

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

Volume XV

January 15, 2023

No. 3

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..... 6:30 p.m.

Elders

Marty R. Adams..... (256) 503-8843
Tommy Coblantz..... (256) 232-3312
Kenneth Smith..... (256) 777-6737

Deacons

Joel Hamm (256) 278-1977
Danny Holt (256) 206-2746
Larry Mitchell..... (256) 230-0185
Marcus Morris..... (256) 232-8871
Russ Wulfekuhl (256) 683-9396

Evangelist

David A. Cox..... (256) 233-8910
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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

"Love Your Neighbor As Yourself"

David A. Cox

"And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength." This is the first commandment. And the second, like it, is this: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.'" – (Mark 12:30-31).

Jesus was asked, "Which is the first commandment of all?" Jesus responds and quotes the Law to love the Lord with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength. Jesus continues to tell the inquirer that the second command to "love your neighbor as yourself." Interestingly, Jesus gives this in the response. In considering why it seems clear that what would hinder one from keeping the first command would also be a hindrance to keeping the second commandment. The problem is simply selfishness. Let's face it we all have our selfish side. We all have our wants and desires, but we find ourselves around others, and they do not have the same desires as we do; therefore, this is the conflict. The answer Jesus gives to the conflict is "love your neighbor as yourself." Let's consider some things to help us to learn to love others as ourselves.

Love That Overflows. Often we approach loving others by emptying ourselves. As a matter of fact, we see that Jesus is an example of emptying Himself because of His love for others (Philippians 2:5-8). Indeed, there is an aspect for us to learn to esteem, love, and care for others, and Jesus clearly gives us that example. The second command directs us to have a love for self. Did Jesus not love Himself? Of course, He did! He was a perfect example for us. We learn from Jesus that our love must be overflowing love. There is no time we see Jesus failing to show a heart and love for others. Why was this? Because He loves the Father, Himself, and others.

How can we have this life?

1. *Understand the fact that you are in control of yourself.* How your respond to others, and the things that you think about.
2. *Invest time for yourself.* At first, this may seem contradictory, but when on a plane getting ready to take off, you will hear the flight

attendant's instructions about the oxygen masks. They will instruct you to put your mask on first, then you can help others that need help with their mask. In the life of Jesus, we see times when Jesus had been among others all day, teaching and helping with all the needs of the people. Jesus would go away for a time to invest in Himself, to talk to the Father in prayer. Yes, there is a need to invest in ourselves. Prioritize time for self-evaluation and reflection.

3. *Do not consume time on things out of your control.* We must control what we can, that is, ourselves, but know there are many things that we cannot control. We do not need to consume our time and energy worrying about these things. In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus instructs us not to let our lives, attitudes, and dispositions be affected by things we cannot change. We need to accept the limitations we have and serve with what we can do.

Yes, we are to love our neighbors, but that is to be done as an overflow of love for God and ourselves. Jesus showed this overflow of love in His life and instructed His disciples to do the same.



The Desire for Heaven

Michael W. McLemore

As we age heaven becomes significantly more important to believers. It ought to become the most important consideration for any thinking person. Suffering and age both naturally increase the desire for rest, thus seem to motivate mankind's desire for heaven (eternal rest) and prepare the mind for relief from this life. Paul pled, "set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory," Colossians 3:2-4.

The sixteenth century English reformer, John Bradford (1510-1555), less than five months before his fiery

departure from life for preaching in violent times, wrote to a friend of the glories of heaven he anticipated:

"I am assured that though I want here, I have riches there; though I hunger here, I shall have fullness there; though I faint here, I shall be refreshed there; and though I be accounted here as a dead man, I shall there live in perpetual glory.

That is the city promised to the captives whom Christ shall make free; that is the kingdom assured to them whom Christ shall crown; there is the light that shall never go out; there is the health that shall never be impaired; there is the glory that shall never be defaced; there is the life that shall taste no death; and there is the portion that passes all the world's preferment. There is the world that shall never wax worse; there is every want supplied freely without money; there is not danger, but happiness, and honour, and singing, and praise and thanksgiving unto the heavenly Jehovah, 'to him that sits on the throne,' 'to the lamb' that here was led to the slaughter, that now 'reigns' with whom I 'shall reign' after I have run this comfortless race through this miserable earthly vale."

Perhaps one of the great advantages which adversity and infirmity gives to its casualty is the most important of all, it turns our eyes toward heaven and causes us to desire something very far better.

~via *The Weatherly Weekly*; Huntsville, Alabama.



There's No Excuse!

Cloyce Sutton, II

A true story:

A man was arrested in a public park because of a domestic dispute with his wife. She was in the middle of a lake in the park. He was on the bank throwing rocks at her. When questioned by police he said, "I thought she was drowning, so I was throwing rocks at her to drive her back to shore."

All of us have heard excuses just as silly as this. Most of us have even made excuses like this. We have probably even thrown them at God to explain why we are not serving him as he expects.

An incident from the life of Moses will help us learn how ineffective our excuses are before God. The incident is God's commission of Moses at the burning bush on Mount Horeb, recorded in Exodus 3-4. Look at each of Moses' excuses and how God answered each one.

"Who am I?" (3:11). Moses assumed he had to be someone important to be God's spokesman. That was not true. God said, "I will be with you" (v 12). If we are on God's side, what is there to fear (Psalm 118:6; Romans 8:31)?

"Who are you?" (13: 13). Good question, poor excuse. When we worry about who we are, we forget who God is. God said, "I AM" (v 14ff). The only way to convince others of their need for God is to show them who God is and how great he is. If that won't work, nothing will.

"What if they won't listen?" (4:1). People have the right to demand proof, but that should not discourage us. The God we serve and present to others has ample credentials. In fact, the Bible was written to provide all the evidence we need (John 20:30-31). Our task is to present that evidence.

"But I can't speak!" (4:10). Moses mistook eloquence for effectiveness. People who are looking for God's truth will not be swayed by eloquence, nor hindered by crudeness. God said, "I will be your mouth" (v 12). If we will learn God's word and rehearse it to others, it will do the convicting because of the Spirit who revealed it (John 16:8-10).

"Please, send someone else!" (4:13). Moses stubbornness was no greater than God's patience. Moses must still fulfill his commission, but God would provide help. God sent Aaron with Moses and said, "I will be with your mouth and his mouth" (v. 15). When God commands, he also equips (1 Peter 4:11).

An excuse has been defined as the skin of a reason stuffed with a lie. Let's make sure we don't mistake our own excuses for reasons and thus be guilty of lying to God. For that, there is no excuse!

~via *Bartlett church of Christ*; Bartlett, Tennessee.

Remember Our Children's Bible Drill at 4:45p.m.

News & Notes

THE SICK:

Duane Thomas	Marcia Thomas
Jared Smith Family	Doris McGuire
Mary Stroud	Pat Nixon
Jennifer Threet	Dale Adcock
Steve Stringer	Helen Blankenship
Bonnie Sutton	James Adams
Shirley Miller	Betty Lovell
Doris Lovell	Keith Holt
Heather Whitehead	Buzz Lovell

Those Undergoing Treatments or Chronic Illness:

Sharon Nave	Priscilla Tucker
Peggy Pepper	Vicki Stringer
Freddie Mae Elmore	Nikki Ogles
Anita Wheeler	Lona Jackson
Judy Vaughn	Jeanette Weir
Doris Reid	Lloyd Adams
Charles Burns	Cindy Walker
Kenneth Fisher	Al Pollard
Matt Bassford	Sadricia Wilson
Wynell Romine	Anthony Sutton
Tim McGuire	Barbara Piper
Henry Fusch	Liz Fusch

Athens Health & Restore Rehabilitation:

Mildred Lambert, rm. 15	Evelyn Hogan, rm. 36
Brenda Wilson, rm. 77	Valeria Dalton, rm. 7
Connie Brock, rm. 62	

Limestone Health Facility:

Marie Nave, rm. 84a	Alice Roberson, rm. 49
Ann Bush, rm. 75	

Shut-In or Away From Home:

Nell Barksdale; at home
 Deanie Britton; Limestone Lodge
 Gwen Bullock; at granddaughter's in Huntsville
 Barbara Carter; Goldton at Athens
 Unaking Currier; Summerford Health, Falkville
 Irene Inman; at home
 Bobby Ogles; Story Point West, Knoxville, Tennessee
 Stan Stanford; Goldtron at Athens
 William Thomas; Madison Manor, Madison
 Kathleen Wales; Limestone Manor

In The Hospital/Rehabilitation:

Dan Lovell; Huntsville Hosp. – rm. 1749
Michael Vaughn; Maury Regional — Columbia, Tenn.

Updates:

Duane & Marcia Thomas have been sick this week with a virus and unable to be at services... *The Smith Family:*

Jared, Jennifer, Owen, Wyatt & Henry have been sick the last couple of weeks and unable to be out...**Peggy Pepper** is continuing with her therapy and making some improvements...**Jennifer Threet** has been sick and unable to be at services...**Margaret Carter** has been unable to be at service...**Jonathan Traylor** has been sick with the virus last week, but is now better...**Keith and Angie Hinkle** have been sick and unable to be at services. They doing better and Keith was able to be back Wednesday night...**Dan Reed's daughter, Heather Whitehead**, had a severe reaction to some medication this week. She has had her medication changed and is at home ... **Jackie Cox's niece, Sadrica Wilson**, left Wednesday to go to Tijuana, Mexico to take treatments for her cancer ... **Buzz Lovell** is scheduled to have bladder surgery on Tuesday for a mass ... Remember our expecting mother, **Heather Cox**, in your prayers.

OUT OF TOWN: **Joe Hinkle** has been in West Palm Beach and Port St. Lucie, Florida. He returned home on Tuesday.

CHILDREN'S BIBLE DRILL: Remember the Children's Bible Drill this afternoon at 4:45 before our evening service. I hope that all of our children will be able to come and participate in this time of instruction and learning.

VBS MEETING: We will have a VBS meeting on Sunday afternoon, January 22nd at 4:00. I hope everyone interested in the VBS this summer will be able to attend.

CARD WRITING: The card writing group will meet Monday morning at 10:30 to write and mail out cards. If you would like to do this, join them Monday morning.

THE RECORD: *Attendance for the week of Jan. 8th:*

Sunday:	Bible Classes	118
	Morning Worship	132
	Evening Worship	123
Wednesday:	Bible Classes	90

Eleventh Annual Singing

February 24, 2023 – 7:00 p.m.

Song Leaders: Jim Deason, Johnny Felker & Tim Stevens



MARKET STREET CHURCH OF CHRIST
514 WEST MARKET STREET
ATHENS, ALABAMA

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, January 15th:

Morning Worship

Announcements.....	Harvey Nixon
Song Leader	Hunter Cox
Prayer.....	Nathaniel Adams
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord's Supper	
Presiding.....	Tommy Coblentz
Assisting	Terry Andrews
Serving	Danny Johnson..... Sam Gregory
.....	Heath Dollar..... Matthew Vaughn
Closing Prayer	Christian Usery

Evening Worship

Announcements.....	Harvey Nixon
Song Leader	Bob Broadus
Prayer.....	Clayton Hamm
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord's Supper	Tommy Coblentz
Closing Prayer	Roger Hammonds
Other Assignments for the week of January 15 th :	
Ushers.....	Danny Holt/Marvin Putman
Work Sound System.....	Russ Wulfekuhl

Wednesday, January 18th:

Song Leader	Stephen Lynn
Bible Reading.....	Harold Davis
.....	(Acts 3:11-25)
Prayer.....	Joel Hamm
Invitation.....	Nathaniel Adams
Closing Prayer	Kenneth Smith

Sunday, January 22nd:

Morning Worship

Announcements.....	Marcus Morris
Song Leader	Albert Haraway
Prayer.....	Keith Hinkle
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord's Supper	
Presiding.....	Harvey Nixon
Assisting	Stephen Lynn
Serving	Luke Vaughn..... Hayden Pierce
.....	Charles Vaughn... Matthew Vaughn
Closing Prayer	Danny Holt

Evening Worship

Announcements.....	Marcus Morris
Song Leader	Bob Broadus
Prayer.....	Clayton Hamm
Preaching.....	Song Service
Lord's Supper	Tommy Coblentz
Closing Prayer	Roger Hammonds
Other Assignments for the week of January 22 nd :	
Ushers.....	Tommy Coblentz/Danny Johnson
Work Sound System.....	Larry Holt