

**April 21 2019**  
**ORDER OF WORSHIP**

**Announcements**

Randell Koon

**Song Leader**

Chance Criswell

**Scripture Reading**

Gene Yancey

**Opening Prayer**

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

**Closing Prayer**

James Pilgrim (A.M.) Logan Yancey (P.M.)

**Lord's Table**

Britt Lindley (Presiding),

Eli Carter, Brock Lindley, Ross Shackelford

**Count and Usher**

Ricky Loveless and Terry Chapman

**Prepare Communion**

Janette Rickles & Romia Palmer

**Wednesday Night Song Leader**

J C Newby (04/24/19)

**OUR RECORD**

**April 14, 2019**

Sunday Bible Study: 100

Sunday Morning Worship: 122

Sunday Evening Worship: 104

Wednesday Night Bible Study: 100

Budget: \$3,500

Contribution this week: 4,090

**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**

**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).



# THE CHAPMAN CHALLENGER

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

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

## THE OVERSIGHT OF THE CHURCH

Mark Lindley

God's plan for the oversight of the church is revealed in the New Testament. The term "oversight" means "the action of overseeing something; supervision, management." According to the New Testament, elders have the oversight of local congregations of the church.

Without question, Jesus is the supreme authority of the church. He is the "head." Paul wrote, "And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence" (Colossians 1:18). Therefore, Jesus has all authority over the church (Matthew 28:18; Ephesians 1:22-23). King Jesus rules over his kingdom, the church, from heaven (Acts 2:29-33, 36; Matthew 16:18-19; Mark 16:19). He rules through his powerful word, the New Testament (Colossians 3:16-17).

Some teach that the Pope is the head of the church on earth. This doctrine, however, contradicts what the New Testament clearly teaches about the headship of Christ. Christ is "the" head of the body. He is not "a" head; He is the only "head" of the church.

On the other hand, God has a plan for the oversight of individual congregations of the church. The New Testament reveals that elders are to be appointed to serve as overseers of congregations.

When Paul wanted to address the leaders of the church of Ephesus, he called for the elders: "And from Miletus he sent to Ephesus, and called the elders of the church" (Acts 20:17). When the elders came, Paul identified those men as the "overseers" of the flock (church) in Ephesus: "Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood" (Acts 20:28). Notice that there were "elders," meaning more than one man, who had the oversight of the church of Ephesus.

Not only did the Ephesian church have elders, but it was God's plan for all churches to have elders. Paul and Barnabas appointed elders in "every church" they had established (Acts 14:23).

Those who are appointed as elders must meet specific qualifications set forth in I Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:5-9. Having been appointed to this work, elders are to be spiritual shepherds of the flock (I Peter 5:1-3), serving under Christ, the chief shepherd (I Peter 5:4).

If I were attending the services of a church which chose to have no elders, I would want to know why no men had been appointed to serve as elders. If I were attending the services of a church that had "a pastor," rather than "elders" as overseers, I would want to know why that church had changed God's plan for the oversight of the church. Dear reader, please consider these things.

## My Feelings are Hurt – I Quit!

By R. W. McAlister

We've seen it time and time again. A Christian (or sometimes a non-Christian) who is usually found in attendance at worship or some church activity stops coming – no longer attends worship and won't be found at the clean-up day or potluck. Sometimes, it's sudden, but more often, the decline in attendance is gradual. A Wednesday night service is missed, then Sunday night, church outings, until the person no longer is seen anywhere with the Lord's people when they gather.

While there are numerous reasons for why this may occur, one commonly voiced reason is "hurt feelings" over one thing or another. For example: "I missed two Sundays in a row and nobody called to check on me." "I had surgery and nobody came to see me or even sent a card." "You know my loved one is ill and you didn't put his name on the prayer list." "The preacher doesn't care about; he only has time for 'important' members." "The Bible teacher disagreed with my remark." In this person's mind, the church is the offender and is filled with hypocrites who have hurt him and don't really care about him – or her. That's a questionable excuse we often hear.

I'm not defending hypocrisy. Of course, hypocrites must repent in order to be saved (Matthew 23:28; I Timothy 4:2; James 3:17). Jesus said that sinners will be appointed "...his portion with the hypocrites: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth" (Matthew 24:51).

To use hypocrites as an excuse for abandoning God is foolish. The presence of one or one hundred hypocrites has nothing to do with my relationship with God, unless I allow it! Let me ask: do we come to the assembly to judge our brethren (Matthew 7:1-2), or to worship our God (John 4:24)? Which is worse, to continue to worship and work faithfully with other imperfect saints, trying to get stronger, or to drop out and let the devil have our souls?

How do we win back those who quit over hurt feelings? If our initial approach is critical (We shake our finger and scream, "You're going to hell for quitting!"), we shouldn't be surprised if they get hostile. We might do better to gently remind them that it wasn't God who hurt their feelings. It makes no sense to take it out on Him when He has only blessed and helped us. Losing one's soul (the end result of quitting the church) is a high price to pay because we don't like a church member (Ephesians 4:32) – or because we think they don't like us. When tempted to give up over hurt feelings, we might ask ourselves four questions:

Did anyone spit on me? They did on Jesus (Mt. 26:67).

Did anyone beat me on the back? They did Him (Mk. 15:15).

Did anyone force a crown of thorns down upon my head? They did His (Mt. 27:29).

Did anyone hang me on a cross? They did Jesus (Mk. 15:25).

They did all these things to Him and more. Yet He never lost focus on honoring His Father's will. May we never lose focus over something much more trivial.

## UPCOMING EVENTS



## LADS TO LEADERS CONVENTION

April 18-21, 2019

MEMPHIS, TN

*Good Luck to all of our  
participants!*

*We are so proud you!*

**Chapman Area Wide  
Ladies Bible Class  
Tuesday, May 7<sup>th</sup>  
Speaker: Berta Kennedy**

### 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

### 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

## REMEMBER IN PRAYER

**IN LOVE AND SYMPATHY:** Our hearts go out in deepest sympathy to the family and friends of Willard Mauney Shackelford (Mildred Shackelford's Sister).

•**HOME SICK:** Ola Wade, Susan Yancey, Juan Stroupe, Eli Carter

• So glad Joanie Kate Reese is now home after four months at LeBonheur. Please continue to keep in your prayers.

•**EXTENDED ILLNESS:** Pat Waide, Joanie Kate Reese, Carlin Johnson, Faye Jenkins, Linda Chapman, Nina Morrison, Jo Chapman, Louise Pannell, Roger Bryant (ALS), Venie Holbrook, Tony Morrison, Bobbie Prather, Sandra Hopper, Connie Mauney, Brandon King, Jane Bates, Lylah McGaughy, Niles Jones, Thad Berryman

•**CANCER:** Gary Michaels, Kay Thompson, Cohen Hurt, Frank Elliott, Jimmy Smith,, Rhonda Horton, Lanny Yancey (Treatments), Danny Yancey, Diane Hodges, Sandra Jones, Dianne Graves, Betty Faye Ledbury, Cutah Newby, Peggy Boggs, Marsha Jones, Nita Trotter, Carolyn Medlin, Niani Colom-Omotesa, Kenneth Rainey, Janice Willingham, Lester Wommack, Doug Pannell, Sam Camp, Sam Warrington (cystic fibrosis & leukemia), Katherine Finley, Kane Pannell, Danny Edmonds, Dean McNutt, John Reno.

•**SHUT-INS:** Resthaven: **Oleta Phillips, Johnnie Carpenter** (Mailing: Resthaven Care Center, 103 Cunningham Drive, Ripley, MS 38663), Tippah County Hospital Nursing Home: **Lorene Daily, Christine Chapman** (Mailing: Tippah County Nursing Home, 1005 City Avenue North, Ripley, MS 38663).