



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

April 25, 2021
ORDER OF WORSHIP

Announcements
Randel Koon

Sunday Song Leader
Chris Moore

Wednesday Song Leader
Logan Yancey (04/28/21)

Scripture Reading
Mason McAlister

Opening Prayer
Ricky Cissom (AM)
Keith Newby (PM)

Closing Prayer
Larry Wood (AM)
Wayne Vandygriff (PM)

Count and Usher
Terry Chapman & Danny Shackelford

Communion
David Smith

Pick Up Communion when entering

OUR RECORD

April 18, 2021

Sunday Bible Study: 81
Sunday Morning Worship: 96
Sunday Evening Worship: 91
Wednesday Night Bible Study: 87
Budget: \$3,500
Contribution this week: NA

Chapman Challenger

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notify us:
chapmansecretary@ripleycable.net
Also can view on our website:
chapmanchurch.com

THE CHAPMAN CHALLENGER

Published Weekly by
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

ON THE TABLE IT READ:
“THIS DO IN REMEMBRANCE OF ME“
AND THEY DIDN'T DO IT“
James Pilgrim

Jimmy Williford handed the writer the above title, suggesting that he consider it for an article. Paul said he “received of the Lord” what he delivered to the Corinthian Church. (1 Corinthians 1:2; 11:23). He referred to the institution of the Lord supper by Jesus (Matthew 26:26-29), in which He said, “Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me.” (1 Corinthians 11:24, 25). The message given was clear. However, some did not observe the communion as instructed.

Paul’s message received of God (Galatians 1:11, 12) to the Corinthian saints (1 Corinthians 1:1, 2), was, “I praise you not...ye come together not for the better, but for the worse.” (1 Corinthians 11:17). Paul had heard of “divisions” and “heresies” (sects) among them, and he partly believed it. (Verse 18, 19). They were not eating the Lord’s supper. (Verses 21, 22). Paul did not praise them. (Verse 22). Many were spiritually weak and sick among them, and some had even died, left Christ. (Verses 27-30; Hebrews 12:15). He would correct other things when he arrived in Corinth. (Verse 34). They did not do what they were directed to do as it was to be done.

New Testament Churches of Christ observe the Lord’s supper weekly. (Acts 20:7). Usually, churches have a table in the front of the auditorium, on which there are containers with the unleavened bread and fruit of the vine in keeping with Jesus’ institution. (Matthew 26:26-29). Most tables have the words, “This Do In Remembrance Of Me”, on them. Question: Do we do so as He directs? Has our communing with the Lord become no more than a formal ritual? Hopefully not! In breaking the bread and drinking the cup, do we remember the blood Jesus shed for the remission of our sins? Do we look for His second coming? Do we examine ourselves? (1 Corinthians 11:26-29).

Some churches whose doctrines and commandments are after men (Matthew 15:7-9) have tables in the front of their auditoriums with the inscription, “This Do In Remembrance Of Me”, yet they partake of the Lord’s supper only once per year, and that, on a Sunday when most of their members will be present. They say, but do not! Some omit or change other laws of God. They profess to follow the Christ, but do not do what He directs.
Thanks, brother Williford, for a great reminder.

Light or Darkness?

By Joe Chesser

Have you ever been in a place so dark you couldn't see your hand in front of your face? When I was a boy I had this experience in Meramec Caverns, the largest commercial cave in the state of Missouri. When they turned out all of the lights, it was total darkness. Every direction I looked was only blackness ... up, down, forward, backwards, right, left ... it didn't matter. Not a ray of light could be seen anywhere. Even after my eyes adjusted, there was nothing to be seen but darkness.

Yet, even in the darkest of places, the light of Jesus can be seen when we use our spiritual eyes, the heart. So, no matter how dark it may seem to others around us, even in Meramec Caverns, for anyone who chooses to open their 'eyes', Jesus is the true light that illuminates our souls.

John the Baptist was sent to bear witness to this Light. "The true light that gives light to every man was coming into the world" (John 1.9). Jesus later identified himself as that Light: "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life" (John 8.12).

I don't know of anyone who would intentionally choose to live in total darkness when lights were readily available at the flip of a switch. Why would they? How utterly foolish is that? Darkness is often used in Scripture to describe what our spiritual reality is when we follow Satan instead of Christ.

"If anyone walks in the day, he does not stumble, because he sees the light of this world. But if anyone walks in the night, he stumbles, because the light is not in him" (John 11.9-10). Paul explained that Jesus came "to open their eyes, so that they may turn from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to God, that they may receive the forgiveness of sins" (Acts 26.18). When our sins are forgiven we are rescued from the dominion of darkness and transferred into the kingdom of light (Colossians 1.12-14).

Since everyone understands the foolishness of intentionally living physically in total blackness, why are so many resistant to walking in the spiritual light with Jesus where his blood continually forgives our sins (1 John 1.7)? Yet, as Jesus told Nicodemus, that's what many, in fact most (Matthew 7.13-14), are doing: "Light has come into the world, but men loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil" (John 3.19). The good news is that it doesn't have to be that way. God gives each of us the choice whether to live in darkness or light. Jesus explained, "whoever lives by the truth comes into the light" (John 3.21). Jesus is calling us to come out of darkness and live in the light (Ephesians 5.8; 1 Peter 2.9; 1 John 1.5, 7).

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Friendship By Paul Meredith

Genuine friendship is one of the deepest hungers of the human heart. We innately seek out friends who have understanding, love and unwavering loyalty. True friendship is too rare and too precious to neglect, too infrequent to forget, and too sacred to carelessly cast away.

Jeremy Taylor wrote, "By friendship you mean the greatest love, the greatest usefulness, the most open communication, the noblest sufferings, the severest truth, the heartiest counsel, and the greatest union of minds of which brave men and women are capable." The value of friendship is truly tremendous. Euripides said, "Life has no blessing like a prudent friend." Oliver Wendell Holmes wrote, "Fame is the senseless sunflower with gaudy crown of gold; but friendship is the breathing rose, with sweets in every fold."

Proverbs 17:17 says, "A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for adversity." A little later in the book of Proverbs we see a further parallel between a "friend" and a "brother": "There are friends who pretend to be friends, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother" (18:24). This dramatic kinship imagery is employed in order to solicit a stirring of our emotions. By comparing friendship to the powerful bond of blood brothers, the intensity of its significance is emphasized. In other words, God wants us to realize how tremendously important friendship is in each of us.

Let's be sure to value our friends and let them know how much we appreciate them. Also, let's be sure to be faithful as friends and companions. John 15:13-15 says, "Greater love has no man than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends. You are My friends if you do whatever I command you. No longer do I call you servants, for a servant does not know what his master is doing, but I have called you friends, for all things that I heard from My Father I have made known to you." Are you a friend to Jesus?

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

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

•**SICK:** Treva Lewellen, James Pilgrim, Jeff Carpenter

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

•**CANCER:** Mitch Fowler (Kevin Shackelford's co-worker), Marie Brumley, Keith Hall, Hermie Henry (Bonnie Hurt's Mother), 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*)

Sermons available on Facebook and YouTube.

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