

# 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**  
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### *Love's Motivation: Emotion or Volition?*

**Curtis Pope**

All who have ever had parents take an active interest in their love life can testify to the fact that love, as we use the word in English, is very difficult to command or force. Whenever my parents would hint around about how some girl at school or church was so "attractive," or how she was such a "sweet girl" with a good "personality," it would almost always give the "kiss of death" to whatever chances the budding romance might have. I don't know why this was so, but I know it was; and my continuing contact with young people makes me believe that this is the contemporary conventional wisdom as well.

Modern usage of the word love gives the idea a completely emotional connotation, making biblical commands to "love your enemies" (Matthew 5:44) or to "love one another" (John 15:17) hard for us to understand. Therefore, when we as Christians try to feel this emotion toward those who are our enemies or toward brethren with whom we seem to have little in common, we often give up after growing discouraged. It's just as if our Heavenly Father has suggested that we feel an emotion toward one when the "chemistry" is not there. Realizing that the Lord would not expect of us something we could not do, the problem must rest in our understanding of the word love.

In the language which the Holy Spirit chose for the New Testament, there were several kinds of love, each expressed by a different word. Two of these words which describe love for one's family (storge) and passionate love (eros) do not appear in the New Testament. Two other nouns describing love and their verb forms are quite common in the Scriptures. These words describe human friendship or fondness (philia/phileo) and the kind of love which God has shown toward us (agape/agapao).

From the meaning of three of these words it would appear that early Christians would have had the same trouble that we do understanding love as anything other than an emotion. However, the word used most often in the New Testament (agape) does not suffer from such a limitation. This kind of love is the kind that God showed toward us through a deliberate

#### **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) 777-6737  
Bonnie Sutton.....(256) 232-2081

#### **Deacons**

Marty R. Adams.....(256) 233-5147  
Tommy Coblentz .....(256) 232-3212  
Joel Hamm.....(256) 230-6223  
Larry Mitchell .....(256) 230-0185  
Todd Williams.....(205) 541-8304  
Russ Wulfekuhl .....(256) 683-9396

#### **Evangelists**

David A. Cox .....(256) 233-8910  
Cell: (256) 614-3757  
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#### **MARKET STREET MESSENGER**

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Market Street church.*

*David A. Cox, Editor*

exercise of His will. This love was not dependent upon our worthiness to be loved, but simply on the Lord's choice to love us. I believe this love is best expressed in Romans 5:8 where Paul says, "But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." When we were at our most unlovable, when humanity was crucifying the Lamb of God, spitting in His face and cursing His name, Christ died for us. I must confess that, in a similar position, I would have decided that mankind just was not worth the trouble and sacrifice, and I would have called in the angels, nuked the place, and gone back home. But, instead, my Lord died alone for me.

Based on such a dramatic demonstration of love on the part of Deity, we have a wonderful example of how we are to fulfill our obligations to love. "Love one another" in John 15:17, in the light of Jesus' sacrifice, means more than just "like other Christians if they are likable." It means that we have the sacred duty to show our love for God by showing active good will toward His people in spite of their unworthiness, their eccentricities, or their personalities. When Jesus said, "Love your enemies" in Matthew 5:44, He knew that He would show us how by dying for the very ones who put the lash to His back and the nails in His hands. Our job, then, is to do good and pray for those who mistreat us, separating the sin from the sinner just as Christ showed His hatred for sin by being sacrificed for the ones caught in Satan's snare.

You see, once we remove love of our enemies from the emotional to the realm of the will, then we are free to see even our enemies as poor human beings caught up in self interest and sin, desperately in need of the forgiveness made available in Jesus. Also, when we bless and pray for those who hate us, it becomes more difficult for us to develop attitudes that can keep us out of heaven. It is so hard to hate someone when you are praying for them.

Even "husbands, love your wives" in Ephesians 5:25 takes on a new meaning in the light of the love shown at Calvary. This command changes from one which most husbands believe that they obey, to one I am convinced most husbands do not. It means that your wife's welfare and happiness must be put above your own. Your will to love her must go beyond her appearance, her moods, or what she provides for you. Women are given their commands as well, but the Lord's

demands on husbands goes beyond childish emotion or changing circumstances and speaks directly to the will of a Christian man to do what is right. Jesus' command to "love the Lord your God with all your heart... soul... mind, and... strength" (Mark 12:30) also seems different when seen with the cross in the background. It means that my choice to serve God must go on in worship, study, prayer, and service in spite of fatigue, discouragement, or emotions. I am convinced that there were times that the Lord did not "feel like" suffering and dying for us, but He fulfilled His mission because it was God's will and our souls depended on it. With that in mind, how can we allow emotions or circumstances to get in the way of our will to serve Him?

Dedicating ourselves to Christ-like love in our lives may take quite a readjustment in our thinking and quite a stiffening of our will to serve God, but this is the only way to obey our scriptural obligations to love.

~via *Christianity Magazine*, Vol. 6 No. 5; July 1989.

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## ***Are You Committed?***

**Michael W. McLemore**

Folks need to fully understand that in becoming a member of God's church, in becoming a Christian, they are assuming a definite obligation. It is a lifetime commitment. As a Christian one's thinking is transformed. Once a child of God a man or woman's speech is restyled. In behavior, the Christian is reborn. Paul said of this process of growth and development, "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new" (2 Corinthians 5:17). The Christian is a new creature – a new person. It is by the Gospel that we are transformed into this image of Christ.

Obedying the Gospel is not something that one does just once in a lifetime. There is no road of ease from then on. Obeying the Gospel is the mere beginning of a life long commitment. Christianity is a way of life, not a once a week, twice a week, or even a three time a week affair. It's a path that must be traveled until the very moment of death. The Lord warned the brethren

at Smyrna, “Be thou faithful until death, and I will give thee a crown of life” (Revelation 2:10).

“Let us hold fast our profession,” the Hebrew writer exclaimed (Hebrews 4:14). “Let us go on unto perfection” (Hebrews 6:1). The Lord concluded, “And whosoever doth not bear his cross, and come after me, cannot be my disciple” (Luke 14:27). Are you committed for life?

~via *The West End Way*; Richmond, Virginia



## *If I Die, I Die For A Cause...*

**Dennis Carrow**

As my son, Zack, struggled with being separated from his family (spiritual and maternal), and the demands of basic training – along with the prospect of being deployed to fight in a war zone — depression quickly became his nearest companion. For three weeks, he desperately fought that silent enemy. Yet, in his last letter, he penned the following words. (Though very personal, I want to share a portion of it that we all might learn something profound).

“I’ve been doing a lot of thinking and a whole lot of praying. I have come to the conclusion that no matter how bad my depression is, I will fight through and be the best soldier that I can be. Even if I have to go to Iraq or whatever, if I die, I die for a cause. In the some breath though, I want you all to be part of my active life as much as possible. So if you would, continue to pray for me.”

How many of us walk through life defeated? For many, when our circumstance becomes difficult, or our comforts are threatened, we simply become introverts, and never rise to the challenges we face in life.

Being faithful to God requires determination and perseverance. The Lord instructed those in Smyrna to be faithful until death (Revelation 2:10). These instructions were for faithfulness to the point of being put to death for their faith. Have you given your life for His cause?

Yet many, in the face of adversity — financial, familial, emotional, or physical — allow depression to defeat their faith. Attendance to worship is often

sacrificed for the seclusion of lethargy. Depression can be a great spiritual enemy. We must know the weapons of our warfare and use them. And yes, a whole lot of praying is a part of that arsenal. Regardless of the challenges we face, we must put on the whole armor of God — praying always with all prayer and supplication in the spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance (Ephesians 6:10-18).

~via *What Is True?*, Little Rock, Arkansas.

## *News & Notes*

### **THE SICK:**

Benton & Gayle Ball	Judy Vaughn
Larry Mitchell	Betty Hastings
Gwen Bullock	Wynell Casteel
Abby Gilbert	Una King Currier
Will Carl Sullivan	Charles White
Jerry Taylor	Robin Legg
Ava Brooke Cambell	Charles Burns
Barbara Piper	Phillip Harwell
Matt Poff	

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

*Michael Vaughn*, Houston Hospital; – Houston, Texas  
*Elizabeth Kate Miller*, St. Jude’s Hospital; – Memphis

### ***Athens Rehabilitation & Senior Care:***

Beulah Pope, rm. 100	Matty Murray, rm. 60
Harvey Pope, rm. 43	Dorothy Draper, rm. 97
Robert Johnson, rm. 18	Grady Tomerlin, rm. 102

### ***Limestone Health Facility:***

Janet Berryhill, rm. 75-B	Albert Bowers, rm. 115-B
Albert Norton, rm. 36	Mot Beasley, rm. 100
Rosella Pugh, rm. 74	J.D. Clanton, rm. 11E

### ***Limestone Lodge:***

Yvonne Sherbert, rm. 11

### ***Limestone Manor:***

Jack Cannon, rm. 91

### ***Brookshire Healthcare - Huntsville:***

Rachel Grubbs, rm. 112-C

### ***Shut-In:***

Reba Adams, at home  
Lola Colwell, at home  
Mary Ruth Gardner, at home  
David Rice, Mobile, Alabama  
Ruby Jean Tinnon, at home

**OUT OF TOWN:** *Nancy Hardison* returned to North Carolina on Saturday... *The Bradleys: Steve and Marilyn* are in Texas... *The Gbadimis: Mary Jo, Justin, Emily and Noah* have been in Florida this past week... *Jo Dunnivant* has been on vacation... *David Cox* is in Russellville today beginning a meeting there.

**MARVIN WALES (1922 – 2013):** It is with great sadness that we note the passing of brother Marvin Wales. Brother Wales suffered a massive stroke early Tuesday and passed away. Brother Wales' health had been declining but his passing was sudden. Brother Wales was a faithful member of the Market Street church and his absence has already been felt among us. Indeed, brother Wales was a man of sterling character and conviction. His quiet, unassuming presence, along with his wit, endeared him to all who knew him. May the Lord bless sister Wales and all the family in the loss of brother Wales.

**GOSPEL MEETINGS:** The *Jones Road church* will begin its meeting/lecrureship today. There will be morning and evening sessions Monday through Thursday. The speakers will be: *Greg Chandler, Bubba Garner, Kenny Moorner, and Buddy Payne*... The *Parkway church* in Lawrence County (near Trinity) is beginning a meeting today. It will continue through Friday evening. *E. R. Hall* will be the speaker... The *Russellville church* in Russellville is beginning a meeting today. It will continue through Friday evening. *David Cox* will be the speaker.

**SINGING:** There will be a singing on Saturday, July 20th, at the *Cartwright church*. The singing will begin at 6:00 p.m. The song leaders will be: *Albert Haraway, Marcus Romine, Norm Webb, Jr. and David Cox*.

**LADIES BIBLE CLASS:** The Ladies' Bible class meets on Tuesday mornings at 10:30 in the west wing auditorium. They are studying the book of "Proverbs". All the ladies that can are invited to be a part of this class.

**MILITARY SERVICE:** Remember *Mitzi Carruth's* son-in-law, *Joel Smith*, who is in Afghanistan serving the U. S. military. Keep him in your prayers.

**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.

**THE RECORD:** *Attendance for Week of July 7th*

**Sunday:** Bible Classes..... 120  
Morning Worship ..... 160  
Evening Worship..... 120

**Wednesday:** Bible Classes..... 115

## Men Privileged To Serve:

### Sunday, July 14th:

#### Morning Worship

Announcements .....	Dwaine Allfrey
Song Leader .....	Joel Hamm
Prayer .....	Todd Williams
Preaching .....	Jordan Lovell
Lord's Supper	
Presiding .....	Kenneth Smith
Assisting .....	Marcus Morris
Serving .....	Russ Wulfekuhl .....
.....	Paul Hasting.....
Closing Prayer .....	Kenneth Adams
	Norman Brown

#### Evening Worship

Announcements .....	Dwaine Allfrey
Song Leader .....	Huner Cox
Prayer .....	Marion Mitchell
Preaching .....	Jordan Lovell
Lord's Supper .....	Kenneth Smith
Closing Prayer .....	Jonathan Keenon

Other Assignments for Sunday, July 14th:

Usher .....	Marvin Putman
Work Sound System .....	Marty Adams

### Wednesday, July 17th:

Song Leader .....	Jerry McGlocklin
Bible Reading.....	Mark 3:1-12
.....	Terry Andrews
Prayer .....	Narthaniel Adams
Invitation .....	Jordan Lovell
Closing Prayer .....	Landon Adams

### Sunday, July 21st:

#### Morning Worship

Announcements .....	Keith Hinkle
Song Leader .....	Tommy Burns
Prayer .....	Jerry McGlocklin
Preaching .....	David Cox
Lord's Supper	
Presiding .....	Bonnie Sutton
Assisting .....	Tommy Coblenz
Serving .....	David Terry .....
.....	Jonathan Keenon
.....	Marvin Putman .....
Closing Prayer .....	Keenon Currier
	Ronnie Locke

#### Evening Worship

Announcements .....	Keith Hinkle
Song Leader .....	Todd Williams
Prayer .....	Marty Adams
Preaching .....	David Cox
Lord's Supper .....	Bonnie Sutton
Closing Prayer .....	Dwaine Allfrey

Other Assignments for Sunday, July 21st:

Usher .....	Delmer Carter
Work Sound System .....	Terry Andrews