

January 3, 2021
ORDER OF WORSHIP

Announcements
Danny Shackelford

Sunday Song Leader
Brad McAlister

Wednesday Song Leader
Brice Lindley

Scripture Reading
Eli Carter

Opening Prayer
Bryan Davis (AM)
Kevin Shackelford (PM)

Closing Prayer
Chase Chapman (AM)
Larry Wood (PM)

Count and Usher
Bobby Bridges & Ricky Loveless

Communion
Britt Lindley

Pick Up Communion when entering

OUR RECORD

December 27, 2020

Sunday Bible Study: NA
Sunday Morning Worship: 93
Sunday Evening Worship: 91
Wednesday Night Bible Study: 58
Budget: \$3,500
Contribution this week: NA

Chapman Challenger

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CHAPMAN CHURCH OF CHRIST
250 COUNTY ROAD 550
RIPLEY, MS 38663

THE CHAPMAN CHALLENGER

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Ripley, Mississippi
(662) 837-7012
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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

THE ASSEMBLING No. 1
James Pilgrim

Matthew 16:13-19 is a promise by Jesus. He said, "I will build my church." (Verse 18). It is rightly called the church of Christ because He built it, and it belongs to him, wearing His name. Two or more churches are called, "The churches of Christ." (Romans 16:16). If you built or bought a house, would you use another person's name to describe it? The "church" (Acts 2:47) or "churches" (1 Corinthians 16:1) belong to "Christ" and "God" (Matthew 16:18; 1 Corinthians 1:2; 2 Corinthians 1:1), and should only wear the names They give. (Cf. Isaiah 62:1, 2).

The word "church", Greek, EKKLESIA, means, "A gathering of citizens called out from their homes to some public place; an assembly." (Thayer's Greek-English Lexicon, Pages 195, 196). Think of this definition in conjunction with God's plan for the church. For example, the church was to "come together" to observe the Lord's Supper. (1 Corinthians 11:17). Verse 18 shows that they came together, although incorrectly. Verse 20 teaches us that they came together "into one place", not separate and apart. Acts 20:7 informs the reader that the called out, the church at Troas, assembled weekly to remember the Lord's death, the shedding of His blood for the remission of the sins of the world. (1 Corinthians 10:16; Matthew 26:26-29).

The Hebrew writer said, "Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much more, as ye see the day approaching." (Hebrews 10:25). This verse tells us that (1) there was an assembling; (2) where Christians were to come together, assemble; (3) that some were forsaking that assembling, neglecting to assemble; (4) that those who were neglecting that assembling should "not" fail to assemble; and (5) that Christians should exhort one another, by implication, be faithful, provoking one another to love and good works (Verses 23, 24), a part of which was to assemble and encourage others to assemble, come together, upon the first day of every week.

Forsaking the assembling is as sinful as failure to obey the gospel (Romans 10:16; John 8:24; Luke 13:3, 5; Matthew 10:32, 33; Mark 16:16), and live faithfully (1 Corinthians 15:58; Mark 13:13), a part of which is the assembling.

Jesus built His Church to deliver us from the power of darkness so He could translate us into the kingdom (Church) of His dear Son. (Matthew 16:13-19). He expects us to “come together” to worship Him, as did those who were converted on Pentecost. (Acts 2:42; Ephesians 5:19). In other words, Jesus called us out to come together. Let’s be faithful to obey Him!

MY CAT AND I (AND YOU) James Pilgrim

Last Sunday morning, as is true each Sunday morning, Sammie turned the television on to “In Search of the Lord’s Way” with Phil Sanders. Our black cat lay down beside me almost motionless. The thirty-minute program ended, and the channel was changed to hear “Bible Talk” with Kaleb Hall, another thirty-minute program. Again, the cat lay still. The television was turned off at 8:00 A. M. It was time to hear “The Bible Broadcast” with Mark Lindley, Chapman’s highly esteemed and well-versed preacher on WKZU, 104.9 FM. Again, the cat lay still, looking like it was taking in every word. Following a shower, breakfast, and getting ready for Bible study and worship, the Pilgrims turned the TV on again to catch “Dayspring” with James Segars. Someone might ask, “What does the cat have to do with any of this?” Read on.

The cat heard every word the Pilgrims heard. However, the cat may have been similar to many who heard one or more of the programs mentioned. They may have heard but did not hear.

They may have been like those whom Paul addressed in Acts 28:25-27. Paul, quoting Isaiah’s words given him by the Holy Spirit, told some Jews of his day that they were like their fathers, hearing the messages preached, but, like the cat, not understanding. Many today hear what is taught from the word of God, but do not pay attention. Others may reject the truth, listening more to their religious leaders. (Matthew 15:7-9).

How many hear the plan of salvation, but turn a deaf ear to it. They, like the cat, hear every word taught. However, they either do not understand, or outright deny it. When one thinks of the simplicity that is in Christ (2 Corinthians 11:3), one must always conclude that the problem is not in understanding, but in rejection. Consider how simple God’s plan of salvation is. Jesus told us to hear (Mark 12:29), believe (John 8:24), repent (Luke 13:3, 5), confess (Matthew 10:32, 33), and be baptized. (Mark 16:16). It does not get any simpler.

The same could be said for the worship (Acts 2:42; Hebrews 2:12), what the church of the New Testament was called (Matthew 16:13-19; Romans 16:16), the mission of the church (Mark 16:15), her benevolence (Galatians 6:10; James 1:27), the faithfulness of the church’s members (Hebrews 10:25; Galatians 5:19-26; Revelation 2:10; Romans thru Jude), and any and all other truths preached.

May all be like the cat, present, hearing every word of God one may hear. However, may no hearer be like the cat, a hearer only. (James 1:22). Luke 6:46 says, “And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?” John 13:17 says, “If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them.”

CHAPMAN SERVICES:

Sunday Services

Bible Class in Auditorium
Bible Study10:00 am
Morning Worship10:45 am

Sunday Evening Service

Evening Worship2:00 pm

Weekdays

Bible Class in Auditorium
Wednesday Bible Study7:00 pm

**PLEASE DO NOT COME
IF YOU HAVE ANY SYMPTOMS
OR AT HIGH RISK.**

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on Facebook and
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PROGRAMS OF WORK

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FM

Southern Sentinel Article

Every other Wednesday

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REMEMBER IN PRAYER

*Remember to count your blessings, pray
for our lost ones, the sick, the world and
the broken-hearted.*

•**SICK SUNDAY:** Brande Shackelford

•**REHAB:** Ruth Harris (Diversicare)

•**RECOVERY:** Debbie Chapman, Patti Hall,
Jeff Carpenter, Sue Shelton, Jodie Criswell

•**EXTENDED ILLNESS:** Romia Palmer, Patti
Hall, Johnny Cissom, George Doss, Joanie
Kate Reese, Louise Pannell, Thad Berryman

•**CANCER:** Marie Brumley, Keith Hall,
Hermie Henry (Bonnie Hurt’s Mother), Kay
Thompson, Cohen Hurt, Frank Elliott,
Jimmy Smith, Betty Faye Ledbury, Peggy
Boggs, Marsha Jones, Nita Trotter, Niani
Colom-Omotesa

•**SHUT-INS:** Resthaven: **Oleta Phillips,
Johnnie Carpenter** (*Mailing: Resthaven
Nursing Home, 103 Cunningham Drive,
Ripley, MS 38663*)

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