

January 1, 2023

Announcements
Jarvene Shackelford

Song Leader
Logan Yancey

Scripture Reading
Eli Carter

Opening Prayer
Bobby Bridges (A.M.)
Chase Chapman (P.M.)

Closing Prayer
Rickey Cissom (A.M.)
James Pilgrim (P.M.)

Lord's Table
Terry Chapman

Count and Usher
Dale & Jimmy Vandygriff

Wednesday Night Song Leader
Tripp Yancey (1/04/23)

OUR RECORD

December 25, 2022

Sunday Bible Study: 89
Sunday Morning Worship: 107
Sunday Evening Worship: 68
Wednesday Night Bible Study: 78

BULLETIN BY E-MAIL

Receive bulletin by e-mail notify us:
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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
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THE CHAPMAN CHALLENGER

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

THREE BIBLICAL NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS Mark Lindley

It is time again to make New Year's resolutions. Our lives will be blessed in 2023 as we keep these three biblical resolutions.

Lose weight. After eating all those holiday season meals, many people resolve to start the New Year off by losing a few pounds. While losing weight may improve one's health, the Bible speaks of losing "weight" that will improve one's spiritual well-being. Consider Hebrews 12:1: "Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, **let us lay aside every weight**, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us."

In this passage, the Christian life is depicted as a race. One who is running in a foot-race would not want any extra weight that might hinder his performance. Likewise, the Christian who is running the Christian race must lay aside anything that might hinder his progress for the Lord. Even good wholesome things can become "weights" that hinder one from living the Christian life. A job, recreational activities, pursuing an education, the love of money, or some sin may become a "weight" in our lives.

Exercise. "But refuse profane and old wives' fables, and **exercise thyself rather unto godliness**. For **bodily exercise profiteth little**: but godliness is profitable unto all things, having promise of the life that now is, and of that which is to come" (1 Timothy 4:7-8). A regular exercise routine profits the body a "little," but a spiritual workout in godly living will profit your soul, your family, your friends, and your work associates.

Save Money. Having blown the budget during the Christmas season, many of us will resolve to spend less and save more as we begin the New Year. This will surely put dollars in the bank, but the Lord spoke about how we can deposit money in heaven: "But **lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven**, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also" (Matthew 6:20-21). To the rich young ruler Jesus said, "If thou wilt be perfect, go and sell that thou hast, and **give** to the poor, **and thou shalt have treasure in heaven**: and come and follow me" (Matthew 19:21). By giving to the Lord's cause and to those who are in need, we actually "save" ("lay up") treasures in heaven. It would be impossible for us to out-give the Lord. He has richly blessed our lives, and we should give back to Him.

When One Member Suffers David R. Pharr

When a Christian suffers serious physical illness, it becomes a concern of the spiritual body, the church. "*And whether one member suffer, all the members suffer with it*" (I Corinthians 12:26). Visiting the sick is a concern for those who would please Christ (Matt. 25:36, 43). We understand this visit as more than merely a social call. When necessary it would include the kind of care shown by the Good Samaritan, who applied medication and bandages, and even the money for further care (Luke 10:34-35).

Even the menial ministry of washing feet would be in order if such could ease suffering and give comfort (John 13:14). It is a visit to serve and encourage. We have a special concern for those that are of the household of faith (Gal. 6:10). What is the duty of the church toward brothers and sisters who are coping with serious illnesses? What is the responsibility of the elders?

James gave specific instructions regarding elders and the sick. "*Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord: and the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him*" (James 5:14-15). This pertained to the age of miracles and does not apply completely to our own situation. Still, there is a principle that applies always.

Anointing with oil was sometimes connected with miracles of healing (Mark 6:13). There is no reason for today's elders to anoint with oil unless it is simply for physical relief, and such a circumstance would be rare today. James promised that elders' prayers for the sick would result in healing. He did not say perhaps, nor did he say in some cases, but that healing would be an unailing result. We know, however, that in New Testament times prayer did not always bring healing (II Cor. 12:7-9). What James enjoins, therefore, seems to have had a special application in confirming the inspiration of his epistle. This was the purpose of miracles (Heb. 2:4; Mark 16:20). James' readers could be assured that his letter was inspired when its promises that the sick would be healed were unailingly fulfilled. If this was the case, the elders involved had been given the spiritual gift of healing (I Cor. 12:9; Acts 8:17).

While modern elders do not have the gift of healing and while it would be pointless to ceremonially anoint with oil, it is very much their place to pray with and for the sick.

Christians can pray for themselves, but even the apostles sought the prayers of others (I Thess. 5:25; et.al). That the age of miracles is past does not mean that God does not answer prayers for healing. In the same chapter James assured that "*the effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much*" and then cited the prayer of Elijah as an example of prayer answered without a miracle (James 5:16ff). God is able to heal even beyond our estimations (Eph. 3:20). Our prayers must be according to his will (I John 5:14), but this does not mean that we should not pour out our true feelings and desires. We have known some sincere folk who thought we ought not to pray for the recovery of one diagnosed as terminal. But neither we nor the doctors know what the Lord may be willing to do. There may be more distress than comfort for one who realizes we avoided praying for his recovery.

Critical illness brings sorrow and anxiety. Prayer is the antidote (Phil. 4:6-7). We might compare the scene at Miletus when Paul was about to leave the Ephesian elders. Separation, not sickness, was the cause for sorrow. Still, the distress was just as real. It was a time for prayer, and Paul "*kneeled down and prayed for them all*" (Acts 20:36-38). In our culture most health care is provided by professionals. There are, however, many ways that the church family may be able to help. Deacons may be assigned particular responsibilities, but it is the place of the overseers to guide the congregation's ministry and resources. Is there a need for transportation? for food? for money? Is someone needed to sit with the patient? Do relatives need housing? Could the church provide a hospital bed for the home, or a wheelchair? Would flowers give encouragement? How can the patient's condition and needs be communicated to the congregation? Of special concern are the spiritual needs of the patient and his family. Some of the admonitions in Romans 12 seem especially applicable for how the church copes with serious afflictions within the membership. "*He that showeth mercy, with cheerfulness*" (v. 8). Care givers should do it with joy in serving and seek to give cheer to the sufferer. "*Rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulations; continuing instant in prayer*" (v. 12). When the condition appears to be terminal, our eternal hope becomes more precious and this is a confidence to be shared. "*Distributing to the necessity of saints*" (v. 13). Few things are more likely to call for financial assistance than critical family illness. "*Given to hospitality*" (v. 13). Meals, lodging, transportation, patient sitting and many like things can be forms of hospitality. "*Rejoice with them that do rejoice, and weep with them that weep*" (v. 15). Brotherhood means feeling the feelings of others.

UPCOMING

SERVICES New Year's Day *Regular Service Times*

LADIES WEDNESDAY BIBLE CLASS

Wednesday, January 4th
Topic of Study: "Fear in 2023"
7:00 PM

Location: Vacant Classroom with sign
This class will last six months allowing all
that teach children classes to have an
opportunity to attend.

ALL AGES OF LADIES
ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND

PROGRAMS OF WORK

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REMEMBER IN PRAYER

IN LOVE AND SYMPATHY: Our hearts go out in deepest sympathy to the family and friends of Peggy Jones and Shelia Kuykendall.

SICK SUNDAY: Bobbie Chapman, James & Sammie Pilgrim, Gerohn Childs, Stephanie McAlister

HOSPITAL: Jodie Criswell (TCH), Ralph Shaw (Janie Chapman's Son-in-law, Address: Room 442 West, Methodist Le Bonheur Germantown Hospital, 7691 Poplar Avenue, Germantown, TN 38138)

•**EXTENDED ILLNESS:** Theo Smith, Joe Clark, Louise Pannell (Sharon's Mother), Malone Hurt, Gerohn Childs, Junior Derrick, Jane Morrison, George Doss, Joanie Kate Reese, Thad Berryman

•**CANCER:** Ralph Shaw (Janie Chapman's Son-in-law), Haley Loveless, Sidra Davis, Trish Clark, Lennox Kennamore (Leukemia), Johnnie Carpenter, Kevin Clifton, Austin Wentz, Steve Barnes (Mickey & Gail Chandler's Son-in-law), Betty Faye Ledbury,

•**SHUT-INS:** *Tippah County Health & Rehab:* Romia Palmer #204, Jimmy Berryman, Peggy Davis *Resthaven:* Johnnie Carpenter

**Sermons available
on Facebook and YouTube**

TEXT ALERTS

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Chapman's Text Alerts.