

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 VIII

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No. 14

How To Make Disciples

Carl McMurray

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

Jerry McGlocklin.....(256) 232-7620
Kenneth Smith.....(256) 777-6737
Bonnie Sutton.....(256) 232-2081

Deacons

Marty R. Adams.....(256) 233-5147
Tommy Coblenz(256) 232-3312
Joel Hamm.....(256) 278-1977
Larry Mitchell(256) 230-0185
Russ Wulfekuhl(256) 683-9396

Evangelists

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

In Luke 5:27-32, Jesus was calling another disciple, who later became one of His twelve apostles. It appears that when our Lord called Levi (Matthew) that he was willing to demonstrate his conviction by leaving all and following Jesus. Luke records that Levi then had a large "dinner party" for Jesus in his house, where there attended a great crowd of tax-gatherers and others. The Pharisees, being separatists, noted Jesus' presence and grumbled and criticized Jesus' actions. The Lord's answer to them was that a physician is for sick people not healthy ones and repentance (which was the message he preached) was for sinners, not the righteous. In this short account I believe we find some valuable lessons to meditate on and learn from.

First of all, we see an example of a sincere heart that has the spiritual stamina to last a lifetime. No matter how he appears to us at first meeting as a tax collector, Levi's proper attitude of heart and desire is shown clearly by his actions. Please note, when Jesus called, Levi "left everything." He didn't ask to bury his father, say good-bye, or anything else. And considering his profession when he left everything he left some degree of power and potential wealth. Nevertheless, he left it all.

Secondly, he did not stop with walking away from carnal pursuits, he "began to follow Him." That is, he spent time with Jesus, listened to His teaching and began to lay down his path toward an eternal home in heaven. He was not like some who try to change their lives by turning away from sinful activities, but then, never put anything positive into their lives to take the place of those activities. Levi began to follow Jesus so that he could fill his heart and life with the teachings of the Master.

The last thing that we will mention that illustrates Levi's most excellent mind-set is the fact that not only did he set himself to follow Jesus, but he immediately invited a crowd of coworkers and acquaintances to come and meet Jesus also. He didn't just wish his friends and coworkers well, he launched into action. He invited his friends to come and meet

Jesus and he arranged the situation so they could do so. Many today are also learning the value and pleasure of inviting other into their home to meet Jesus in individual studies or group studies. In doing this they are imitating the sincerity of Levi.

Getting our attitude set for spiritual growth, going into action to accomplish that goal, and then actively sharing with friends and co-workers - this has been the way to make disciples from the earliest days and continues until now.

-via *The Good News*; Anderson, Indiana.



The Impossible

Buc Chumbley

An unassisted triple play is one of the most difficult defensive plays to make in baseball. In fact, in the history of major league baseball only 15 players have turned unassisted triple plays, the last coming in 2009 by Eric Bruntlett of the Philadelphia Phillies.

Because an unassisted triple play is so rare, when you actually see one with your own eyes you never forget it, especially when it is turned by your own son. In 1993 our oldest son David was playing shortstop for the Florence Dixie Youth Indians. With runners on first and second and no outs, David caught a line drive, stepped on second to double off the runner who was off the base, and then ran down the runner who had broken from first to complete the unassisted triple play. Yes, dad was beaming with pride.

As difficult it is to turn an unassisted triple play it is not impossible. It has been done and it will continue to be done in the future. We all understand that there are many things in life that are impossible. For instance, it is impossible for man to fly by flapping his arms, or breathe under water without air-tanks or for the Chicago Cubs to win a World Series (ok it may not be impossible, just highly unlikely).

Sometimes we forget that scripture also speaks about

things which are impossible. Consider the following: In Hebrews 6.18 the Hebrew writer says that, "it is impossible for God to lie." The fact that God cannot lie should give us full confidence that everything He has said to us through His holy writ is the absolute truth.

In Acts 2.24 Peter spoke of the resurrected Jesus, "whom God raised up, having loosed the pains of death, because it was not possible that He should be held by it." Just as Christ death was planned from the very beginning, so was His resurrection. The grave could not hold the Son Of God and it will not hold those who die in Christ (1 Corinthians 15.20-22).

Finally, in Hebrews 10.4 the writer speaks about the uselessness in animal sacrifices totally eradicating sin. He writes, "For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and goats could take away sins." It was the blood of Jesus alone who could take away sin (Hebrews 10.19-23).

As exciting it was to watch a son turn "the difficult." I am more encouraged that the "impossible" with God is for my ultimate glory.

-via *The Hueytown Bulletin*; Hueytown, Alabama.



Broken Cisterns

Randy Harshbarger

"The prophet is a man who feels fiercely. God has thrust a burden upon his soul, and he is bowed and stunned at man's fierce greed. Frightful is the agony of man; no human voice can convey its full terror. Prophecy is the voice that God has lent to the silent agony, a voice to the plundered poor, to the profaned riches of the world. It is a form of living, a crossing point of God and man. God is raging in the prophet's words" (The Prophets, Abraham J. Heschel, 5).

God's prophets are trying to get our attention. They speak for those who cannot speak for themselves—the poor, the oppressed, the orphan. The prophets appeal to each of us to engage our hearts and lives in an application of love and compassion for others—the same kind of

love and compassion God shows toward us. Indifference toward the hurting of others is bad enough. But our greatest sin may be our reluctance to see ourselves in the messages of God's spokesmen. The prophets sound words of warning, judgment, and opportunity for repentance. How dare we not listen!

“Be appalled, O heavens, at this, And shudder, be very desolate,” declares the Lord. For my people have committed two evils: They have forsaken Me, The fountain of living waters, To hew for themselves cisterns, Broken cisterns That can hold no water” (Jeremiah 2:12-13, NASV). Israel exchanged a relationship with Jehovah for one that could only bring disappointment and ruin. The Lord provided life-giving water—an apt metaphor for Jeremiah's audience. Every family would find a blessing in a nearby stream of pure water that was readily available. This meant they did not have to dig a cistern, a rock-hewn hole in the ground, that was daubed with clay or some kind of plaster. Eventually, the walls of the cistern would crack, and despite the owner's best efforts, the water would become tainted with dirt, mud, clay, or worse. What an uneven exchange! A broken cistern over living water!

In context, Jeremiah makes clear Israel's folly of turning away from Jehovah to chase after false gods and pagan deities. “Has a nation changed gods When they were not gods? But My people have changed their glory For that which does not profit” (Jeremiah 2:11 NASV). We appreciate the inability of false gods to satisfy the longings of a pagan heart that has never known the true God of heaven—the God who provides living water. But how could the people of God make such a fatal trade? Could we today make the same mistake Israel made? Could we trade the “glory” of Jehovah for some worthless trinket? The false gods of paganism might easily be traded in useless attempts to find solace for a superstitious heart. But heaven was surprised that Israel had made such a trade. And now they were thirsty. They were left with cisterns that could not hold water. They were thirsty but did not know it. Do we?

-via *Stallings Drive Bulletin*; Nacogdoches, Texas.

Remember Our Study Periods

Sunday Mornings at 9:45 a.m.

Wednesday Evenings at 7:00 p.m.

Come Join Us As We Study Together

News & Notes...

THE SICK:

Peggy Smith	Pat Nixon
Jane Meredith	Opal Conn
Doris Lovell	Bobbie Adcock
Patsy Thomas	Gilbert Hardy
Irene Inman	Reba Byram
Linda Jones	Wayne Gooch
Ann Bush	Shaun Carruth
Cynthia Smith	Anna McClung

Those Undergoing Treatments or Chronic Illness:

Jeanette Weir	Ella Melvin
Mot Dollar	Gayle Ball
Janice Cagle	Eli Williams
Gene Carpenter	Betty Hamm
Linda Ordonez	Charles Burns
Annalynn Tegg	Al Pollard
Ray Kennedy	Ava Brooke Campbell
Elizabeth Howard	Ben Hinkle
Phillip Harwell	Una King Currier
Shayna Tollison	Daniel Ogles
Staley Jackson	Anita Willis

In The Hospital:

Matt Poff; Vanderbilt Hospital – Nashville, Tenn.

Athens Rehabilitation & Senior Care:

Mot Beasley, rm. 90	William Thomas, rm. 70
Nelva Reed, rm. 111	Dorothy Draper, rm. 97
Matty Murray, rm. 2	Judith Groce, rm. 10
Valeria Dalton, rm. 7	Grady Tomerlin, rm. 102
Terry Camp, rm. 82	Mildred Frantz, rm. 31
Gayle Mills, rm. 15	Evelyn Hogan, rm. 36
Mable Crafts, rm. 96	Helen Trousdale, rm. 43

Limestone Health Facility:

Doris Claxton, rm. 93
Geneva Davis, rm. 14-E

Limestone Lodge:

Jerry Gilbert, rm. 20W

Limestone Manor:

Mary Ruth Gardner, rm. 86

Shut-In or Away From Home:

Robert Beasley, at home
Hazel Brooks, at home
Gwen Bullock, at granddaughter's in Huntsville
Wynell Casteel, at home

Marjorie Dunnavant, in Huntsville in assisted living
 Carl Hargrave, at granddaughter's home in Hartselle
 Essie Hardison, at home
 Ruby Jean Tinnon, at home

GOSPEL MEETINGS: The *Pleasant Valley church* is beginning a gospel meeting today and it will continue through Wednesday evening. *Brendan Walker* will be the speaker in this meeting... The *Chapman Acres church* in Huntsville is beginning a meeting today and it will continue through Wednesday. *Greg Chandler* will be the speaker in this meeting... The *West Rogersville church* is beginning a meeting today and it will continue through Tuesday evening. There speakers in this meeting will be: *Sunday – David Cox; Monday – Don Miller; Tuesday – Don Lee.*

OUT OF TOWN: *The McLemores: Alvis and Ann* are back home after being out of town town last weekend... *The Coblentz: Tommy and Marcella* have been in Nashville this past week... *Marilyn Bradley* is in Houston, Texas.

NEW QUARTER IN BIBLE CLASSES: This morning we begin a new quater in our Bible classes. I appreciate our teachers and all of the hard work they do in preparing and teaching our classes. If you have not been coming to our classes now would be a great time to begin.

SYMPATHY: We want to extend our deepest sympathy to *Barbara Carter* and all the family in the passing of Barbara sister-in-law, *Faye Allen*. She passed away last Saturday. Her funeral was Monday afternoon at Spry Funeral Home.

RESPONSE: Last Sunday evening *Jocelyn Pepper* came forward asking for prayers for forgiveness and to make a new start in her spiritual life. We appreciate Jocey and her desire to please God. May we all encourage her as she has encouraged us.

WORK GROUPS: *Work Group one* will be meeting this evening after our evening service. If you are in group one, remember to meet with your group.

NURSING HOME SINGING: Remember the singing at the Athens Rehabilitation and Senior Care on Tuesday afternoon at 5:30.

THE RECORD: *Attendance for the week of Mar. 27th*

Sunday:	Bible Classes.....	152
	Morning Worship	232
	Evening Worship.....	120
Wednesday:	Bible Classes.....	128

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, April 3rd:

Morning Worship

Announcements	Marcus Morris
Song Leader	Joel Hamm
Prayer	Dan Reed
Preaching	Lance Taylor
Lord's Supper	
Presiding	Jerry McGlocklin
Assisting	Harvey Nixon
Serving	A. J. Price Heath Dollar
	Landon Adams Marvin Putman
Closing Prayer	James Johnson

Evening Worship

Announcements	Marcus Morris
Song Leader	Tyler Cox
Prayer	Jason Conn
Preaching	Lance Taylor
Lord's Supper	Jerry McGlocklin
Closing Prayer	Jordan Lovell

Other Assignments for Sunday, April 3rd:
 Ushers.....Norman Brown/Marty Adams
 Work Sound System.....Nathaniel Adams

Wednesday, Apeil 6th:

Song Leader	Hunter Cox
Bible Reading.....	(2 Corinthians 6:1-10)
Prayer	Joy Warner
Invitation	Kenneth Adams
Closing Prayer	Steve Usery
	Tommy Burns

Sunday, April 10th:

Morning Worship

Announcements	Terry Andrews
Song Leader	Stefan Fudge
Prayer	Tommy Coblentz
Preaching	David Cox
Lord's Supper	
Presiding	Kenneth Smith
Assisting	Tony Thomas
Serving	Bart Brown..... Marion Mitchell
	Russ Wulfekuhl Dwaine Allfrey
Closing Prayer	Arvid McGuire

Evening Worship

Announcements	Terry Andrews
Song Leader	Hunter Cox
Prayer	Keith Hinkle
Preaching	David Cox
Lord's Supper	Kenneth Smith
Closing Prayer	Mike Ogles

Other Assignments for Sunday, April 10th:
 Ushers.....Seth Todd/Heath Dollar
 Work Sound System.....Landon Adams