

**January 3, 2016
ORDER OF WORSHIP**

Announcements

Danny Shackelford

Song Leader

J C Newby

Scripture Reading

Logan Yancey

Opening Prayer

Michiel Criswell (A.M.) Terry Chapman (P.M.)

Closing Prayer

Blair Chapman (A.M.) Chase Chapman (P.M.)

Lord's Table

Jarvene Shackelford (Presiding),

Jeff Staggs, Jordan Staggs, Tom Wade

Count and Usher

Ricky Cissom

Casey Harris

Prepare Communion

Angela Bridges & Dala Vandygriff

Wednesday Night Song Leader

Jack Harris (01/06/2016)

OUR RECORD

December 27, 2015

Sunday Bible Study: 113

Sunday Morning Worship: 128

Sunday Evening Worship: 107

Wednesday Night Bible Study: 89

Budget: \$3,500

Contribution this week: \$3,953

BULLETIN BY E-MAIL:

Receive bulletin by e-mail notify us:

chapmansecretary@ripleycable.net

Also can view on our website:

chapmanchurch.com

What Must I Do To Be Saved?

1. **Hear** the Gospel (Romans 10:13-17).
2. **Believe** the Gospel (Acts 15:7; Mark 16:15, 16).
3. **Repent** of Sins (Acts 3:19).
4. **Confess** Faith in Christ (Acts 8:37).
5. **Be Baptized** for Remission of Sins (Acts 2:38).
6. **Be Faithful** (Revelation 2:10).

CHAPMAN CHURCH OF CHRIST
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THE CHAPMAN CHALLENGER

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DEACONS: Terry Chapman, Bryan Davis, Rickey Loveless, Brad McAlister, Joel Moore, Wayne Vandygriff, Larry Wood
PREACHER: Mark Lindley

MAKING PLANS FOR THE NEW YEAR Mark Lindley

It is time to make plans for the New Year. With 2016 before us, we should set goals and make plans so that we will have a productive year. Here are some Biblical ideas to guide you as you make plans:

1. Our plans might have to change. While it is important to have specific plans, plans often change. Life happens, and when it does we often have to change with it. Paul wrote, "Wherefore we would have come unto you, even I Paul, once and again; but Satan hindered us" (1 Thessalonians 2:18). This verse indicates that Paul had made plans to visit Thessalonica, but for some reason he had to change his plans. Satan had "hindered" Paul.

Our plans are often "hindered" today by unexpected emergencies, tragedies, and sickness. Recently, many have been impacted by violent storms. These storms left dozens, homeless and injured. Tragically, some died. Within a few short hours, these storms changed the plans of many.

The New Year will likely bring great joy and blessings. However, there could also be devastating trials and burdens. The plans we make might have to change.

If we have to cope with trials which alter our lives, we should know that there is One Who does not change. God has promised, "I am the Lord, I change not" (Malachi 3:6). Whatever challenges may come, the God of heaven has promised that He will sustain His children (Psalm 55:22).

2. Our plans should be spiritual. The rich farmer of Luke chapter 12 had plans for "many years." He had torn down his old barns and built new ones that he might have plenty of room for an abundant harvest. The problem was that, in all his planning, he had left God out of his plans. Believing he had "many years" to live, the man died that night (verses 15-21).

Many of us make plans for traveling, saving money, dieting and exercise. While it is fine to have such plans, we should also have plans for reading God's Word, attending worship services with our families, getting closer to God, developing spiritual character, helping and serving others. In other words, we should have "spiritual" goals, in addition to our secular ones.

3. Our plans should be made to the glory of God. Scripture says, "Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God" (1 Corinthians 10:31). Doing all things to God's glory gives us a sense of purpose for the New Year. Glorifying God should be the chief goal of life. Each day we should live in such a way that we honor Him in all we do.

By incorporating these ideas into our plans for the New Year, we will have a spiritual focus and purpose. Happy New Year!

Limiting God
Charles R. Rose

The 78th Psalm mentions the very serious problem of ungodly people who limited the Holy One of Israel. In Mark 5, we learn that, because of indifference toward Jesus in Nazareth, "There He could do not work..." When sinners "laughed Him to scorn..." (Mark 5:40), Christ determined that He must go to regions that would not resist the truth. One of the saddest scenes in the entire Bible is found in Acts 13:51, where Paul and Barnabas shook the dust of an unfriendly place off their shoes and left because the citizens of that area refused to listen to God's word.

As we consider the actions of those mentioned in Mark 5 and Acts 13, we should also consider our own actions and attitudes as we listen to the Word being preached. Could it be that some of us are like those at Nazareth whose attitude made Jesus move on to Capernaum? Are we guilty of limiting the awesome power of Jehovah because of our neglect and self-pride?

Christ came to give YOU and ME "...life more abundantly..." (John 10:10), but some will not come to Him for that life (John 5:40). To have a lack of faith, a lack of devotion, or a lack of commitment will certainly restrict the blessings that God has promised us. The only life that counts is one that surrenders to the Master (Luke 9:23). Until, and unless, one is ready to "...forsake all that he has..." (Luke 14:33) to follow Jesus, one can never be a true disciple of Jesus Christ. He tells us that loving anyone or anything more than Him causes certain spiritual disaster (Matthew 10:37). We must have the wisdom to empty ourselves of vanity, hypocrisy, and selfishness lest our lives become so shallow that only Satan could use us.

Somewhere along the years, I picked up the following thoughts. I know not who wrote them, but they certainly fit our thoughts for this article.

Let us never limit God by:

1. Failing to pray for wisdom (James 1:5).
2. Ceasing to deeply study the Bible (2 Timothy 2:15).
3. Forgetting to tell others the Gospel story (Mark 16:15-16).
4. Leaning on our own strength (John 15:47).
5. Following the ways of the world (Romans 12:1-2)
6. Trusting in earthly riches and wisdom (Matthew 6:19-20).
7. Forsaking the worship assemblies (Hebrews 10:22-25)
8. Giving less than we should to God's cause (I Corinthians 16:2, II Corinthians 9:6-7)

How Do I Compare to Others?
David Sproule

As we approach the end of one year and the beginning of another, this is often a time of introspection and personal evaluation on numerous levels. As you spend time assessing where you are—financially, relationally, medically, spiritually, etc.—make sure that you are using a proper standard.

Paul addressed this matter in 2 Corinthians 10:12, when he defended himself against false charges that were being made against him and his authority as an apostle. His accusers were ones who were "commending themselves" (i.e., were bragging on themselves), but their standard of evaluation was a faulty standard. Paul stated that "they measure themselves by themselves and compare themselves with themselves," resulting in an inflated opinion of themselves and seeing themselves as doing better than others.

A faulty standard will lead to faulty conclusions. The inspired penman declared that those who compare themselves to others "are not wise" (NKJV) and "are without understanding" (NASB). There is one perfect standard against which we must all measure ourselves—Jesus Christ and His Word! Using any other yardstick is a serious mistake.

Some Christians compare themselves to the world and feel good about themselves. "At least I'm not living like those people anymore or doing the horrible things those people are doing. Compared to them, I'm an angel and doing just fine." A faulty standard will lead to faulty conclusions.

Some Christians compare themselves to "weaker" Christians and feel good about themselves. "I'm not doing much but at least I'm doing more than that sorry excuse for a Christian. I don't see how they think they'll ever make it to heaven. At least I'm doing better than they are." A faulty standard will lead to faulty conclusions.

Some Christians compare themselves to "stronger" Christians and feel bad about themselves. "Look at all they are doing. There is no way I will ever make that much of a difference. I'm embarrassed to even try to do more, as my efforts seem so pitiful." A faulty standard will lead to faulty conclusions.

All Christians should compare themselves to the one standard that never fails, the one standard that remains steadfastly consistent, the one standard that applies universally to all of us in all places for all time. "Imitate Christ" (1 Cor. 11:1). "Follow His steps" (1 Pet. 2:21). "Be conformed to the image of His Son" (Rom. 8:29). Look to His words (John 12:48). Look to His example (John 13:15). As we transition into a new year, spend time in evaluation of where you are spiritually, but make sure that you are using the proper standard.

UPCOMING EVENTS

**HAPPY
NEW
YEAR!**

January 3, 2016

Chapman Singing:

Tippah County Hospital Nursing Home at 2 PM

&

Visitation Group:

Will meet Sunday Night after services
in the Fellowship Hall.

Bring finger food, soups or desserts

LADS TO LEADERS

Registration for Lads To Leaders is completed. Please review your events and make sure it is correct. List is posted on bulletin board by teacher supply room.

If your event is not correct or missing an event - write corrections by your name. If you have any questions, please see Karen Yancey.

Deadline for any changes is January 6th.

PROGRAMS OF WORK

Website: chapmanchurch.com

Articles • Sermons (Audio) • Chapman Challengers

The Bible Broadcast

Sunday Mornings at 8 AM • WKZU radio 104.9 FM

Southern Sentinel Article

Every other Wednesday

Correspondence Course

Study the Bible in your home, at your convenience, by enrolling in a free Bible correspondence course.

To enroll: call (837-7012), write (250 CR 550, Ripley, MS 38663) or e-mail

(chapmansecretary@ripleycable.net).

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

IN LOVE AND SYMPATHY: Our hearts go out in deepest sympathy to the family and friends of who lost loved ones during the storms last week.

•**SICK SUNDAY:** Josephine Chapman, Juanita Micheal, Amy Staggs, Rhonda Newby, Janie Jumper, Candace Hopper

•**IN HOSPITAL:** Louise Pannell (Mother of Sharon Pannell)

•**HOME RECOVERING :**Sandy Newby

•**HAVING TEST:** Robin Chapman, Juanita Micheal

•**EXTENDED ILLNESS:** Connie Mauney, Shelby Cissom, Erik Longoria, Randall Hancock (Liver & Kidney Transplant - Dawn Stroupe's Father), Taylor Crawford, Genice Collette (Mildred Shackelford's Sister), Tony Morrison, Terry Jumper (myasthenia gravis), Brandon King, Jane Bates, Lylah McGauhy, Fagin and Johnnie Carpenter, Sandra & Niles Jones, Thad Berryman.

•**CANCER:** Grady Chandler, Lorie Christian, Deborah Gullick (Mother of Stephanie McAlister, Bo & Brian Chapman), Doug Pannell, Don Allen Riggs (19, student at FU from El Paso, TX), has stage 3 cancer. Cards may be sent to Target House 1, 1811 Poplar Ave, Apt. 211, Memphis, TN 38104), Sam Camp, Sam Warrington (cystic fibrosis & leukemia), Rodney Hilliard, Bob Shelton, Sue Mauney, Wade Hodges, Jennifer Pannell (Niece of Sharon Pannell), Merida Bane (Barrett & Starrett Chapman's Sister), Katherine Finley, Kane Pannell, Ann Bennett, Danny Edmonds, Dean McNutt, John Reno, Ruth Greer, Margie James.

•**SHUT-INS: Resthaven:** Oleta Phillips (*Mailing: Resthaven Care Center, 103 Cunningham Drive, Ripley, MS 38663*), Tippah County Hospital Nursing Home: Bonnie Chapman, Lorene Willis, Lorene Daily, Christine Chapman, Pauline McBryde (Rita Smith's Grandmother) (*Mailing: Tippah County Nursing Home, 1005 City Avenue North, Ripley, MS 38663*).