

**May 24, 2015  
ORDER OF WORSHIP**

**Announcements**

Brad McAlister

**Song Leader**

Chris Moore

**Scripture Reading**

Kevin Shackelford

**Opening Prayer**

Ricky Cissom (A.M.) Blair Chapman (P.M.)

**Closing Prayer**

Tommy Wade (A.M.) J C Newby (P.M.)

**Lord's Table**

Barrett Chapman (Presiding),

Mason McAlister, Brock Lindley, Casey Harris

**Count and Usher**

Andy Reese

Logan Yancey

**Prepare Communion**

Jill and Hannah Loveless

**Wednesday Night Song Leader**

Jodie Criswell (05/27/15)

**OUR RECORD**

**May 17, 2015**

Sunday Bible Study: 128

Sunday Morning Worship: 118

Sunday Evening Worship: 106

Wednesday Night Bible Study: 112

Budget: \$3,500

Contribution this week: \$4,127

**BULLETIN BY E-MAIL:**

Receive bulletin by e-mail notify us:

[chapmansecretary@ripleycable.net](mailto:chapmansecretary@ripleycable.net)

Also can view on our website:

[chapmanchurch.com](http://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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RIPLEY, MS 38663  
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# THE CHAPMAN CHALLENGER

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[chapmanchurch.com](http://chapmanchurch.com)

**ELDERS:** Barrett Chapman, Jodie Criswell,  
Jarvene Shackelford, Tommy Wade  
**DEACONS:** Terry Chapman, Bryan Davis,  
Rickey Loveless, Brad McAlister,  
Joel Moore, Wayne Vandygriff, Larry Wood  
**PREACHER:** Mark Lindley

## MOTHERS, THE LORD, AND BASEBALL Mark Lindley

It is my good fortune in life to be blessed with a faithful Christian mother. My mother has blessed my life in more ways than I can count. Without her influence and godly example, I might not be a Christian or have a Christian family of my own. I will be forever grateful for the impact my mother has had on my life.

If you have been blessed with a Christian mother, I am certain you share these same sentiments. There is no doubt that heaven will be populated with people whose lives have been shaped by the influence of godly mothers, and we should never take our mothers for granted.

Mother's Day is a great opportunity to pause and express gratitude for our mothers. Mother's Day of the year 2015 is now history, but I am certain that many people who will read this article stopped to thank God for their mothers, and rightfully so.

There is another day that is very special: the Lord's Day. John, an apostle of Christ, wrote, "I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day" (Revelation 1:10). I am persuaded that the Lord's Day is the "first day of the week," the day that Christ arose from the grave and the day on which early Christians met for worship (Luke 24:1; Acts 20:7; I Corinthians 16:1-2). As in the days of the first century, Christians still assemble on Sunday to worship the Lord in spirit and in truth (John 4:24).

It was interesting to observe that on Mother's Day (Sunday, May 10) there were not as many baseball tournaments held. This is interesting because, normally, Sunday is a very busy day of baseball tournaments.

When I was a child, the thought of having a baseball tournament at 10:00 Sunday morning would never have entered the minds of those who organize tournaments. However, that has obviously changed.

At the risk of sounding judgmental, I ask, what does it say about our priorities when we refuse to play baseball on Mother's Day or some other holiday, but readily play each Lord's Day? Did Jesus not warn, "He that loveth father or mother more than me is not worthy of me"? (Matthew 10:37). Did He not admonish: "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you"? (Matthew 6:33).

I am not condemning all Sunday baseball; I am simply challenging us to think about our priorities. I truly believe it is high time that we do so. Don't you?

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## Do You Want Big Numbers?

By: Rick Tincher

How do you grow Church numbers?

I cannot imagine a congregation of the Lord's people who would not want their numbers to increase. In the book of Acts we find growth. "Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls." (Acts 2:41) "Praising God, and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved." (Acts 2:47) "And believers were the more added to the Lord, multitudes both of men and women." (Acts 5:14) It seems clear to me that the early church grew, and I believe there are some fundamental reasons why.

1. Starting in Acts, chapter two, the apostles preached the gospel. Paul stated it best in Romans 1:16, "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek".

2. The gospel they preached was without compromise. Paul told young Timothy to preach "in season, out of season" (2 Timothy 4:2). This simply means to preach the truth without fear or favor. The gospel they preached was Christ – centered. These New Testament preachers were not self – promoters. The church at Corinth had a problem understanding the difference between the preacher and the message of Christ. Paul wrote to them concerning this in First Corinthians: "Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you; but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment. For it hath been declared unto me of you, my brethren, by them which are of the house of Chloe, that there are contentions among you. Now this I say, that every one of you saith, I am of Paul; and I of Apollos; and I of Cephas; and I of Christ. Is Christ divided? was Paul crucified for you? or were ye baptized in the name of Paul?"

I thank God that I baptized none of you, but Crispus and Gaius; Lest any should say that I baptized in mine own name." (1 Corinthians 1:10 – 15). Paul was not worried about how many people he had baptized. He saw the difference in promoting Christ and promoting himself.

There are other ways to increase your numbers, but they certainly would not be legitimate.

1. You could go the entertainment route. The main problem with this approach is that we simply have no authority to do it. I am sure we could have bigger crowds if we were to have plays, music shows, and such, but, typically, when the "fun and games" are gone, so are the people.

2. You could soften the preaching, but, this, too, is not in accordance with God's plan.

3. You could campaign for members from other congregations, but this is unethical, unfair, and only gives the illusion of growth, not true growth. We find none of this type of growth in the New Testament church.

4. You could adopt an "open – door policy." This could be carried out by accepting people without expecting true conversion. Some churches will accept people without regard for the words of our Lord in Luke 13:3: "I tell you, Nay: but, except you repent, ye shall all likewise perish." You could take into your membership a couple in an unscriptural marriage, but this would violate Matthew 19:9.

I love the Lord's Church and want to see growth, but not for my own ego. I simply want to preach the word and let God give the increase rather than doing unscriptural and unethical things to draw big crowds.

### WEDDING:

*Congratulations and best wishes!*

*Kristen Bridges and Devin McVey married*

*Saturday, May 2, 2015.*

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### CHAPMAN LADIES BIBLE CLASS

May 21, 2015

At 6:30 PM

Featured speakers are Hannah Rodgers, daughter of Phylis & Rickey, Catherine Grisham daughter of Beverly and Jason, Emma Hall daughter of Allison and Nathan Hall

### MARK'S SUNDAY EVENING

BIBLE CLASS - 4:30 PM

### 5th Sunday - May 31, 2015

Fellowship meal (potluck) after morning service. Evening service at 1:30 p.m conducted by Chapman young men.

### LADS TO LEADERS AWARDS

May 31, 2015

Immediately After 1:30 PM Services - Fellowship Hall

Awards

Scripture Scavenger Hunt

Pizza

Everyone is invited to stay!!!!

### OLIVIA GRIFFIN & CHASE CHAPMAN

BRIDAL SHOWER

JUNE 7, 2015

Come and Go - 2:00 - 3:30 PM

Registered: Gift of Gab/Pineapple Shop/Belk Colors: Neutral

### PROGRAMS OF WORK

Website: [chapmanchurch.com](http://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

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([chapmansecretary@ripleycable.net](mailto:chapmansecretary@ripleycable.net)).

## REMEMBER IN PRAYER

•**SICK SUNDAY:** Bobbie Chapman, Everett Hurt

•**IN HOSPITAL:** Deborah Gullick (Tippah County Hospital/Rehab)

•**SURGERY:** Charley Shackelford (June 1st)

•**MILITARY:** David Spires

•**EXTENDED ILLNESS:**

Taylor Crawford, Genice Collette (Mildred Shackelford's Sister), Terry Jumper (myasthenia gravis), Renae Koon, Brandon King, Jane Bates, Lylah McGauhy, Fagin and Johnnie Carpenter, Sandra & Niles Jones, Thad Berryman, Christopher Pruitt.

•**CANCER:** Deborah Gullick (Mother of Stephanie McAlister, Bo & Brian Chapman), Don Allen Riggs, Sam Warrington (cystic fibrosis & leukemia), Rodney Hilliard, Eva Crawford, Elaine Mauney, Bob Shelton, Sue Mauney, Wade Hodges, Jennifer Pannell (Niece of Sharon Pannell), Grey Roberson, Merida Bane (Barrett & Starrett Chapman's Sister), Donna Daniel (Clint Stroupe's Mother), Katherine Finley, Kane Pannell, Ann Bennett, John Tiesney, Danny Edmonds, Dean McNutt, John Reno, Ruth Greer

•**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, Geraldine Benefield, Christine Chapman, Pauline McBryde (Rita Smith's Grandmother) (Mailing: Tippah County Nursing Home, 1005 City Avenue North, Ripley, MS 38663)

\*Please notify Karen Yancey ([chapmansecretary@ripleycable.net](mailto:chapmansecretary@ripleycable.net)) of any updates to the prayer list.