

**July 16 2017  
ORDER OF WORSHIP**

**Announcements**

Brad McAlister

**Song Leader**

Chris Moore

**Scripture Reading**

Mason McAllister

**Opening Prayer**

Bryan Davis (A.M.) Danny Shackelford (P.M.)

**Closing Prayer**

David Smith (A.M.) Brock Lindley (P.M.)

**Lord's Table**

Kevin Shackelford (Presiding),

Jeff Brewer, Chance Criswell, Randell Koon

**Count and Usher**

Palmer Jones & John Hopper

**Prepare Communion**

Robin & Mallory Chapman

**Wednesday Night Song Leader**

Brad McAlister (07/19/17)

**OUR RECORD**

July 9, 2017

Sunday Bible Study: 112

Sunday Morning Worship: 131

Sunday Evening Worship: 106

Wednesday Night Bible Study: 97

Budget: \$3,500

Contribution this week: \$3,653

**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](http://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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Ripley, Mississippi  
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[chapmanchurch.com](http://chapmanchurch.com)

**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

## WHEN GOD IS SILENT

Mark Lindley

Those reading this article will likely agree that we should do what God says in his word. When God has given a commandment, those who love God will obey (1 John 5:3). But how should we interpret God's silence? In cases in which God has given no instruction, do we have the authority to engage in those practices? This question is vital because, sometimes, good, sincere people will ask, "Where does the Bible say we are 'not' to do this?" Usually, such statements are made when someone wants to add something to worship for which there is no biblical instruction. Since there are cases in which God has been silent, some believe that God's silence is to be viewed as authority for adding anything to worship or religious practice that is not forbidden.

However, it would be good if we would consider the following examples: When God told Noah to build the ark of "gopher wood," did God then have to specify all the types of wood that Noah was "not" to utilize in building the ark—oak, hickory, pine, etc.? No, when God specified "gopher wood," Noah knew that all other wood was not to be used (cf. Genesis 6:22). When God told the Israelites to offer a lamb for the Passover sacrifice, did he then have to specify all the animals that the Israelites were not to use (Exodus 12:5)? When God specified that priests were to come from the tribe of "Levi," did God then need to specifically exclude all other tribes (Numbers 8:9-15)? No, the people understood that when God said "Levi," this would naturally exclude all other possibilities.

Now, if we can understand this principle that is so clear from the Old Testament, I am certain that we can understand the following modern-day applications: When God says that we are to "sing" in worship, is there any need for God to state, specifically, that singing and playing an instrument is not authorized by the New Testament (Ephesians 5:19)? No, the command to "sing" authorizes singing, not singing and playing an instrument. When God says that we are to pray to him through Jesus, does God have to specifically exclude praying through Mary (John 14:13)? When God says that those who are to be baptized must be individuals who "believe" and "repent," is there any need to specifically condemn infant baptism (Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38)? No, infants cannot believe or repent and do not need baptism. When God states that baptism is an immersion in water, does he then need to specifically exclude sprinkling and pouring (Colossians 2:12)? All of these examples establish that God's silence does not authorize us to add whatever we want to worship or religious practice. Rather, God's silence prohibits. Let us resolve that we will "speak where the Bible speaks, and be silent where the Bible is silent."

**“The Internet Is Where Religion Goes To Die”**  
**Kyle Butt, M.Div.**

On September 29, 2011, I debated Blair Scott, the Director of Communications for American Atheists, Inc. During the debate, he made several comments regarding religion in general and Christianity specifically. One of the more memorable statements he made was: “The Internet is where religion goes to die.” I remember sitting on stage thinking that this statement was completely without merit, and the statistics from the Apologetics Press site alone show just how false it is.

So far, in 2011, the Lord has used the Apologetics Press Web site to disseminate an average of 662,900 electronic pages of information every month. That means that if things continue like this for the rest of the year, the site will receive 7.95 million hits this year alone. That is an average of about 21,853 pages a day, 910 pages an hour, 15 pages per minute, or about one page clicked every four seconds. While it may be true that some “religions” go to die on the Internet, New Testament Christianity is not one of them. In fact, the Word of God is living and powerful (Hebrews 4:12), and it never returns to the Lord void (Isaiah 55:11).

We would encourage all of our readers to have a part in spreading God’s Word via the Internet. If your church or business has a Web site, link it to the A.P. site. That will boost our ratings on Web search engines, and will provide your visitors with an opportunity to access scripturally sound, relevant materials. Tell your friends on Facebook about the site. Send them links to specific articles that you think might interest them. The Web and our site (along with many other solid brotherhood sites) are a great way to fulfill the great commission of going into all the world and teaching the Gospel. In truth, the Internet is one place where New Testament Christianity goes to thrive.

**If It's Not Fed, It Won't Grow**  
**by: Lance Cordle**

Consider the following hypothetical situations:

A man selects a site on his property for a garden. He does not till the soil. He just scatters the seed and walks away. No fertilizer is placed with the seed; no watering is done. The man, however, expects a large crop of vegetables. Question: Is he being realistic? Answer: No. Principle: If it's not fed (cultivated, nourished), it won't grow (flourish).

A young man hears about a party his friends are having. He accepts an invitation and shows up—only to find that it is a poker party. Since celebrities are playing poker and it is on so many TV channels, it must be a cool way to have fun and "make a quick buck," right? The young man, however, knows that it is gambling, and is well aware of the tragic consequences of gambling addiction. He walks away from the party, resolving not to gamble, even if it means his friends will be disappointed. He believes the risk of addiction is too great. —If it's not fed, it won't grow.

A man has been married for several years. He loves his wife and believes their marriage is good, but he is a little bored. At work, he spends a lot of time around a single young woman. She is attractive and personable. Most of their contact is work-related and, so far, he has kept it that way. He knows, however that she would "see him" outside of work, if he would but ask. After thinking it over, he resolves to work on his relationship with his wife, to be more attentive, and to live up their marriage with better communication and more romance. He resists the urge to build a deeper relationship with the woman at work. —If it's not fed, it won't grow.

A young man and woman in their early twenties have dated for several months and are "serious" about each other. There is a real possibility that they will get married. They love each other and express it in verbal and non-verbal ways. However, they are Christians and have resolved to avoid fornication and save themselves sexually for marriage. Thus, they have set definite limits on their physical displays of affection. They could give into lust, like so many have chosen to do, but they don't. —If it's not fed, it won't grow.

A man is offended by a lifelong friend. He thinks about the situation, but decides to act in good faith and talk to his friend about the problem. The friend understands, and he too, wants to do what is right. Resentment, though contemplated, does not really even begin. —If it's not fed, it won't grow.

Is there something you are feeding that shouldn't be fed?

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

*WONDERFUL VBS!*  
*Thanks to everyone who*  
*helped make our 2017*  
*Vacation Bible School such a*  
*great success! Special thanks*  
*to the ladies for wonderful*  
*snacks. Great job!!!*

**Chapman Lectureship**  
**July 30th– August 2<sup>nd</sup>**  
**7:00 P.M. each evening**  
**Please make plans to attend!**  
**Start inviting – flyers in foyer!**

**Fellowship meal will follow**  
**Sunday Morning Services.**

**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)

**REMEMBER IN PRAYER**

•**SICK SUNDAY:** Georgia Claire Stroupe, Everett Hurt, Ramonia McAlister (Brad’s Mother), Tony & Jane Morrison, Juanita Michael

•**HOSPITAL:** Michael Kubenthiran (Robin Chapman’s Nephew – car wreck/severe leg injuries) Please send cards: 2618 Sunlight Drive, Arlington, TX 76006.

•**SURGERY RECOVERY:** Tracie Gross (Back)

•**EXTENDED ILLNESS:** Sandra Hopper, George Doss (Kelly Brewer’s Father), Ed James Pannell, Connie Mauney, Brandon King, Jane Bates, Lylah McGauhy, Sandra & Niles Jones, Thad Berryman.

•**CANCER:** Betty Faye Ledbury, Chester Smith, Lana Waldon, Cutah Newby, Peggy Boggs, Marsha Jones, Nita Trotter, Lyle Bullock, 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** (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). **Johnnie Carpenter** (Mailing: Tishomingo Living Center, 1410 West Quitman Street, Iuka, MS 38852)