

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..... 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

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

Volume XV

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No. 33

The Three Disciples

David A. Cox

"The Elder, To the beloved Gaius, whom I love in truth..." (3 John 1)

In John's third letter, he mentions Gaius, to whom the letter is addressed, and then mentions two other brethren in the epistle. The three brethren named in this letter are three distinct types of individuals. Let us consider the lessons we can learn from these men.

The Beloved Gaius. Gaius is a common name in the New Testament. We see the name in the book of Romans, First Corinthians, and twice in Acts. However, we cannot definitely identify if this Gaius was any of these others mentioned. However, there are three qualities of character that we can remember about Gaius.

- ***A Beloved Life He Lived.*** Three times John called him "beloved" (verses 1, 2, and 5). Gaius had cultivated character traits that made him attractive to the apostle John.
- ***A Devotion To Truth.*** We see John's attitude toward truth as he writes, "For I rejoiced greatly when brethren came and testified of the truth that is in you, just as you walk in the truth. I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth" (3 John 3-4).
- ***A Life Given To Hospitality.*** John commends Gaius for his generosity and hospitality. "Beloved, you do faithfully whatever you do for the brethren and for strangers, who have borne witness of your love before the church. If you send them forward on their journey in a manner worthy of God, you will do well, because they went forth for His name's sake, taking nothing from the Gentiles. We therefore ought to receive such, that we may become fellow workers for the truth" (3 John 5-8).

What three great qualities we can see John pointing out about Gaius. There are three qualities we all need to apply to our life.

The Stark Contrast of Gaius Is Diotrephes. The character of Diotrephes is marked by two traits:

- ***A Love For Self.*** John describes Diotrephes as "loves to have the preeminence among them" (3 John 9). In other words, Diotrephes

only occupied the positions he could be first. He believed that all consideration should be given to him while not giving any consideration to another.

- *An Intolerance for Others.* The first trait led to the second trait in that Diotrophes “does not receive us.” John goes on to say, “Therefore, if I come, I will call to mind his deeds which he does, prating against us with malicious words, And not content with that he himself does not receive the brethren, forbids those who wish to, putting them out of the church” (3 John 10).

John dislikes these two traits of Diotrophes, admonishing, “do not imitate what is evil, but what is good” (2 John 11).

The Good Example of Demetrius. John follows Diotrophes with the man of principle and character, Demetrius. There are three things John calls out about this good brother (3 John 12-13).

- *A Good Testimony of All Men.* All men can appreciate that which is good. John declares that Demetrius is such a man that all affirm his goodness.
- *A Testimony of the Truth.* Demetrius receives a witness of his life from the truth.
- *A Testimony of John.* John commends Demetrius saying, “And we also bear witness, and you know that our testimony is true.” How much this meant to have such a man of character as John speak so highly of someone. Indeed, Demetrius was an excellent, faithful brother and example for others.

As John closes this short letter, he declares that he had many things to write, but he did take the time to write this letter and name these three men. Let us recognize the valuable lessons for our lives that we can learn from such brief instruction.



Remember Our Bible Study Periods

Sunday Morning at 9:45 a.m.

Wednesday Evening at 6:30 p.m.

Come Join Us As We Study Together

Be An Encourager

Ken Weliever

“What would you do differently if you had your life to live over again?” A young lady asked the Duke of Wellington in his old age. The Duke—who had defeated Napoleon at Waterloo in 1815 and later served as Prime Minister of the United Kingdom—was known as a brilliant, yet very demanding man. He wasn’t known to “shower his subordinates with compliments.” However, when asked this question, he thought for a moment, then replied, “I’d give more praise.”

George M. Adams called encouragement “oxygen to the soul.” Nothing breathes new life into a discouraged person like an encouraging word or deed. Dr. Samuel Johnson observed, “The applause of a single human being is of great consequence.” “Correction does much, but encouragement does more,” once wrote the German poet Goethe. In his fine book, *The Power of Encouragement*, Dr. David Jeremiah compared encouragement to someone whose car will not start because its weakened battery has lost its charge. But then another person comes alongside and gives it a jump-start. “The strength of the operative car is transferred into the weak battery, and the inoperative car is rejuvenated into action.” That’s the power of encouragement.

The Bible often speaks of the importance of encouragement. The prophet Isaiah exhorted God’s people to “encourage the oppressed” (1:17). “Encourage one another daily,” urged the writer of Hebrews (3:13). “We urge you, brothers,” penned Paul to the Thessalonian church, “warn those who are idle, encourage the timid, help the weak, be patient with everyone” (1 Thessalonians 5:14). With so many things around us that are discouraging, it’s easy to become a discourager. Instead, let’s decide to look for some simple, specific ways we can encourage others. Here are a few ideas...

- If you notice something good, say something. Don’t let shyness hold you back. If you see something you appreciate or admire, mention it. Nothing is too small.
- Think about what encourages you, then practice that in your daily interactions with others.
- When you offer words of praise, be specific, not generic. Point out a concrete attitude, action, or quality you admire and appreciate.

- Practice praise at home. Tell your family how and why you appreciate them.
- Develop the habit of saying “thank you,” even for the small things people do.
- Set a goal to encourage three people every day outside of your home.
- When in a small group setting, look for ways to offer appreciation to each person who contributes to the group.
- When someone encourages you, let them know. Refrain from being a professional critic. We have enough of those. Quit looking for something wrong, and look for something right... something you can praise.
- Offer a smile to everyone you meet.

The late public speaker Cavet Robert once opined, “Three billion people on earth go to bed hungry every night, but four billion people go to bed every night hungry for a simple word of encouragement and recognition.” Finally, these words by leadership guru John Maxwell ought to speak to every preacher, pastor, parent and person who leads others: “If you are a leader, you should never forget that everyone needs encouragement. And everyone who receives it—young or old, successful or less-than-successful, unknown or famous—is changed by it.”

“Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing” (1 Thessalonians 5:11).

~via *Charlestown Road Bulletin*; New Albany, Indiana

News & Notes

THE SICK:

Harold Davis	Bonnie Sutton
Ronnie Locke	Harold Davis
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
Doris Reid	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:

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

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

In The Hospital/Rehabilitation:

Judy Brown; Crestwood Hospital-Huntsville, rm. 261

Updates:

Paul Adcock had biopsies done on Tuesday and he will be taking radiation treatments. Paul will go back to the doctor on August 18th to finalize the details of his treatments ... *Judy Brown* is doing much better after coming off the ventilator and is scheduled to be admitted to Athens Health and Rehab for rehabilitation... *Larry Tucker* spent Wednesday night in the hospital due to his heart rate dropping low. He was able to go home with a heart monitor and is to have some tests done on Tuesday ... *Peggy Mitchell* had cataract surgery done on Thursday... *Barbara Ash* had the staples removed this past Thursday and is scheduled to begin therapy on Thursday... *Sharon Nave* heard from her doctors this week and they are still evaluating her scans to see how best to proceed. She should hear back from them this week... *Rita Smith's son, Stephen Smith*, is improving from his bout with diverticulitis. He is scheduled to

return to the doctor on Tuesday...*Larsen Plyler*, was able to go home from the hospital in Memphis on Monday ...Remember our expecting mother, *Lynsey Adams*, in your prayers.

SYMPATHY: We want to extend our deepest sympathy to *Allison Usery and all the family* in the passing of Allison aunt, *Shirley Jane Barksdale*. She passed away last week in Round Rock, Texas. She was laid to rest on Friday morning in the Limestone Memorial Gardens. May the Lord bless this 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 on a regular basis to write and mail cards to people for appreciation and encouragement. The group will meet this Monday morning, at 10:30. If you would like to participate in this join them in the morning.

GOSPEL MEETING: There is a gospel meeting beginning today at the *Trinity church* in Trinity. The meeting will continue through Wednesday evening. *Tim Sutton* will be the speaker in this meeting.

OUT OF TOWN: *The Snells: Larry & Louise* have been in Memphis this week...*Theresa Tucker* is in Kansas City, Missouri...*The Parks: Charles, Meredith, Aabron, Harper & Carson* have been in Missouri this week.

THE RECORD: Attendance the week of August 6th:

Sunday:	Bible Classes	120
	Morning Worship	147
	Evening Worship	122
Wednesday:	Bible Classes	92



Communion Preparation for August

Communion Bread — Bob Broadus
Communion Cups — Marcus Morris

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, August 13th:

Morning Worship

Announcements.....	Larry Tucker	
Song Leader	Albert Haraway	
Prayer.....	Larry Mitchell	
Preaching.....	David Cox	
Lord's Supper		
Presiding.....	Stephen Lynn	
Assisting	Terry Andrews	
Serving	Sam Gregory	Marvin Putman
.....	Harold Davis	Matthew Usery
Closing Prayer	Hayden Pierce	

Evening Worship

Announcements.....	Larry Tucker
Song Leader	Stephen Lynn
Prayer.....	Tony Thomas
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord's Supper	Terry Andrews
Closing Prayer	Tommy Burns
Other Assignments for the week of August 13 th :	
Usher	Roger Hammonds/Tommy Coblentz
Work Sound System.....	Larry Holt

Wednesday, August 16th:

Song Leader	Tommy Burns
Bible Reading.....	Larry Holt
.....	(Acts 14:19-28)
Prayer.....	Clayton Adams
Invitation.....	Hunter Cox
Closing Prayer	Albert Haraway

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