

**August 23, 2015
ORDER OF WORSHIP**

Announcements

Kevin Shackelford

Song Leader

Johnny Cissom

Scripture Reading

Evan Yancey

Opening Prayer

Tommy Wade (A.M.) Randell Koon (P.M.)

Closing Prayer

Jodie Criswell (A.M.) Kieth Newby (P.M.)

Lord's Table

Jarvene Shackelford (Presiding),

Tom Wade, Gene Yancey, Jack Harris

Count and Usher

David Smith

Rickey Loveless

Prepare Communion

Robin Chapman & Molly Moore

Wednesday Night Song Leader

Eli Carter (08/26/15)

OUR RECORD

August 16, 2015

Sunday Bible Study: 119

Sunday Morning Worship: 129

Sunday Evening Worship: 190

Wednesday Night Bible Study: 98

Budget: \$3,500

Contribution this week: \$3,669

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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RIPLEY, MS 38663
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THE CHAPMAN CHALLENGER

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(662) 837-7012
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

HOW JESUS TREATED SINNERS

Mark Lindley

Jesus set for us a perfect example to follow. Peter wrote, "For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps" (I Peter 2:21). By examining how Jesus treated sinners, we can learn how we should interact with sinners today.

Jesus was sometimes criticized for the way He interacted with sinners. On the occasion of Matthew chapter 9, Jesus sat down to eat with publican and sinners. When the scribes and Pharisees saw it, they murmured and asked the disciples, "Why eateth your Master with publicans and sinners" (Matthew 9:11)?

Jesus responded, saying, "They that be whole need not a physician, but they that are sick" (Matthew 9:12). Essentially, Jesus said to the criticizers, "Sick people need a doctor." The publicans and sinners were spiritually sick. They were "sick" with sin and needed a physician, a cure for their sickness. Jesus, the Great Physician, came to provide a remedy for people who were sin-sick (John 3:17). How did Jesus respond to the publicans and sinners? He responded with love and compassion.

One day, as Jesus was teaching in the temple, a woman was brought to Him, who according to her accusers was taken in the "very act" of adultery (John 8:4). After having a confrontation with the accusers who brought the woman to Jesus, the Savior said to the woman, "Neither do I condemn thee: go, and sin no more" (John 8:11). Jesus did not ignore the woman's sin; rather, He acknowledged her sin. He said go and "sin" no more. He pointed out her sin, but He also forgave her sin. He did not "cast a stone" at her. He extended mercy.

There are many other examples in the Scriptures in which we find Jesus treating sinners with love, respect, compassion, and forgiveness. This is certainly the attitude that Christians should have toward sinners today.

No person should feel self-righteous or spiritually-superior to others. The fact is that "all have sinned and come short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23). The one who is a Christian who serves the Lord faithfully has no reason to boast or brag because without God's grace we would all be lost, hell-bound.

The most highly-esteemed, dedicated, respected Christian man or woman you know is simply a sinner indebted to God and His grace. We all would have an "F" on our spiritual report cards, were it not for God's willingness to forgive.

Let us never feel prideful, haughty, or spiritually superior to others. Rather, let us show love, mercy, and compassion to those who feel hopeless and lost.

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Don't Follow Your Heart Jonathan Stanley

Several years ago, a friend of mine posted on her Facebook page "Don't follow your heart. Jeremiah 17:9". I had to look up that verse to see what it said. It had never really stood out to me before, but when preceded by the phrase "don't follow your heart" I stopped to consider it a little more. For years our society has told people to "follow your heart." When teenagers are deciding what they want to do when they graduate or what they want to major in, they are told to "follow their heart". When someone is in a relationship that they are uncertain of, their friends tell them to "follow their heart." And regarding almost any other decision in life someone has probably advised someone else to "follow their heart." It sounds like great advice. "Follow your heart, and it will lead you to happiness." Our society has become focused on doing "what makes me happy" and living for self rather than for others and certainly not for God. Of course, following one's heart may not always lead to selfish living, but it often does. It demands a person to do what is right in their own eyes. Let's consider what God's Word says about "following our hearts":
Jeremiah 17:9 says "The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked; who can know it?" In this often overlooked verse, the prophet Jeremiah states simply the problem with relying on one's heart for direction. It can lead you astray! Not only can one's heart desire wickedness, but it can deceive the person into believing they are doing what is best. Consider those who advocate abortions for those who are living in poverty. They reason that it is better not to raise a child in those conditions, but that reasoning does not change evil to good!

Genesis 6:5 says "Then the Lord saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually". At this point in history, people had been following their hearts. But their hearts led them astray to the point that God decided to destroy the earth by a flood and only save those few who were found righteous. What great destruction the heart can lead people to! After the flood, when only the righteous few remained, the Lord still recognized that evil would exist in people's hearts. Genesis 8:21 says "And the Lord smelled a soothing aroma. Then the Lord said in His heart, 'I will never again curse the ground for man's sake, although the imagination of man's heart is evil from his youth; nor will I ever again destroy every living thing as I have done.'" Psalms 14:1a tells us "The fool has said in his heart, 'There is no God.'" This verse clearly shows that a person's heart can lead them to disbelief. Following the heart could potentially lead someone away from the only source of salvation!

Psalms 51:10 says "Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me." Here, by virtue of David asking for a clean heart, we can know that it is possible to have a corrupt heart. A corrupt heart should not be followed.

Ezekiel 36:26 says "I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh". The Lord tells us through the prophet here that it is possible to have a heart of stone that needs replacing. Why would a new heart be needed if the old heart was trustworthy?

We should always look to God's Word for guidance rather than relying on our own desires. Solomon tells us in Proverbs 14:12 "There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death." Our hearts can certainly lead us astray. If the heart is "deceitful", "wicked", "evil", and "can't be known" then who but a fool would want to rely on it for direction?

UPCOMING EVENTS

Special Thanks to all that helped make our Area Wide Youth Devotional great.
Thanks to everyone who attended, invited and prepared food.
We had 190 attend. Great job!

CHAPMAN ICE CREAM SUPPER

August 23, 2015

After Evening Services

Chapman will have their Ice Cream Supper! Bring your favorite homemade ice cream!

CHAPMAN 5TH SUNDAY:

August 30th

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

Youth Skating - 4:00 to 6:00PM

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

•**SICK SUNDAY:** Tony Morrison

•**IN HOSPITAL:** Connie Mauney(Tupelo), Geneva Oliver (Red Bay, AL - Rehab. - Car Accident - Brent Townsend's Grandmother), Shelby Cissom (Memphis - Four Wheeler Accident), Bettye Melton (Partial Knee Replacement) - Corinth

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

•**CANCER:** Deborah Gullick (Mother of Stephanie McAlister, Bo & Brian Chapman), Don Allen Riggs, Sam Camp, 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), Katherine Finley, Kane Pannell, Ann Bennett, John Tiesney, 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*).