

**November 29, 2015  
ORDER OF WORSHIP**

**Announcements**

Randell Koon

**Song Leader**

Chris Moore

**Scripture Reading**

Jeff Brewer

**Opening Prayer**

Dalton Beard (A.M.) Young Men (P.M.)

**Closing Prayer**

Wayne Vandygriff (A.M.) Young Men (P.M.)

**Lord's Table**

Blair Chapman (Presiding),

Michiel Criswell, Casey Harris, Rickey Loveless

**Count and Usher**

Ricky Cissom

John Hopper

**Prepare Communion**

Karen Yancey & Kelly Brewer

**Wednesday Night Song Leader**

Brock Lindley (12/02/15)

**OUR RECORD**

**November 22, 2015**

Sunday Bible Study: 126

Sunday Morning Worship: 152

Sunday Evening Worship: 105

Wednesday Night Bible Study: 104

Budget: \$3,500

Contribution this week: \$3,904

**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  
250 COUNTY ROAD 550  
RIPLEY, MS 38663  
Address Service Requested

# THE CHAPMAN CHALLENGER

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Ripley, Mississippi  
(662) 837-7012  
[chapmanchurch.com](http://chapmanchurch.com)

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

## Thanksgiving and the Giving of Thanks by Gene Taylor

Even though we do not observe Thanksgiving as a holy day or a religious holiday, it is a time when most Americans are thankful for the blessings they have received.

Such an expression of gratitude is proper. But rather than expressing it just one day each year, we ought to be thankful every day. We receive blessings on a daily basis, therefore we should be thankful daily. In the model prayer of the Sermon on the Mount in Matthew 6:11, Jesus taught us to pray to God so that He might, "Give us this day our daily bread." 1 Timothy 4:3 states that God created foods which are "to be received with thanksgiving." Verse four continues the thought by saying, "For every creature of God is good, and nothing is to be refused if it is received with thanksgiving."

Our thanksgiving should be directed to God for the blessings we have because He is the source of all good things. "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning" (James 1:17). "God, who made the world and everything in it, since He is Lord of heaven and earth, does not dwell in temples made with hands. Nor is He worshiped with men's hands, as though He needed anything, since He gives to all life, breath, and all things" (Acts 17:24-25). Many of the people who will be thankful on Thanksgiving Day, will fail to be thankful to God. Since "all things" we receive are from God, we should thank Him for all things -- all the physical blessings and privileges we enjoy.

After Jesus had cleansed ten lepers, only one of them thanked Him for it. Jesus asked, "Were there not ten cleansed? But where are the nine? Were there not any found who returned to give glory to God except this foreigner?" (Luke 17:17-18). Those who receive blessings from God, must be thankful to Him.

Christians ought to be even more expressive and fervent in their expressions of thanksgiving to God because not only are they blessed with those material blessings that sustain physical life but also receive all spiritual blessings in Christ (Eph. 1:3) which sustain them spiritually and enable them to overcome sin and death in order to live eternally.

Those spiritual blessings, if you are not receiving them now, are available to you if you will submit to the gospel for the salvation of your soul. There is no better way to show gratitude to God for that which He has graciously given to us than by living in submission to His will, loving, acknowledging, and thanking Him as obedient children. Thanksgiving Day, and every day, let us give thanks to God.

**Give Thanks!**  
by Daniel L. Holloway

These days, we hear much about our country's economic woes. And we do not have to look far to find that society is beset with plenty of other problems. Of course, each individual has his own personal difficulties as well. To make sure that we feel sufficiently miserable, we are often given to counting our many troubles. If this is our attitude, there is a lesson which we are in need of from God's word.

From Ephesians 5:20, we learn that we are to give "thanks always for all things in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to God, even the Father." However, I fear that, too often, we take our blessings for granted. We may even feel that we have earned them, that they are ours solely because of our own efforts. We must guard against such an attitude. The truth is that "every good gift and every perfect gift is from above and cometh down from the Father of lights" (James 1:17). Although we may labor to get something, it is still from God in that He makes it possible to obtain it. As Paul and Barnabas told the people of Lystra, "...he did good, and gave us rain from heaven, and fruitful seasons filling our hearts with food and gladness" (Acts 14:17). Paul said of the church in Corinth, "I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase" (I Corinthians 3:6).

Not only does God provide us with material blessings, but our very existence is dependent upon Him. Paul declared to the Athenians, "...in him we live, and move, and have our being..." (Acts 17:28). Rather than feeling that God has cheated us if we do not receive something that we want, we should be thankful for what we have. "Come now, ye that say, today or tomorrow we will go into this city, and spend a year there, and trade, and get gain: whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. What is your life? For ye are a vapor that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away. For that ye ought to say, If the Lord will, we shall both live, and do this or that" (James 4:13-15).

Also, we ought to be thankful for the spiritual blessings which God offers. From Ephesians 1:3, we learn that God blesses with all spiritual blessings in Christ. We do not earn these blessings either. Paul explains, "...for by grace have ye been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not of works, that no man should glory" (Ephesians 2:8,9).

However, there is a significant difference between the way in which God bestows material blessings and the way in which He bestows spiritual blessings. We may receive material blessings whether we want them or not and without meeting any conditions for them. As Christ said, "...he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sendeth rain on the just and the unjust" (Matthew 5:45). But spiritual blessings are not poured out on us whether we want them or not. They must be accepted. After preaching to the Jews of Antioch in Pisidia, Paul and Barnabas told them that they were putting the word of God from them and judging themselves unworthy of everlasting life (Acts 13:46). This shows that we can reject the spiritual blessings that are in Christ. On the other hand, Jesus said, "If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him" (John 14:23). We should be thankful that He has given us the terms which must be followed to receive His spiritual blessings: we must believe on Him (John 8:24), repent of our sins (Luke 13:3,5), confess our faith (Matthew 10:32), and be baptized (Mark 16:16).

As Paul wrote, we ought to be "rooted and builded up" in Christ, "established" in the faith, "abounding in thanksgiving" (Colossians 2:7). But how can we be thankful for the spiritual blessings if we have not accepted them? The spiritual things are much more important than the material things which we prize so highly. That which is material shall pass away with time, but that which is spiritual will never fail (Matthew 6:19,20; II Corinthians 4:16-18; Matthew 16:26). We ought to be thankful for our material blessings because they truly are blessings. We ought to be thankful for our lives. And we ought to obey our God that we might receive the spiritual blessings, and be thankful!

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### 5th Sunday - November 29, 2015

Fellowship meal (Soups, Sandwiches, Chips/Dips) after morning service. Evening service at 1:30 p.m. conducted by Chapman young men.

### December 6, 2015

**Chapman Singing:**  
Tippah County Hospital  
Nursing Home at 2 PM

**Visitation Group:**  
Will not meet



#### 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:** Tony Morrison

•**IN HOSPITAL:** Taylor Crawford (Atlanta/Heart Transplant), Larry Kennedy (Kidney Transplant)

•**HOME RECOVERING :**Sandy Newby

•**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:** Lorie Christian, Yater Shinall, 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), Grey Roberson, 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*).