

# 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 XVI

March 3, 2024

No. 8

## 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

**Visit Us On The Web**  
[MarketStreet-church.com](http://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*

## *How To Deal With Loneliness*

**David A. Cox**

*"And the Lord God said, 'It is not good that man should be alone; I will make him a helper comparable to him.'" — (Genesis 2:18).*

We live in a world that is filled with loneliness. Loneliness is a problem even in a time with all the contacts on social media and the numerous activities one may be involved in. Life today has been described as a world of "crowded loneliness." Loneliness is often brought on in transition, separation, and rejection. God did not intend for man to be alone and made a companion to keep man from being alone. Let's focus on how to deal with loneliness.

**God Created Man for Relationships.** In Genesis 2:18, we read where God states, "It is not good for man to be alone." At this point, God created the family relationship with a husband, wife, and then children to come from that relationship. This began filling the world with people who would result in relationships as we have them in our lives today.

**The Church is a Relationship.** As the scriptures describe the church, it is described as a family of God, brothers, and sisters in Christ. The brothers and sisters in the family of God care, share, and nurture one another. As life deals us sorrow and joy, there are our brothers and sisters to rejoice with us or to weep with us. The New Testament is filled from the Sermon on the Mount and through the epistles, instructing us about our conduct in relationships. Notice a few of the many verses from the New Testament.

- *"Whatever you want men to do to you, do also unto them" (Matthew 7:12).*
- *"Now the multitude of those who believed were of one heart and one soul; neither did anyone say that any of the things he possessed was his own, but they had all things in common" (Acts 4:32).*
- *Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ" (Galatians 6:2).*
- *"Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all, especially to those who are of the household of faith" (Galatians 6:10).*
- *"Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others" (Philippians 2:4)*

**Love One Another.** Something must be present within our relationships, and when it is, the verses noticed above will be readily followed. We must “love one another fervently with a pure heart” (1 Peter 1:22). Love is described as the “litmus test” for discipleship. It will be evident even in times of hardship and adversity. How do I show my Love? Put to practice the instructions of Paul in 1 Corinthians 13:

*“Love suffers long and is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up; does not behave rudely; does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil; does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth; bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things, love never fails”* (vs. 4-8).

Love never fails; it can always be counted on. So, Love causes us to focus on others and others to focus on us. Love is reciprocal; it will meet itself, coming and going, and there will be no time for loneliness.

**Pray For One Another.** When we find ourselves alone, remember that we are not really alone. God is always with us, “for He Himself has said, ‘I will never leave you nor forsake you’” (Hebrews 13:5). God wants us to talk to Him, “casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you” (1 Peter 5:7). We need to pray to God for the world and the troubles in it, for our nation, state, and community. Pray for our family at Market Street. We need to remember those who are sick, those unable to get out, and every member of our family who supplies us with the very things that we need from them.

There will be moments when we feel lonely. But we must remember that God has designed for us relationships here on earth and a spiritual relationship that we are never really alone. Take time to think about those relationships and those that you can help in some way. A phone call, a card, a visit, or whatever you can do. Talk to God and let Him help you.



## **Remember Our Study Periods**

Sunday Mornings at 9:45 a.m.

Wednesday Evenings at 6:30 p.m.

*Come Join Us As We Study Together*

## ***Worked All Day, For What?***

**Chuck Bartlett**

In Matthew 20:1-16, we find Jesus telling the parable about the laborers in the vineyard. This is the event in which people were hired throughout the day and received the same pay at the end. Those who worked all day in the heat of the sun were upset that those who worked just an hour obtained the same pay.

What I would like for us to think about is the benefits gained, for those who worked all day, and not just part of the day.

### **They received what they agreed to (vs. 13-14)**

It is clear that, in the story, these people lost sight of what they said they would work for. At the end of the day, they were concerned about what others received. They ought to have rejoiced over the fact that the owner did pay them according to their agreement. How sad it would have been if the owner had changed his mind and given them nothing for their efforts. The good news is they got exactly what they agreed to.

### **The satisfaction in all they accomplished (vs. 1-2)**

Although these people did not take pride in what they did, they should have. How sad it is when laborers take no pride in what they do. When one does, not only do they work hard, they can also see the results of their efforts and smile. There needs to be genuine joy in being a worker for the Lord, as Christ was trying to convey.

### **The joy in just being asked to work (vs. 16)**

Jesus mentioned that many are called but few are chosen. Those who worked all day didn't have to fret about others being idle; they needed to realize that the owner didn't have to hire them! Maybe the reason people do not take pride in what they do is because they belittle what they do along with belittling their opportunity to work. These laborers needed to see the double blessing – work available and that they were called.

### **The comfort of working for an honest owner (vs. 13)**

We all know how miserable life can be when working for a nasty boss. Yet, these laborers were told by the owner, “Friend, I do you no wrong.” This owner was kind, and true to his workers. He didn't want to cheat, nor put down what those workers did throughout the day. Why find fault in one who is true to his word?

### The shared joy in seeing others get hired (vs. 8)

Knowing that the owner hired others didn't cause them to lose their job. They ought to have been happy to see others who were unemployed get the chance to work. The benefits of having a good heart are showing compassion and wanting others to have success. The unfortunate reality was that these laborers wanted to be treated better than the other workers.

This parable was used to encourage children of God to do their duty and not complain. Those who want to get to heaven should consider the five points above. It would be a tragedy to "be called" but not "chosen". The thrust of Christ's words can be seen in verse 15. When the owner defended his actions, he stated, "Is your eye evil because I am good?" Those who worked all day and who did a good job were being rebuked and needed to consider what they were saying. By the kindness of this owner, the workers were becoming evil.

All Christians must be aware lest they too fall short by having a corrupt mind. Oh, we may work hard all day long, but will we allow what others do (or receive) cause us to be unrighteous? We must see the benefits of working daily for our Lord.

~via *Kirkwood church of Christ*; Kirkwood, Missouri.

## News & Notes

### THE SICK:

Don Bates	Ruby Dean Ezell
Jennifer Threet	Sue Thomas
Dale Adcock	Sherry Davis
Harvey Nixon	Gina Werka
Sheila Holt	Shelby Kirkland
Pat Nixon	Shirley Miller
James Adams	Wayne Faulk

### Those Undergoing Treatments or Chronic Illness:

Danny Johnson	Doris Lovell
Priscilla Tucker	Peggy Pepper
Vicki Stringer	Anita Wheeler
Wynell Romine	Judy Vaughn
Jeanette Weir	Lloyd Adams
Charles Burns	Larsen Plyler
Cindy Walker	Al Pollard

Anthony Sutton  
Henry Fusch  
Tim McGuire  
Mary Cox

Jerry Lawrence  
Liz Fusch  
Monica Nelson

### Updates:

**Dale Adcock** had surgery on her shoulder on Tuesday and is doing well in her recovery. She is to follow-up with the doctor on March 11<sup>th</sup>... **Theresa Tucker** is scheduled to have hernia surgery on Monday in Madison... **Sherry Davis** is at home and is doing really well in her recovery she is to return to the doctor in two weeks... **Gina Werka** had sinus surgery last week... **Dan Lovell's** had a CT scan done on Friday and the initial report showed that his cancer is contained. He will see a surgeon on March 14<sup>th</sup>... **Mary Cox, Jackie Cox's daughter-in-law and my sister-in-law**, condition seems to be declining in her bout with pancreatic cancer. She is at home in Nashville, Tennessee... Remember to keep all of our sick in your prayers.

### Athens Health & Restore Rehabilitation:

Mildred Lambert, rm. 15    Brenda Wilson, rm. 38  
Evelyn Hogan, rm. 2    Connie Brock, rm. 62  
Valeria Dalton, rm. 7

### Limestone Health Facility:

Ann Bush, rm. 75

### Shut-In or Away From Home:

Nell Barksdale; at home  
Gwen Bullock; at granddaughter's in Huntsville  
Barbara Carter; Limestone Lodge  
Unaking Currier; Summerford Health, Falkville  
Lona Jackson; Vitality Living, Huntsville  
Marion Mitchell; Decatur Health & Rehab  
Bobby Ogles; Story Point West, Knoxville, Tennessee  
Stan Stanford; Goldton at Athens  
William Thomas; Madison Manor, Madison  
Kathleen Wales; Limestone Manor

**TUESDAY MORNING LADIES CLASS:** The Ladies' Bible class meets on Tuesday mornings at 10:30 in the West Auditorium. All ladies who are able to come are invited to be a part of this class.

**NURSING HOME SINGING:** Remember the singing on Tuesday evening at the *Athens Rehabilitation & Senior Care* at 5:30 p.m. Please join us to sing, if you are able.

**COMMUNION BREAD:** The Communion Bread sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board for the ladies who would like to make the communion bread for the worship services.

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL:** The outline for the VBS studies is uploaded in the **Shared Files** area, “*VBS -2024*”. We met last week and scheduled the lessons to be used in the VBS.

**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, March 11<sup>th</sup>, at 10:30. If you want to participate, join them in the morning.

**SYMPATHY:** We want to express our deepest sympathy to *Larry Snell and all the family* in the passing of Larry’s aunt, *Wilma Stagner*. She passed away Friday morning. The visitation will be this evening and the funeral on Monday afternoon at the J. C. Kirby & Sons Funeral Chapel in Bowling Green, Kentucky. May the Lord bless this family at this time.

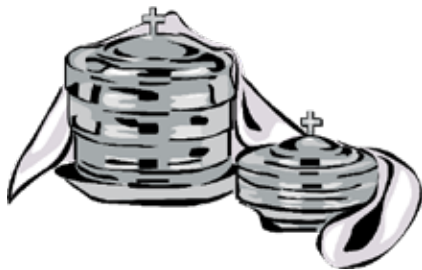
**PICTURES:** Have you had your picture made lately? We have several that need to be updated. If you have not had your picture made or had it done lately, please plan to do it soon.

**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.

**GOSPEL MEETING:** The *Highway 157 church* in Cullman is engaged in a gospel meeting this week. The meeting will continue through Wednesday evening. The speaker in the meeting is *Jeremy Paschall*. . . . The *Westview church* in Hartselle is beginning a gospel meeting today. The meeting will continue through Wednesday evening. The speaker in the meeting is *Tadd Corder*.

**THE RECORD:** *Attendance for the week of Feb. 25<sup>th</sup>:*

Sunday:	Bible Classes .....	137
	Morning Worship .....	160
	Evening Worship .....	117
Wednesday:	Bible Classes .....	109



**Communion Preparation for March**

Communion Bread — Kerry Cox  
 Communion Cups — Joel Hamm

**Men Privileged To Serve:**

*Sunday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>:*

*Morning Worship*

Announcements.....	Marty Adams
Song Leader .....	Joel Hamm
Prayer.....	Larry Tucker
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord’s Supper	
Presiding.....	Albert Haraway
Assisting .....	Harold Ash
Serving .....	Marvin Putman .....
	Ronnie Locke
	Nathaniel Adams.....
	Harold Davis
Closing Prayer .....	Tommy Coblentz

*Evening Worship*

Announcements.....	Marty Adams
Song Leader .....	Clayton Hamm
Prayer.....	Bob Broadus
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord’s Supper .....	Albert Haraway
Closing Prayer .....	Keith Hinkle
Other Assignments for the week of March 3 <sup>rd</sup> :	
Usher .....	Christian Usery/Clayton Hamm
Work Sound System.....	Russ Wulfekuhl

*Wednesday, March 6<sup>th</sup>:*

Song Leader .....	Tony Thomas
Bible Reading.....	Dan Reed
	(Acts 24:22-27)
Prayer.....	Jerry Baker
Invitation.....	David Cox
Closing Prayer .....	Larry Holt

*Sunday, March 10<sup>th</sup>:*

*Morning Worship*

Announcements.....	Larry Tucker
Song Leader .....	Hunter Cox
Prayer.....	Nathaniel Adams
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord’s Supper	
Presiding.....	Larry Snell
Assisting .....	Jerry Baker
Serving .....	Sam Gregory .....
	Landon Adams
	Marvin Putman .....
	Danny Johnson
Closing Prayer .....	Frank Melton

*Evening Worship*

Announcements.....	Larry Tucker
Song Leader .....	Bob Broadus
Prayer.....	Harold Ash
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord’s Supper .....	Larry Snell
Closing Prayer .....	Joel Hamm
Other Assignments for the week of March 10 <sup>th</sup> :	
Usher .....	Hayden Pierce/Russ Wulfekuhl
Work Sound System.....	Terry Andrews