

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

August 20, 2023

No. 34

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 Coblentz..... (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
Cell: (256) 614-3757

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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

“Esteem Others Better”

David A. Cox

“Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself” — (Philippians 2:3)

The Lord calls us to be selfless in our lives. As we learn to be selfless in our lives, it should produce deep-seated joy in our hearts. The best example of this is the life of Jesus Christ. Paul follows this admonition with, “Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, who being in the form of God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but emptied Himself by taking the form of a servant, coming in the likeness of men” (Philippians 2:5-7). The attitude of humility or selflessness gives us hope for any real future. Let us consider things we need to do to have an attitude of selflessness.

Forget your rights, but remember your responsibilities. The biggest problem for us to become selfless is forgetting our rights. We live in a land that values rights, and it is a blessing that we live in a place where our rights are protected. However, in following Christ, we must put our rights behind us and remember the responsibilities incumbent on us as followers of Christ. Jesus gave us the example of living our lives; He never claimed that, as God, He should not have to endure the things He did to pay the ransom for our sins. Indeed, we should forever be changed by the selfless act of Christ.

Forget your inconveniences, but remember your blessings. As the disciples of Christ, we will suffer hardships, difficulties, and inconveniences. Jesus even taught this to the disciples while He was on the earth (Matthew 5:11-12; Luke 9:23-24; 9:57-62). The blessings before us should temper our attitude toward difficulties, hardships, and inconveniences. Paul said, “For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us” (Romans 8:18).

Forget your accomplishments, but remember your debts to others. In writing to the Philippians, Paul reminds us just before the instruction to have the mind of Christ said, “Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interest of others” (Philippians 2:4). Perhaps

we do not understand our debt to others. Christ died so that we could be saved. He did not just die for me or just for people who look like me and talk like me. He died for the whole world, that is, everyone. If He paid the debt for mine and everyone else's sins, what is my obligation to them? It is to love them as Christ loved them. It will require that I not be boastful, arrogant, or prideful in my manner of life but rather walk among others in humility, gentleness, and forbearance.

We need to learn to "esteem others better" than ourselves. In doing this, we must learn to be selfless and exhibit the spirit of Christ in our lives.



The Call to Discipleship

Nick Woods

Many of us who faithfully gather each week to worship gladly answer to the call of Christian. And while that is of course an accurate description of those who follow the Christ, it is worthwhile to note that in the New Testament, the term "Christian" appears only three times. This designation was made by those outside this belief system to describe people zealously embracing their new faith.

However, throughout the Scriptures, early disciples primarily referred to themselves as "disciples." We can examine the New Testament to determine significance of being a disciple, and the characteristics of a true follower of Jesus.

First, being a disciple means being devoted to learning from the Master. This is demonstrated when Jesus commends Mary's choice to sit at His feet and listen to His words while visiting her home. Luke 10:38-42 emphasizes that learning from Him is of utmost importance. As disciples, we should eagerly absorb everything Jesus taught and allow His teachings to shape our thoughts and actions.

Equally important, disciples must follow Jesus' example of sacrifice to truly become like Him. Jesus

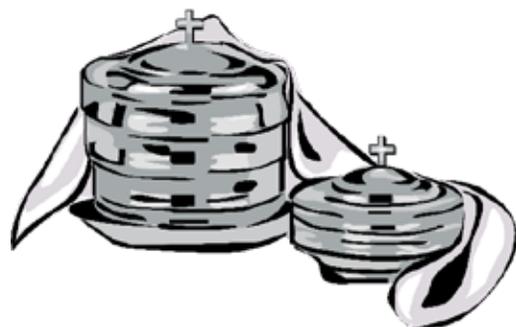
emphasized this when He instructed His disciples to deny themselves, take up their cross, and follow Him. He also warns us in Matthew 16:24-26 that gaining the world at the cost of one's soul is a worthless pursuit. Discipleship requires that we be willing to suffer for Jesus, giving up worldly attachments, and embracing a different life path if necessary (Luke 14:26-27, 14:33, Matthew 8:18-22).

And, as disciples, we are called to mold ourselves into the image of Jesus. We must renounce sin and align our lives with His teachings (Matthew 5:20, 16:24). Jesus is our ultimate example, and we are to become like Him (Matthew 10:24-25). This transformative process may involve tribulations and challenges, but it is worth the effort for the reward that awaits us (Acts 14:21-22).

Being a disciple of Jesus is more than a mere label. It is a commitment to transformation, even when that transformation comes at a cost. We strive for holiness and seek to be with God for eternity. We must embrace the journey of discipleship and be willing to suffer and endure hardships for their devotion to Christ.

Today, many people claim to be Christians, but fewer embody the true essence of discipleship. Let us examine ourselves and ask whether we are truly disciples in pursuit of learning, sacrifice, and transformation. Jesus commanded us to go and make disciples, baptizing them and teaching them to observe His commandments (Matthew 28:19-20). By embracing our own discipleship, we become equipped to fulfill this Great Commission.

~via Tri-Cities Edifier; Muscle Shoals, Alabama.



Communion Preparation for August

Communion Bread — Bob Broadus
Communion Cups — Marcus Morris

Purpose

Michael W. McLemore

My purpose in life is not about my needs and my wants. The reason behind motives, wants, perceived needs and my course of life is governed by the humble realization that I serve a risen Savior. This right is not earned. There was nothing I could do that would offer this entrance before God. The Jews proved it could not be done by the written law. The Gentiles showed it could not be done as a law to themselves, Romans 2. Paul told Timothy that God “has saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was granted us in Christ Jesus from all eternity,” 2 Timothy 1:9. Glory to God for this rich blessing of being able to serve a loving Father.

Children of God serve the Lord through the blessing of the grace of God. When it enters the mind of men to forget this grace, lost is the blessing of God. All that we are and all that we can become will only be found in the knowledge that our purpose in life is a single thought: the privilege to serve the Lord.

When my life ends and I am ushered before the great and holy presence of Jehovah, these words will ring in my heart throughout the eternal ages: “Well done, good and faithful servant. You were faithful with a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your Lord,” Matthew 25:23. Praise God for His revealed purpose

~via *Weatherly Weekly*; Huntsville, Alabama.

News & Notes

THE SICK:

Ann McLemore	Ronnie Locke
Jeanette Weir	Steve Stringer
Pat Nixon	Dan Lovell
Shirley Miller	Doris Lovell
Stephen Smith	Larsen Plyler
Amy Gill	

Those Undergoing Treatments or Chronic Illness:

Priscilla Tucker	Sharon Nave
Harvey Nixon	Peggy Pepper
Vicki Stringer	Anita Wheeler

Nikki Ogles	Lona Jackson
Judy Vaughn	Jeanette Weir
Lloyd Adams	Charles Burns
Cindy Walker	Al Pollard
Matt Bassford	Wynell Romine
Anthony Sutton	Jerry Lawrence
Henry Fusch	Liz Fusch
Kimberly Pressnell	Tim McGuire
Wynell Romine	Monica Nelson

Athens Health & Restore Rehabilitation:

Judy Brown, rm. 102	Mildred Lambert, rm. 15
Connie Brock, rm. 62	Brenda Wilson, rm. 77
Evelyn Hogan, rm. 36	Auteen Campbell, rm. 96
Valeria Dalton, rm. 7	

Limestone Health Facility:

Ann Bush, rm. 75	Marie Nave, rm. 84a
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Shut-In or Away From Home:

Nell Barksdale; at home
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; Goldton at Athens
William Thomas; Madison Manor, Madison
Kathleen Wales; Limestone Manor

In The Hospital/Rehabilitation:

Brettlyn Miller; St. Vincent Hospital - Birmingham
Steven Smith; Tuscaloosa Hospital

Updates:

Paul Adcock went back to the doctor on Friday to finalize the details of his treatments ... *Judy Brown* was moved to Athens Health and Rehab for rehabilitation on Tuesday...*Larry Tucker* is waiting to hear back from tests done last week... *Peggy Mitchell* had cataract surgery done on Thursday... *Barbara Ash* began her therapy on Thursday... *Sharon Nave* is scheduled to go to the doctor in Birmingham on Thursday this week... *Rita Smith's son, Stephen Smith*, is in the hospital in Tuscaloosa...*Larsen Plyler* learned this week that the tumor removed was cancerous and he will need further treatment. Larsen will be going to M.D. Anderson in Houston, Texas ...Remember our expecting mother, *Lynsey Adams*, in your prayers.

SYMPATHY: We want to extend our deepest sympathy to *Kay Bates & Martha Pyron* and all the family in the passing of Kay and Martha's sister, *Deanie Britton*. She passed away on Monday. There was a visitation this afternoon from 1:00 to 3:00 at Limestone Chapel. The

funeral will begin at 3:00 in the chapel. May the Lord bless this family at this time... We also want to extend our deepest sympathy to **Marilyn & Steven Bradley and all the family** in the passing of Marilyn's mother, **Doris Reid**. She passed away on Tuesday. There was a visitation for her on Friday evening at Limestone Chapel. May the Lord bless this family at this time... We also want to extend our deepest sympathies to **Helen Blankenship, Dan Lovell, Doris Lovell, Jeanette Weir**, and all the family in the passing of Helen's sister-in-law and Dan, Doris, and Jeanette's aunt, **Eva Lovell**. She passed away on Wednesday and was laid to rest on Friday in the Fairview Cemetery. May the Lord bless this family.

BONNIE B. SUTTON (1931-2023): With sadness, we note the passing of brother **Bonnie Sutton**. Bonnie passed away on Thursday morning at his home. Bonnie was a long-time member of the Market Street church. He and his wife, Beverly, began attending here in the early 1950s. He loved the church and worked hard for the cause of Christ here. Bonnie served as a Deacon for several years and then as an Elder for about 12 years. He loved the Lord, the people of God, and his family. We all have many good memories of Bonnie and the good things he stood for. Bonnie's visitation will be this evening from 6:00 to 9:00 at Spry Funeral Home. The funeral will be Monday afternoon here at the building at 2:00. He will be laid to rest in the Athens Cemetery. May the Lord bless all the Sutton family at this time.

TUESDAY MORNING LADIES CLASS: The Ladies' Bible class meets on Tuesday morning at 10:30. They are studying "**Preparing To Teach My Neighbor.**"

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

CARD WRITING: There is a card writing group that meets regularly to write and mail cards to people for appreciation and encouragement. The group will meet next Monday morning, August 28th at 10:30. If you would like to participate, join them next Monday morning.

OUT OF TOWN: **Theresa Tucker** is in Kansas City, Missouri.

THE RECORD: Attendance the week of August 13th:

Sunday:	Bible Classes	124
	Morning Worship	148
	Evening Worship	106
Wednesday:	Bible Classes	91

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, August 20th:

Morning Worship

Announcements.....	Marty Adams	
Song Leader	Larry Holt	
Prayer.....	Tommy Coblentz	
Preaching.....	David Cox	
Lord's Supper		
Presiding.....	Harvey Nixon	
Assisting	Marcus Morris	
Serving	Heath Dollar	Matthew Usery
.....	Ronnie Locke	Danny Johnson
Closing Prayer	Christian Usery	

Evening Worship

Announcements.....	Marty Adams
Song Leader	Albert Haraway
Prayer.....	Jerry Baker
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord's Supper	Harvey Nixon
Closing Prayer	Dan Reed
Other Assignments for the week of August 20 th :	
Usher	Marvin Putman/Tommy Coblentz
Work Sound System.....	Russ Wulfekuhl

Wednesday, August 23rd:

Song Leader	Hunter Cox
Bible Reading.....	Harold Ash
.....	(Acts 15:1-5)
Prayer.....	Stephen Lynn
Invitation.....	Bob Broadus
Closing Prayer	Larry Snell

Sunday, August 27th:

Morning Worship

Announcements.....	Stephen Lynn	
Song Leader	Joel Hamm	
Prayer.....	Larry Tucker	
Preaching.....	David Cox	
Lord's Supper		
Presiding.....	Jerry Baker	
Assisting	Albert Haraway	
Serving	Sam Gregory	Matthew Usery
.....	Charles Vaughn	Luke Vaughn
Closing Prayer	Clayton Hamm	

Evening Worship

Announcements.....	Stephen Lynn
Song Leader	Hunter Cox
Prayer.....	Harold Ash
Preaching.....	Song Service
Lord's Supper	Jerry Baker
Closing Prayer	Harvey Nixon
Other Assignments for the week of August 27 th :	
Usher	Danny Johnson/Larry Mitchell
Work Sound System.....	Terry Andrews