

February 19, 2023

**Announcements**

Dale Vandygriff

**Song Leader**

Logan Yancey

**Scripture Reading**

Rickey Cissom

**Opening Prayer**

John Hopper (A.M.)  
Danny Shackelford (P.M.)

**Closing Prayer**

Tim McMillin (A.M.)  
Kevin Shackelford (P.M.)

**Lord's Table**

Bryan Davis

**Count and Usher**

Rickey Loveless & Brock Lindley

**Wednesday Night Song Leader**

Tripp Yancey (2/22/23)

**OUR RECORD**

**February 12, 2023**

Sunday Bible Study: 104  
Sunday Morning Worship: 109  
Sunday Evening Worship 90  
Wednesday Night Bible Study: 78

**BULLETIN BY E-MAIL**

Receive bulletin by e-mail notify us:  
chapmansecretary@ripleycable.net

**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

# THE CHAPMAN CHALLENGER

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**Chapman Church of Christ**

Ripley, Mississippi  
**(662) 837-7012**  
chapmanchurch.com

**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

## IS THE CHURCH OPTIONAL?

**Mark Lindley**

We are living in a time when the church is viewed as optional. It used to be that, generally speaking, spirituality and having a good relationship with God were associated with church membership. That time is gone. Now, many feel that spirituality and having a good relationship with God have nothing to do with church membership. In our day, many believe that to be spiritual means to do yoga, meditate, focus on self-enlightenment, practice astrology, and to love people, animals, and the planet. These practices put one into a good relationship with God, were told, and being a member of the Lord's church is optional and has nothing at all to do with one's spirituality.

Is it really true that one can have a good relationship with God apart from the church? Not if one believes and seeks to follow the Bible. Paul wrote, that "the house of God...is the church of the living God" (1 Timothy 3:15). Just ask yourself: Can one have a good relationship with God without being in God's house? If not, then one must be in the church to have a good relationship with God because *the church is the house of God*.

In addition, can one have a good relationship with God without being a part of the church? Not unless one can have a good relationship with God without being a part of that for which Christ shed His blood. Scripture says that Jesus purchased the church "with his own blood" (Acts 20:28). Did Jesus shed His blood for something that was "optional"? Certainly not! Every drop of blood that flowed from the Savior's body when he was scourged, wore the crown of thorns, and was crucified is proof that Jesus did not believe the church was optional. If it is true that the church is optional, then the blood that purchased the church is optional as well. Who can believe it?

Further, if the church is optional, then the body of Christ is optional. Scripture affirms that the church is the body of Christ. "And he is the head of the body, the church" (Colossians 1:18). Notice from this verse that Jesus is the Head; His body is the church. To try to have Jesus without the church would be to decapitate Jesus. The church is the body of God's Son! Surely, all who believe the Bible would agree that one cannot have a good relationship with God without being in the body of God's Son.

These simple points exhibit the great value of the church. Many say the church is optional; God's Word says it is not.

## 100% CHANCE WE'LL BE RIGHT BACK

### James Pilgrim

Recently, while watching “The World’s Funniest Weather” on The Weather Chanel, while going to commercials, the announcer proclaimed, “There’s a 100% chance we’ll be right back.” On a different episode, it was said, “Don’t go away. We’ll be right back in fact.” Another episode proclaimed, “Weather permits, we’ll be right back.” Likely, those who wrote the script had not read the word of God, or else did not believe what they read. Another possibility is that they had read and believed what they read, but forgot what they had read. At any rate, each of the statements they made need to be amended, adding, “The Lord willing.”

James writes of some who boldly proclaimed that they would buy, sell, and get gain for another year. (James 4:13). The writer, “James, a servant of God, and of the Lord Jesus Christ” (James 1:1), who was moved to write by the inspiration of God (1 Timothy 3:16, 17; 2 Peter 1:20, 21), told them, “Wherefore ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away.” (James 4:14). James then tells them, “For what ye ought to say, If the Lord will, we shall live, and do this, or that.” (James 4:15). Paul told those of Ephesus that he would go keep the feast at Jerusalem, and “return again unto you, if God will.” (Acts 18:19-21). Notice the three words, “if God will.”

In speaking of “the end of the world” (Matthew 24:3), “that day and hour” (24:36), Jesus said, “my Father only” knows when that will be. (Matthew 24:36). Verse 36 also says that no man (including you, dear reader) or angel knows if there will be another day for the earth to exist. Even Jesus is dependent upon God for that information. Verse 50 says, “The Lord of that servant shall come in a day when he looketh not for him, and in an hour that he is not aware of.” Beloved, we cannot accurately say that we will do anything 100%. Neither will the weather have anything to do with whether or not the earth continues. It may alter one’s planting, harvesting, and all in between. It may change whether or not we do certain things. However, the weather will have absolutely nothing to do with the end of the world.

A false teacher said, “saying if it be the Lord will is what weak people say when they pray.” He went on to say that he told God what he wanted, and that he never prayed, if it was the Lord’s will. In so saying, he added to the information already piled up proving him to be a false teacher, and he also showed his arrogance and ignorance.

Let us always remember to say, “If God will.” (James 4:13)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

***YOUTH NIGHT***  
***FEBRUARY 19<sup>th</sup> at 5 PM***  
***Speaker: Ben Siegel,***  
*Glendale Church of Christ, Florence, AL*  
***Meal will follow.***

***GOSPEL MEETING***  
***MARCH 19<sup>TH</sup> – 22<sup>ND</sup>***  
***Sunday meal following AM service.***  
***PM Service at 1:30 PM***

*A Plea For Prayers*  
*Please pray for spiritual*  
*and numerical growth for*  
*the Chapman Congregation*  
*in 2023.*

## 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

**Sermons available on Facebook and YouTube**

## REMEMBER IN PRAYER

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

**SICK SUNDAY:** Tommy Wade

**HAVING SURGERY:** Wayne Vandygriff,  
Larry Wood, Karen Yancey, Angela  
Bridges, Billy McBryde

**EXTENDED ILLNESS:** Theo Smith,  
Joanie Kate Reese, Olivia Pounders, Joe  
Clark, Louise Pannell (Sharon’s Mother),  
Malone Hurt, Gerohn Childs, Junior  
Derrick, Jane Morrison, George Doss,  
Thad Berryman, Hannah Perry & Baby,  
Juanita Michael

**CANCER:** George Doss (Kelly Brewer’s  
Father), Deborah Williams (Kim Lindley’s  
Aunt), Ralph Shaw (Janie Chapman’s  
Son-in-law), Eddie Mauney, Haley  
Loveless, Sidra Davis, Trish Clark,  
Johnnie Carpenter, Kevin Clifton, Austin  
Wentz, Steve Barnes (Mickey & Gail  
Chandler’s Son-in-law/*Going to MD*  
*Anderson 2/8*), Betty Faye Ledbury

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

## TEXT ALERTS

Text **chapmancoc** to **8779897012** to  
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