

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

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 Coblenz..... (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

MARKET STREET MESSENGER

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David A. Cox, Editor

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No. 50

“What Do You Do More Than Others?”

David A. Cox

“For if you love those who love you, what reward have you? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? And if you greet your brethren only, what do you do more than others? Do not even tax collectors do so?” — (Matthew 5:46-47).

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus is impressing the hearers that the citizens of His kingdom will be radically different from the life they had been accustomed to living. Earlier Jesus said, “unless your righteousness exceeds the righteousness of scribes and Pharisees, you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven.” (Matthew 5:20). As Jesus concludes this section asked, “What do more than others?” Let us consider some lessons we can learn from this question.

What We Learn in the Question...

1. *We Are To “Do.”* The word “do” indicates that Christians are not lazy, do nothing people, and the word suggests action. Many like to think of Christianity as a people who do not have to be active in service. This question shows that Jesus knows that to be the kind of citizen God expects in the kingdom will be a people of action. Later in the sermon, Jesus says the one who will enter the kingdom of heaven will do the will of the Father. The one who hears the will of God and does it is the one who is wise and will be saved (Matthew 7:21-27).
2. *We Are To Do “More.”* The word “more” suggests the quantity or amount. The things done by the scribes and Pharisees were not much. As a matter of fact, it seems that how the religious leaders dealt with the law was to make the law mean less (Matthew 5:21-45). Jesus teaches them that it is not less but more. Jesus teaches much about doing more with our abilities. In Matthew 25:1-13, the foolish virgins made some preparation, but the wise virgins made more. In Matthew 25:14-30, the parable of the talents teaches us the work we are to do is within our ability to accomplish. In Matthew 25:31-46, those told, “Come you blessed of my Father...” are the ones who have done more. They served when they saw the opportunity. Those who heard

- “Depart from Me” are the ones who did the less.
3. *We Are To Be Different* “Than Others.” The question Jesus asked insinuates that the followers of Christ should be different and do more than those who do not follow God. The disciples of Christ should be more: loving (Matthew 5:43-46); forgiving (Matthew 6:14-15); more neighborly (Matthew 22:39); more benevolent (Matthew 25:34-46); more honest (Romans 12:17); and more congenial (Romans 14:19). If as disciples we are not “more than others” the righteousness falls short of what God expects. We must remember that we are to be different from the world around us.

Are we living a life of more? Do we live a life of radical love that Jesus taught, or do we only love those that are likable and friendly to us? May we all be determined to accept the challenge to live the life God expects from us.



“Mirror, Mirror on the Wall”

Shawn Bain

“For if any one is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a mirror: for he beholdeth himself, and goeth away, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was” – (James 1:23,24)

The mirror the wicked witch in the movie Snow White had was a self-esteem booster or an ego deflator. The wicked witch liked it when the mirror told her she was the fairest of them all. When it told her she was not, she got very angry and very jealous.

The good thing about mirrors is they always tell us the truth. You can always trust it to give you a true picture, whether you like it or not, of what you look like. If you do not like what we see, it is not the mirror’s fault. There is no defect in the mirror, it is showing you reality, not make believe. It is a reflection from which you will make changes or leave everything as it is.

Some people have their parents as their mirror. Many

of us become like our parents because this is the mirror through which we live, because they lived a certain way before us. We often refuse to question what it looks like, because they are our parents. Would the image they cast be faulty? Our parents may be a reflection of what they received from their parents. Notice what the mirror of God says about our parents, “Children, obey your parents *in the Lord for this is right*” (Ephesians 6:1). Think about reflecting in your life what is right, not an attitude or action just because your parents did.

Friends can also become a mirror. We are with our friends at school, church, teams, or shopping. If not with them somewhere, we are talking to them on the phone or through a social media of some kind. We enjoy friends off which we “bounce” ideas. Their words we repeat, style of clothes, what they love, like, hate, buy, hear, or taste, we imitate as well. We may never check on whether their reflection is right or not. We just enjoy doing things with them. We need to pay attention to the values they are leading us to duplicate. The mirror of God says “Be not deceived, evil companionships corrupt good morals” (1 Corinthians 15:33).

God and His word is the superior mirror. This mirror is the earnest petition made by God to duplicate what we hear, see, and read from Him. 1 Peter 1:16 says, “Ye shall be holy; for I am holy”. God insists we be hearers and doers of the word. Our understanding of His word leads us to know of His goodness, justice, truth, and righteousness. As a result, this will be a mirror of the type people He wants us to be. When we understand who we are (Romans 3:23), we will know changes will need to be made. God desires we admit what we see as who we are in His word. He does not want us to go away. God desires all men repent and be saved (1 Timothy 2:4; 2 Peter 3:9). Let us look in the mirror and dress ourselves to be the new man He created “in righteousness and holiness of truth” (Ephesians 4:24).

~via *Message of Veterans Parkway*; Murfreesboro, Tennessee.

Beacon of Truth
Radio Program
Sunday Mornings
8:30a.m. - 9:00a.m.



**MARKET STREET
CHURCH OF CHRIST**

The Hardest (and Highest) Kind of Honesty

Gary Henry

All of us want to view ourselves in a positive light. As a result, we often tell ourselves what we'd like to hear rather than what we need to hear. The human heart is exceedingly "deceitful," as Jeremiah 17:9 says, and it takes an uncommon measure of honesty for us to see when we are lying to ourselves. Think about three areas where honesty is important and very hard.

What does God's word teach? Especially when a text calls for a change that would be difficult to make, we may be tempted to reason our way around it, convincing ourselves of the meaning we prefer the text to have. We might tell ourselves we're "explaining" the passage when all we're really doing is draining the inconvenience out of obeying it.

What kind of relationship do I have with God? Ideally, we should see our relationship with God exactly as it is, neither overestimating nor underestimating it. But rather than look at the facts honestly (2 Cor 13:5), we often allow our hearts to lie to us. We define reality in terms of whatever makes us feel good.

What are my true motives, desires, and intentions? Here is the hardest area of all. If the question is, "What is the real reason why I want to do this?" that can be a painful question to answer. It takes peeling off many successive layers of the "onion" in our hearts to get down to the real, true desires that are driving our decisions.

Edward Benson remarked, "How desperately difficult it is to be honest with oneself. It is much easier to be honest with other people." And yet, this harder kind of honesty is also more important than the easier kind. If we're not willing to see what God teaches us in the Scriptures, the true status of our relationship with God, and the true motives behind the decisions we make, then no amount of external honesty with other people is going to amount to much. It is God who is our Judge, and He knows "the thoughts and intentions of the heart" (Heb 4:12). We ought to embrace all of what He knows to be true — even about ourselves. After all, is it not the truth that will set us free?

~via *Good News of Charlestown Road*; New Albany, Indiana.

News & Notes

THE SICK:

Carson Parks
Harvey Nixon
Dale Adcock
JoAnn Gilbert
James Adams
Doris Lovell
Preston Howard

Pat Nixon
Bonnie Sutton
Leigh Ann McGlocklin
Shirley Miller
Betty Lovell
Keith Holt

Those Undergoing Treatments or Chronic Illness:

Sharon Nave
Peggy Pepper
Freddie Mae Elmore
Anita Wheeler
Judy Vaughn
Doris Reid
Charles Burns
Kenneth Fisher
Matt Bassford
Wynell Romine
Tim McGuire
Henry Fusch

Priscilla Tucker
Vicki Stringer
Nikki Ogles
Lona Jackson
Jeanette Weir
Lloyd Adams
Cindy Walker
Al Pollard
Sadricia Wilson
Anthony Sutton
Barbara Piper
Liz Fusch

Athens Health & Restore Rehabilitation:

Mildred Lambert, rm. 15 Dan Lovell; rm. 110
Evelyn Hogan, rm. 36 Brenda Wilson, rm. 77
Valeria Dalton, rm. 7 Connie Brock, rm. 62

Limestone Health Facility:

Marie Nave, rm. 84a Bobby Ogles, rm. 113
Ann Bush, rm. 75 Alice Roberson, rm. 49

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
Stan Stanford; at home
William Thomas; Madison Manor, Madison
Kathleen Wales; Limestone Manor

In The Hospital/Rehabilitation:

Rheyan Nave; Athens--Limestone Hosp. rm. 209

Updates:

Dale Adcock had surgery on Monday for her broken ankle. The surgery went well and she is at home recovering...
Ricky Chaney has been unable to be out due to a bad case of a kidney infection for the last couple of weeks...
Leigh Ann McGlocklin had oral surgery on Wednesday and is making progress in her recovery ...**Peggy Pep-**

per is making progress in her recovery at home from her recent surgery... **Mary Stroud** was able to be back at Bible study Wednesday night after being sick for a couple of weeks... **Bonnie Sutton** has been sick this week with a bad cold and prevented him from being at services... Remember our expecting mother, **Heather Cox** in your prayers.

TUESDAY MORNING LADIES' CLASS: The Ladies' Bible class meets on Tuesday morning at 10:30. They are studying on "*The Parables of Jesus.*"

SYMPATHY: We want to express our deepest sympathy to the **Melvin & Broam Family** in the passing of Abbie's husband, **John Broam**. He passed away last Friday and his visitation and funeral was this past Friday afternoon at Canebrake. May the Lord bless Abbie, Parker and all the family at this time.

OUT OF TOWN: **The Adams:** *Marty, & Marvella* are in Helen, Georgia and will be home today **The Adams:** *Landon, Lynsey & Jessie* have been in Helen, Georgia and are returning today..... **The Ashes:** *Harold & Barb* are now home after being in Gulf Shores... **The Nixons:** *Harvey & Pat* are back home from Arkansas.

BIBLE DRILL: Sunday January 8th, We will begin to have a Bible Drill 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.

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 in the morning.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT Q&A: For the next several Wednesday nights, I will be doing Question & Answer sessions. If you have questions that you would like for me to deal with, please write the question or topic you are interested in hearing about, and I will deal with them.

PICTURES: Have you had your picture made? We are continuing to make and update pictures of everyone for the Market Street directory. Please plan to get your picture made in the next few weeks.

AWAY FROM US: Some of our people are away from home. Keep them in your prayers.

Kenneth Adams is in Auburn for school.
Keenon Currier is stationed in Monterey, California.
Addison Holt is in Birmingham for school.
Christian Usery is in Birmingham for work.

THE RECORD: *Attendance for the week of December 4th:*

Sunday:	Bible Classes	118
	Morning Worship	136
	Evening Worship	100
Wednesday:	Bible Classes	77

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, December 11th:

Morning Worship

Announcements.....	Larry Tucker
Song Leader	Tommy Burns
Prayer.....	Kenneth Smith
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord's Supper	
Presiding.....	Stephen Lynn
Assisting	Jerry Baker
Serving	Hayden Pierce Matthew Usery
.....	Nathaniel Adams..... Terry Andrews
Closing Prayer	Clayton Hamm

Evening Worship

Announcements.....	Larry Tucker
Song Leader	Albert Haraway
Prayer.....	Harold Ash
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord's Supper	Stephen Lynn
Closing Prayer	Landon Adams
Other Assignments for the week of December 11 th :	
Ushers.....	Keith Hinkle/Marvin Putman
Work Sound System.....	Larry Holt

Wednesday, December 14th:

Song Leader	Tony Thomas
Bible Reading.....	Danny Johnson
.....	(Acts 1:15-26)
Prayer.....	Bob Broadus
Invitation.....	Clayton Hamm
Closing Prayer	Nathaniel Adams

Sunday, December 18th:

Morning Worship

Announcements.....	Keith Hinkle
Song Leader	Joel Hamm
Prayer.....	Nathaniel Adams
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord's Supper	
Presiding.....	Jerry Baker
Assisting	Harold Ash
Serving	Heath Dollar Christian Usery
.....	Matthew Usery..... Charles Vaughn
Closing Prayer	Roger Hammonds

Evening Worship

Announcements.....	Keith Hinkle
Song Leader	Stephen Lynn
Prayer.....	Marcus Morris
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord's Supper	Jerry Baker
Closing Prayer	Danny Holt
Other Assignments for the week of December 18 th :	
Ushers.....	Larry Mitchell/Hunter Cox
Work Sound System.....	Terry Andrews