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).
4. **Confess** Faith in Christ (Acts 8:37).
5. **Be Baptized** for Remission of Sins (Acts 2:38).
6. **Be Faithful** (Revelation 2:10).

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**OUR RECORD**

December 30, 2018
Sunday Bible Study: 116
Sunday Morning Worship: 135
Sunday Evening Worship: 123
Wednesday Night Study: 109
Budget: $3,500
Contribution this week: $3,985

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**THE CHAPMAN CHALLENGER**

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**REJOICE IN THE LORD ALWAYS**

James Pilgrim

Paul wrote, “Rejoice in the Lord always: and again I say, Rejoice.” (Philippians 4:4). The words “joy,” “rejoice,” “rejoicing,” and “rejoiced,” appear eighteen (18) times in this short four (4) chapter book, composed of one-hundred four (104) verses. These verses are found in 1:4, 18, 25, 26; 2:2, 16, 17, 18, 28; 3:1, 3; and 4:1, 4, 10. These verses reveal the joy Paul and the Philippians had for one another, for others, for Christ and His work, and for the hope they had in the life beyond the grave.

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This past Sunday was another occasion for the Chapman Church to rejoice. The writer's heart was filled with joy to see the number of young men and boys sitting on the front pew. They were Christians. They were ready to lead the congregation in worshipping God in song, scripture reading, prayer, a sermon based on our hope of heaven, the communion, contributions, and such like. (Acts 2:42; Romans 15:9). The young ladies were a wonderful part of the worship service, as they lifted up their beautiful voices in singing, teaching and admonishing in psalms, hymns and spiritual songs. (Ephesians 5:19; Colossians 3:16). Following the resurrection of Jesus, some talked with Jesus on the road. They did not know who Jesus was at that time, but when Jesus revealed Himself to them later, they asked, “Did not our hearts burn within us, while he talked with us by the way, and while he opened to us the scriptures?” (Luke 24:13ff, especially, verse 32). Hopefully, each member of the Chapman Church had a similar feeling Sunday afternoon.

One cannot help but look to the future. Of those who led us Sunday afternoon, who will become future elders of the Church? (1 Timothy 3:1-7; Titus 1:5ff). Which one(s) will arise to preach the gospel, full or part time (2 Timothy 1:5; 4:5), married as was Peter (1 Corinthians 9:5; Matthew 8:14), or unmarried as Paul? (1 Corinthians 7:7). Who will serve as deacons? (1 Timothy 3:8-13). Which of the young ladies will be the next wife of an elder, deacon, or preacher? (1 Corinthians 9:5; 1 Timothy 3:2; 3:11, 12). Or, which young lady will be the next Dorcas (Acts 9:36-42), Phoebe (Romans 16:1, 2), or other servant of the Lord, married or unmarried? (Romans 16).
This article would not be complete without giving honor to those who have had a part in forming these young men and women into what they are. Paul wrote, “Render therefore to all their dues: tribute to whom tribute is due; custom to whom custom; fear to whom fear; honour to whom honour.” (Romans 13:7). In Romans 12, verse 10, Paul wrote, “in honour preferring one another.” With hearts filled with joy and gratitude, it is easy to say to the widows, widowers, parents and grandparents, elders and deacons, preacher, brothers and sisters, and to the full body of believers, THANK YOU FOR YOUR LOVE FOR THE TRUTH, AND FOR THE ENCOURAGEMENT YOU GIVE TO ALL. May your tribe increase. “Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine; continue in them: for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself, and them that hear thee.” (1 Timothy 4:16). Seeing young men and women, boys and girls worship and serve God makes one want to sing. Cf. James 5:13, “Is any merry? Let him sing psalms.”

Spiritual Resolutions
By Travis L. Quertermous

At the beginning of a new year, it is very common to make resolutions. We look back over the previous year, assess our successes and our failures, and set goals to improve over the course of the new year. For many people, these resolutions are all of a material nature. For example, they resolve to loose weight, to quit smoking, or to get out of debt.

All of these are indeed worthy goals, but let me challenge you to make some spiritual resolutions this year as well. For example, resolve to be a daily student of the Bible and to read through God’s word in 2019. Resolve to attend the church of Christ this year with your family and to be more involved in its activities. Resolve to help the poor and the needy more this year. Resolve to pray to God every day. Resolve to be a more loving and patient spouse, parent, or child. Resolve to share the gospel of Christ with at least one lost soul in 2019.

Of course, we have all heard the old saying that resolutions are made in January and forgotten in March. This brings to mind another old, but true, saying: “If we fail to plan, then we plan to fail.” The reason so many resolutions go unrealized is because we make no plans on how to succeed or else have unrealized expectations to begin with. Take being a daily Bible student, for example. If one will read three chapters a day from the Old Testament, one can read through it in a year. Nine chapters a day in the New Testament will enable one to read through it once a month. That, it seems to me, is a very reachable schedule and goal.

Above all, let us resolve to live out the wise words of King Solomon, “Fear God and keep His commandments, for this is the whole duty of man” (Eccl 12:13).