

May 6, 2018
ORDER OF WORSHIP

Announcements

Larry Wood

Song Leader

Brad McAlister

Scripture Reading

Ricky Cissom

Opening Prayer

J C Newby (A.M.) Joel Moore (P.M.)

Closing Prayer

Palmer Jones (A.M.) Jodie Criswell (P.M.)

Lord's Table

Bobby Bridges (Presiding),

Danny Shackelford, Jeff Staggs, Logan Yancey

Count and Usher

Terry Chapman & Michiel Criswell

Prepare Communion

Candace Hopper and Sandy Newby

Wednesday Night Song Leader

Ross Shackelford (05/09/18)

OUR RECORD

April 29, 2018

Sunday Bible Study: 121

Sunday Morning Worship: 142

Sunday Evening Worship: 127

Wednesday Night Bible Study: 117

Budget: \$3,500

Contribution this week: \$3,999

BULLETIN BY E-MAIL:

Receive bulletin by e-mail notify us:

chapmansecretary@ripleycable.net

Also can view on our website:

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

NOT FAR FROM THE KINGDOM

Mark Lindley

The focus of Jesus' preaching was "the kingdom of God." Scripture says, "From that time Jesus began to preach, and to say, Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand" (Matthew 4:17). Jesus insisted that the kingdom should be a priority for all of us: "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you" (Matthew 6:33).

But what is the kingdom? The kingdom of which Jesus spoke is the church. Jesus said to Peter, "Upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it...and I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom" (Matthew 16:18-19). This shows that when Jesus spoke of the kingdom, He was speaking of the church.

Since Jesus frequently preached about the kingdom (the church), and encouraged people to "seek" it, you and I should want to be part of it today.

There was a man Jesus met who was "not far from the kingdom" (Mark 12:34). This man was a scribe, a religious man, one who knew a lot about God's Word. Yet, in spite of this man's religious background, he was only "near" the kingdom.

I supposed being near the kingdom is, in a sense, better than being far from it. Jesus seems to indicate that being near the kingdom is better than not being near it (Mark 12:34). Yet, the blessings of the kingdom are for those who are "in" the kingdom (Matthew 6:33; Colossians 1:13; John 3:5).

There are many good, sincere religious people today who have never become part of the Lord's kingdom. How does one become part of the kingdom? Jesus addressed that, as recorded in John chapter 3. He stated, "Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God" (John 3:5). This shows that one enters the kingdom by being born of water and spirit.

What does it mean to be born of water and spirit? Let the Lord explain. In giving the Great Commission, Jesus said, "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned" (Mark 16:16).

Now think for a moment, those who are born again enter the kingdom (surely, they are saved). I am sure all serious students of the Bible would agree that those who are born again are saved. Then, consider that Jesus said, "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved" (Mark 16:16). Notice: belief and baptism result in salvation; being born again results in salvation. It must be, therefore, that to be born again, born of water and spirit, is to believe and be baptized.

Those who are born again enter the kingdom. They are no longer just "near" the kingdom. Having entered the kingdom, one has salvation from all past sin and the promise of eternal life! Are you "in" the kingdom?

Stop Dating The Church by Steve Higginbotham

I recently read a book by Joshua Harris by the above title. In this book Harris affirmed that there are many people who “date” the church, but who are unwilling to fall in love with and be committed to the church. And you know, I think he’s right. How many people do you know who are “believers” but they’re not “belongers.” They believe in Jesus, but don’t want to be tied down. They “date” the church, but want to remain independent and free of commitment and responsibility.

Friends, instead of seeing the church for all its flaws and foibles, why not see it as the wisdom of God (Ephesians 3:9-11), and the beautiful bride of Christ (Ephesians 5:25-32). Committing to the church doesn’t tie one down, rather it anchors one through the storms of life. And it’s flaws? It’s flaws provide us with an opportunity to love, serve, practice patience, and grow more like our Savior.

Listen friends, don’t allow yourself to use the excuse that the church is too messed up to commit to it. Jesus is the only one who has the right to disown or give up on the church, but he never has and never will.

Therefore, let me leave you with this challenge. Many people are fond of saying that we need to develop a heart for the poor or a heart for the lost, and these are good desires. But may I challenge you to also develop a heart for the church? Get involved. Get committed. Take on responsibility. Invest yourself. After all, if Jesus loves the church, shouldn’t we?

Have You Seen _____ Lately? By Jim Faughn

I guess that it happens in every congregation. See if this scenario looks familiar to you: A person or a family is not with the saints when they assemble one week at a particular congregation of God’s people. It is assumed that they must be out of town or something, because it is unusual for them to not meet with the local congregation to worship. Another week or two goes by and they are still missing. After about a month or so (or more), somebody asks the preacher, “Have you seen _____ lately?” The preacher informs the brother or sister that, yes indeed, he has seen them and/or talked with them and that they are now worshipping somewhere else or are not worshipping anywhere at all. There is shock and disappointment on the part of the one who has asked about _____. As the word gets around, people wonder what in the world could have happened and what could have been done to prevent this situation.

May I offer one suggestion? Don’t depend on the elders or the preacher to do all of the “checking up” on individuals. Why not make it your responsibility (as well as the responsibility of the elders and preacher) to let people know that you care enough about them to let them know that they are being missed when they are not with us.

Let me share with you one of my personal goals. It is just that; a goal. Unfortunately, I sometimes fail to meet the goal, but it is always before me and I honestly do try. It is one of my goals to make it impossible for any former member of the congregation to be able to say, “Well, I was gone for months and nobody ever checked on me. I guess they didn’t care as much as they said they did.”

How much of an impact would it have if every member of the local congregation would notice when somebody is not attending as they formerly did and made it a priority to live up to all of those “one another” passages in the New Testament? Why don’t we try to find out what that impact would be?

Will you join me in setting a goal similar to mine? Will you make it a goal to never have to ask the question, “Have you seen _____ lately?”

UPCOMING EVENTS

CHAPMAN
2018 Lads To Leaders Awards
Sunday, May 6th
After evening services in fellowship hall. Please make plans to come and help honor our 2018 Lads to Leaders/Leaderettes participants. Please wear L2Ls T-Shirts. Ice Cream Sundaes will be served.

May 20, 2018
SENIORS DAY
After evening services in fellowship hall. Congratulations to our 2018 graduating high school seniors:
Lauren Carter
Hannah Loveless
Ali Mann
Ross Shackelford
Sydney Yancey
Please make plans to join us in wishing them well in their future endeavors.
Ladies please bring finger foods, desserts or 2 liter drinks.

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REMEMBER IN PRAYER

•**SICK SUNDAY:** Kathy Moore, Mary Brady

•**HOSPITAL:** Louise Pannell (Sharon Pannell’s Mother, Ripley/Rehab), Mary Ellen Burks (Collierville), Jenny Pannell (New Albany)

Wonderful to see Janie Chapman back with us Sunday.

•**TEST/PROCEDURES:** Johnny Cissom, Mildred Shackelford

•**EXTENDED ILLNESS:** Nina Morrison, Jo Chapman, Nancy Yates, Roger Bryant (ALS), Venie Holbrook, Cortney Cissom, Tony & Jane Morrison, Juanita Mauney, David Young, Bobbie Prather, Sandra Hopper, George Doss (Kelly Brewer’s Father), Connie Mauney, Brandon King, Jane Bates, Lylah McGauhy, Niles Jones, Thad Berryman.

•**CANCER:** Jimmy Smith, Roxieann Foster, Danny Yancey, Lana Waldon, Diane Hodges, Bobby White, Sandra Jones, Dianne Graves, Betty Faye Ledbury, Cutah Newby, Peggy Boggs, Marsha Jones, Nita Trotter, Carolyn Medlin, Lanny Yancey, Niani Colom-Omotesa, Kenneth Rainey, Marilyn Harrell, Janice Willingham, Lester Wommack, Doug Pannell, Sam Camp, Sam Warrington (cystic fibrosis & leukemia), Sue Mauney, Wade Hodges, 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: **Bonnie Chapman, Lorene Daily, Christine Chapman** (Mailing: Tippah County Nursing Home, 1005 City Avenue North, Ripley, MS 38663).