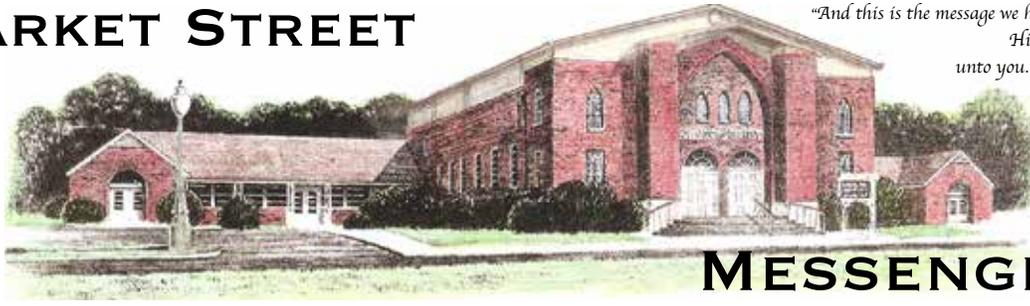


MARKET STREET



“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 XII

August 23, 2020

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..... 7:00 p.m.

Elders

Marty R. Adams..... (256) 503-8843
Tommy Coblentz..... (256) 232-3312
Jerry McGlocklin..... (256) 232-7620
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

Who Will Follow Jesus?

David A. Cox

“If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me” — (Luke 9:23)

How challenging are these words of Jesus? Jesus is calling for disciples, but He wants disciples who are fully committed to following Him. We often want to “cherry-pick” the commands and scriptures that we believe Jesus is referring to, but Jesus simply says that we are to deny ourselves and follow Him. Jesus is not merely speaking of a momentary decision, but rather a genuine commitment to living each day for Him. To be the disciple, let us consider three things.

Be a Learner. The word “disciple” is defined as “a follower or pupil of a teacher, leader, or philosopher.” A disciple then is one who is continually learning from his teacher. As disciples of Christ, we are to be people who are always reading, looking, studying, and learning more about Jesus and the things that He taught His disciples. A disciple is not equal or above his teacher. Jesus said, “A disciple is not above his teacher, but everyone who is perfectly trained will be like his teacher” (Luke 6:40). It is clear disciples are learning from their teachers and are taught and trained to be like their teacher. This is not done overnight or in a spasmodic way, but with purpose and diligence.

Deny Self. Jesus calls for His disciples to deny themselves. A disciple is not going to be one who looks to the culture, friends, or the political culture around them to decide what to do. It may be that the right decision may have costs in this life. Still, a disciple will know that the real cost is making a decision that cost him a relationship with Christ. Jesus tells His disciples that the costs are high, but so are the rewards. Far too often, we want to dismiss any cost of being a disciple of Jesus, but Jesus never did that, and neither should we. Many times there are costs in life in being a disciple. However, the costs in this life of being a disciple have no comparison with the eternal costs of not being a disciple. Paul put it this way, *“For I consider that the sufferings of the present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us”* (Romans 8:18).

Daily Endeavor. Jesus tells His disciples to “take up your cross daily.” Jesus knows that disciples will need to do this daily if they are to be successful. Too often, people want to be disciples, but do not want to be a disciple daily. It is tough, if not impossible, to be very good at anything if you are not committed to doing it. Jesus knows this. He knows that it must be a daily walk if you are going to complete it. The daily learning, training, and applying the practices of Jesus to our lives will help us when the difficult days come. Yes, Jesus knows that the difficult days will come, so He says to do it daily. If you do not, the temptations, trials, and sufferings will come when you are not ready, and you will fall. Determine to be the disciple that will daily take up the cross and follow Jesus.

Will you follow Jesus? E. E. Hewitt asks in a song we sing:

*Who will follow Jesus?
Standing for the right,
Holding up His banner
In the thickest fight?
Listening for His orders,
Ready to obey,
Who will follow Jesus,
Serving Him today?*

May we all reply, “I am on the Lord’s side; Master, here am I?”



Pictures of Jesus

David Eldridge

“We wish to see Jesus” (John 12:21). Have you ever seen a picture of Jesus? You have probably seen some representation that had come from the mind of men. The reality is that no one today knows what Jesus looked like while He lived in the flesh. Nevertheless, if you read the Bible, you will see the many ways Jesus is pictured throughout the word of God. Some latch on to one of these images to the exclusion of the others. Let us consider some of the pictures used to portray Jesus that we might have a more “complete picture” of our Lord.

He Is Pictured As The Great Shepherd of the Sheep: The Messianic prophet Isaiah said that Jesus

would, “Feed His flock like a shepherd; He will gather the lambs with His arm, And carry them in His bosom, And gently lead those who are with young” (Isaiah 40:11). Jesus spoke of Himself as a Shepherd in John 10:9-15, noting that, as the Shepherd, He knows His sheep, guides them, feeds them, and would lay down His life for them. Jesus is truly the “Chief Shepherd” of His sheep (1 Peter 5:4). See Jesus as the great shepherd of the sheep!

He Is Pictured As The Lamb of God: Though Jesus is the Shepherd of the sheep, He is also pictured as the Lamb of God. John, in the Revelation, recorded these words, “For the Lamb who is in the midst of the throne will shepherd them and lead them to living fountains of waters” (Revelation 7:17). As a prophet of God, John the baptist saw Jesus in this way: “The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, ‘Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world’” (John 1:29). Jesus is the Lamb of God whose blood was shed that our sins might be taken away. See Jesus as the precious lamb of God!

He Is Pictured As The King of Kings: The angel told Mary the child she would bear, “Will be great, and will be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David” (Luke 1:32). Jesus Himself attested to this fact when Pilate asked if He was “a king.” Jesus responded, “You say rightly that I am a King” (John 18:37). Jesus has been given “all authority...in heaven and on earth” (Matthew 28:18). Therefore, “at the name of Jesus every knee should bow” (Philippians 2:10). Jesus is the “King of kings” (1 Timothy 6:15). See Jesus as the King of kings and Lord of lords!

He Is Pictured As The Righteous Judge: Paul wrote of Jesus as “the righteous Judge” (2 Timothy 4:8). Jesus will one day execute Judgment as the Father has committed all Judgment of Him (John 5:22). He will judge using the standard of His word (John 12:48). No one will escape this Judgment, “For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ” (2 Corinthians 5:10; Hebrews 9:27). See Jesus as the righteous Judge to whom we must give account!

He Is Pictured As The Friend of Mankind: Jesus identified Himself as a friend by stating, “Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one’s life for his friends” (John 15:13). The evidence of this friend found in Jesus is seen in His sacrifice. Have you shown yourself

friendly to the greatest friend you could ever know? Jesus tells you the way to do so. He said, "You are My friends if you do whatever I command you" (John 15:14). See Jesus as the greatest friend mankind has ever known! Seeing Jesus, what will you do? May you listen to His voice, find salvation through His sacrifice, submit to Him as your King, prepare for His righteous Judgment, and be His friend as you obey Him!

~via *Northside Bulletin*; Jonesboro, Arkansas.

and may we share His blessings with all who cross our paths. I conclude with the words of Thomas A. Kempis, "The man who lives without Jesus is the poorest of the poor, whereas no one is so rich as the man who lives in His grace." My friends, the only way we can experience an abundant life is to surrender our plans to the Lord (Proverbs 16:3).

~via *Northside Exhorter*, Tucson, Arizona.



"Abundant Life in Christ"

Antoine N. Holloway

Jesus says the following in John 10:10, "*The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.*" What does Jesus mean when He promises us an abundant life? Was He referring to material possessions or financial wealth? Absolutely not! Yet many in religion believe that Jesus came for this very reason.

There are two opposing forces seeking to alter our lives as we know it: Jesus and the thief. The thief is the devil and he comes *only* to steal, kill, and destroy. Therefore, no good comes from the arrival of the devil. Jesus came to offer life.

- The devil seeks to steal life. He comes after us in an effort to take something that doesn't belong to him. Jesus wants to give life. He wants to add to it all that is missing.
- The devil seeks to kill life. He comes to bring us to an end. Jesus wants to protect and prolong life. He believes our lives are worth living.
- The devil seeks to destroy life. If he fails to take or end life, then he will do whatever it takes to leave us in ruins. Jesus wants to make our lives plentiful. He seeks to take all the evil done to us and make it for our good.

We need to thank God for life and turn to Jesus who can make it abundant. Abundance, which is a spiritual richness that extends beyond the temporal boundaries of this world. This everlasting abundance is available to all who seek it and claim it. So, let us claim the riches of Christ Jesus every day that we live,

News & Notes

THE SICK:

Barbara Carter	Frank Melton
Mitzi Carruth	JoAnn Gilbert
Loretta Warner	Bobbie Adcock
Doris Lovell	Ann Bush
Tessa Bacci	Judy Whitt
Kennedy Pepper	Larry Morris

Those Undergoing Treatments or Chronic Illness:

Ross Melvin	Donna Wright
Freddie Mae Elmore	Nikki Ogles
Anita Wheeler	Lona Jackson
Judy Vaughn	Janice Cagle
Jeanette Weir	Cornelia Pepper
Ella Melvin	Wayne Wooldridge
Cindy Walker	Kenneth Fisher
Al Pollard	Charles Burns
David Collier	Phillip Harwell
Una King Currier	Joan Carpenter
Gene Carpenter	Lloyd Adams
Carrie Warner	

In The Hospital/Rehabilitation:

Ross Melvin; Huntsville Hospital — Huntsville
Jerry Hinkle; Athens - Limestone; rm. 218
Norman Hamm; Millenium - Huntsville

Athens Health & Rehabilitation:

Mildred Lambert, rm. 15	Elise Barksdale, rm. 22A
Brenda Wilson, rm. 77	Connie Brock, rm. 62
Evelyn Hogan, rm. 36	Christine Hudson, rm. 77
Valeria Dalton, rm. 7	

Limestone Health Facility:

Bettye Harrison, rm.	Alice Roberson, rm. 49
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Shut-In or Away From Home:

Deanie Britton, Limestone Lodge
 Marci Bassett, Limestone Manor
 Frances Bowers, Limestone Manor

Gwen Bullock, at granddaughter's in Huntsville
 Mary Ruth Gardner, at Merrill Gardens, Madison
 Irene Inman, at home
 Stan Stanford, at home
 William Thomas, Madison Manor, Madison
 Kathleen Wales, Limestone Manor

Updates:

Barbara Carter is home from the hospital following her hip surgery last week. She is doing out-patient therapy...
Ross Melvin had a very difficult week receiving fluids for three days. He had a treatment on Thursday and was admitted to the hospital in Huntsville...
Shirley Miller had several tests done at Vanderbilt on Monday for digestion problems she has been encountering...
Dan Lovell is completed his therapy treatments this past Wednesday ...
Steve Usery continues to undergo therapy for his knee...
Louise Melvin continued her therapy treatments this past week...
Ross & Louise Melvin's grandson, Luke Davis, will be having back surgery either in Colorado or Massachusetts.

PARKING LOT SERVICE: Last Sunday, we met in the parking lot for our worship service. We had 59 cars that gathered for the assembly.

HYDERABAD, INDIA: This past Friday it was my privilege to speak again, via Zoom, to the *Balanager church* in Hyderabad, Telagana India. The preacher for the church there is *Johnson Babu*. Brother Babu wanted me to convey his greetings to all of you.

THANK YOU NOTES: The following is a thank you received from *Sue Taylor*.

Market Street Christians, Joel and I want to thank you for the prayers for us and the love shown us during our time at home with Covid-19.

We hope to be back at services soon.

A note from *Virginia Meyer's family*.

Dear members of the Market Street church of Christ, How do I begin to thank all of you for all the cards, visits, phone calls and love you gave my mother. Going to church was her favorite thing to do, and I am sure it was in part because she had so many friends there. I could feel all your prayers, God was good to me and my family. Thank you to everyone who was able to make it to mother's service. I know the pandemic kept some of you away and that was understandable.

Your generous gift card was used Saturday and we really enjoyed our meal. It made it so easy on us. Mother is at rest now and in a far better place. Thank you, thank you, thank you for what you have done for us and for mother. In Christian love,

Cynthia Webster for the family of Virginia Meyer

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, August 23rd:

Morning Worship

Announcements..... Larry Holt
 Song Leader Tommy Burns
 Prayer..... Keith Hinkle
 Preaching..... David Cox
 Lord's Supper
 Presiding..... Harold Ash
 Assisting Marcus Morris
 Serving Mike Ogles..... Kenneth Adams
 Matthew Usery..... Tony Thomas
 Closing Prayer Marty Adams

Evening Worship

Announcements.....
 Song Leader
 Prayer.....
 Preaching.....
 Lord's Supper
 Closing Prayer

Other Assignments for the week of August 23rd:

Ushers..... Danny Holt/Marvin Putman
 Work Sound System..... Terry Andrews

Wednesday, August 26th:

Song Leader
 Bible Reading

 Prayer.....
 Invitation.....
 Closing Prayer

Sunday, August 30th:

Morning Worship

Announcements..... Albert Haraway
 Song Leader Joel Hamm
 Prayer..... Larry Tucker
 Preaching..... David Cox
 Lord's Supper
 Presiding..... Marcus Morris
 Assisting Mike Ogles
 Serving Landon Adams..... Tommy Burns
 Marvin Putman Sam Gregory
 Closing Prayer Harvey Nixon

Evening Worship

Announcements..... Albert Haraway
 Song Leader Larry Holt
 Prayer..... Terry Andrews
 Preaching David Cox
 Lord's Supper Marcus Morris
 Closing Prayer Hunter Cox

Other Assignments for the week of August 30th:

Ushers..... Danny Johnson/Keenon Currier
 Work Sound System..... Nathaniel Adams