for His people. The 70 year Babylonian captivity was ordained to purify the Jews from idolatry and to allow the land of Israel to enjoy its Sabbaths rest that the Jews failed to observe (Jeremiah 25:11-12, 50:20; Ezekiel 6:9, 2 Chronicles 36:20-21; Leviticus 26:33-36).

God's delays are not His denials. We have to patiently trust God's timetable, not our own, and wait on Him to fulfill His own good purpose in His own good time. Have you ever written something urgent on your hand to make sure you don't forget? God has written your name on His hand (metaphor for His active involvement in the world). He will not forget you! So, if you are a true child of God by obedient faith, God knows your name!

You are not an afterthought in the world. You were created with a divine purpose in this world. You are at the center of God's loving concern. He remembers and cares for you! How comforting is Isaiah's message to God's captive people: "Comfort, oh, comfort my people" (Isaiah 40:1).

#### Do You Know God's Name?

For God to know your name in a tender, loving, saved relationship, you must come to know Him by name. "The LORD also will be a stronghold for the oppressed, a stronghold in times of trouble; and those who know Your name will put their trust in You, for You, O LORD, have not forsaken those who seek You" (Psalm 9:10-11). There is salvation only in the name (person) of Jesus (Acts 4:12). Have you been baptized in the name (by the authority of His person) Jesus Christ, for the forgiveness of your sins (Acts 2:38, 8:16, 10:48, 19:5)? Has God enrolled your name in the book of Life? Why not obey the gospel today?

Do you sincerely strive by faith to "do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through Him to God" (Colossians 3:17, cf. 1 Corinthians 5:4, 2 Thessalonians 3:6). This is faithfully and respectfully staying within only what the Lord has authorized in His word. "We believe in the name of His Son Jesus Christ, and love one another, just as He commanded us" (1 John 3:23). If God knows our name, we can always take refuge in His name (Proverbs 18:10).

Does God know your name? -via *Charleston Road Bulletin*; New Albany, Indiana.

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# Working For The Lord

## Leonard White

One day a man was walking through the office where he worked. As he passed the desk of a young woman, he noticed she was "snowed under" with work.

However, the thing that really caught his attention was the bright smile on her face. "All this extra work doesn't seem to be getting you down," he commented. "Not since I learned a secret," she said. Then she pointed to a tiny card she had pasted on her desk. It read: "All that I do today, I do for you, Lord."

That thought strikes me as one that every Christian should ponder. The apostle Paul wrote, "Servants, be obedient to them that are your masters according to the flesh, with fear and trembling, in singleness of your heart, as unto Christ; Not with eye service, as men pleasers, but as the servants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart; With good will doing service, as to the Lord, and not to men" (Ephesians 6:5-7).

We often lose sight of the fact that our everyday activities, though they may involve working for some company or for some other person, are in reality a part of our total lives of service to our heavenly Master. If we are slothful, indifferent, dishonest or in any way remiss in performing our duties toward others, we are at the same time failing to serve the Lord as we should.

Living each day of our lives with the consciousness of this principle can have a wonderful effect upon our outlook toward the tasks we are required to do. Things which otherwise seem like meaningless drudgery take on real significance when we see them as a part of our service rendered to the Lord. An unpleasant chore, done to the best of our ability, even though it may not be recognized by others around us, does not go unnoticed by the all-seeing eye of God above.

How thrilling, how challenging to face each new day with the thought: "All I do today, I do for you, Lord!" -via *The North Jasper Seeker*; Jasper, Alabama

# News & Notes

THE SICK:

Albert Bowers Gilbert Hardy Yvonne Sherbert David Hartsell Ava Brooke Campbell Reverie Barksdale Matt Poff Leroy Davenport Hailee Walton Barbara Ogles Gladys Johnson Wynell Casteel Mary Ruth Gardner Betty Faye Holt Jeffery Miller Brent Lowman Faye Cary Phillip Harwell Una King Currier Gladys Sandlin

# In The Hospital:

Henry Hobbs; HealthSouth Huntsville – rm. 326B Charles Burns; Crestwood Hosp. – rm. 406 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 Frances Bowers, rm. 37 Bobbie Adcock, rm 113-A Rosella Pugh, rm. 74 J.D. Clanton, rm. 11E *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

**LADIES BIBLE CLASS:** The Ladies' Bible class meets each Tuesday at 10:30 a.m. If you are a lady, and are able to meet with them, please join them in this study.

**GOSPEL MEETING & VBS:** The *Parkway church* in Lawrence county near Caddo is beginning a meeting today and it will continue through Friday evening. Services Monday through Friday will be at 7:00p.m. *Don Miller* is the speaker in this meeting...The *Anderson church* in Anderson will be having their Vacation Bible School this week, Monday through Friday at 10:00 a.m. *Warren Glass* will be speaking int he adult class.

**BAPTISM:** We have been rejoicing over the baptism of *Heath Dollar* this past Sunday following our morning worship service. We are thankful for Heath and his good heart and his desire to make his life and commitment to the Lord. We we all encourage Heath as he has and will encourage us.

**PREACHING THIS MORNING:** *George Parsley* will be here this morning preaching during the Bible class period and during the morning worship. Brother Parsley lives and works with the church in *Branford, Florida.* We look forward to hearing him and getting to know him and his wife.

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

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

Bible Classes..... 100

Remember Our Service This Evening at 5:00.

# Men Privileged To Serve:

#### Sunday, July 8th:

#### Morning Worship

Announcements Song Leader Prayer		Stefan Fudge
Preaching		George Parsley
Lord's Supper		-
Presiding		Terry Andrews
Assisting		Jerry McGlocklin
Serving	. Mot Dollar	Marion Pepper
	. Paul Hasting	Danny Johnson
Closing Prayer		Todd Williams

#### **Evening Worship**

Announcements	Joel Hamm
	Ďan Reed
Preaching	David Cox
Closing Prayer	Terry Andrews Marion Mitchell

Other Assignments for Sunday, Ju	ly 8th:
Usher	Larry Mitchell
Work Sound System	

## Wednesday, July 11th:

Song Leader	Tyler Cox
Bible Reading	Isaiah 45:8-13
-	Jack Cannon
Prayer	Marcus Morris Dan Reed
Invitation	Dan Reed
Closing Prayer	Ronnie Locke

## Sunday, July 15th:

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#### Morning Worship

Announcements	Jerry McGlocklin
	Hunter Cox
Prayer	Kenneth Smith
Preaching	David Cox
Lord's Supper	
Presiding	Wayne Vaughn
Assisting	Bonnie Sutton
Serving	Stuart WilsonJonathan Keenon
	Landon Adams Russ Wulfekuhl
Closing Prayer	Steve Bradley

#### **Evening Worship**

Announcement	Jerry McGlocklin
Song Leader	Stefan Fudge
Prayer	
Preaching	Joel Hamm
Lord's Supper	Wavne Vaughn
Closing Prayer	Jordan Lovell

Other Assignments for Sunday, July 15th:

Usher	<u> </u>	Marcus Morris
		Marty Adams