

**August 21, 2016  
ORDER OF WORSHIP**

**Announcements**

Kevin Shackelford

**Song Leader**

Keith Newby

**Scripture Reading**

Danny Shackelford

**Opening Prayer**

Ricky Cissom (A.M.) Gene Yancey (P.M.)

**Closing Prayer**

John Hopper (A.M.) Larry Wood (P.M.)

**Lord's Table**

Randell Koon (Presiding),

Jack Harris, Andy Reese, Chase Chapman

**Count and Usher**

David Smith

Michiel Criswell

**Prepare Communion**

Myra and Anna Palmer

**Wednesday Night Song Leader**

Mason McAlister (08/24/16)

**OUR RECORD**

**August 14, 2016**

**Sunday Bible Study: 124**

**Sunday Morning Worship: 142**

**Sunday Evening Worship: 217**

**Wednesday Night Bible Study: 90**

**Budget: \$3,500**

**Contribution this week: \$3,423**

**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).

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

# THE CHAPMAN CHALLENGER

Published Weekly by  
**Chapman Church of Christ**  
Ripley, Mississippi  
(662) 837-7012  
[chapmanchurch.com](http://chapmanchurch.com)

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

## Growing from Infancy to Manhood Dan Jenkins

When Pharaoh's daughter found that baby in the basket floating in the river, she knew she had a problem. Not wanting to see that baby die, she immediately accepted the offer from Miriam, Moses' sister, to find someone to care for the child. It is obvious that any baby left unattended will die. Think of the spiritual application of this principle.

A baby needs nourishment to grow. He needs more than nourishment but must always have food. The same is true of Christians. As a babe in Christ, he must heed the words of Peter. "As newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the word that you may grow thereby" (1 Pet. 2:2).

Paul described Timothy as an adult and said that he knew of no other person who was spiritually-minded like the young preacher. Beginning in infancy, he had those who taught him the Bible (2 Tim. 3:15). The Greek word for infant is used to describe Jesus in the manger. Later, as a babe in Christ, Timothy was nurtured by Paul.

The point is this—God wants each of us to grow and grow and become those who reach maturity, completion and perfection in Christ. It will never happen in our lives without feasting on the word throughout all of our days.

A child needs nourishment to mature. If a baby never gets beyond his nourishment coming from milk, he will be malnourished and perhaps deformed. The same is true of each of us who have become Christians.

The life of Samuel shows the spiritual progression one must make. When Hannah brought the child to Eli, the Bible described what happened. "Meanwhile the child Samuel grew before the Lord" (1:21). Five verses later, we find these words, "And the child Samuel grew in stature, and in favor both with the Lord and with men." The next chapter adds, "So Samuel grew and the Lord was with him" (2:18).

Samuel became a great influence and leader in Israel, but this was because he continued to mature and become complete. The same is true of all of us. We are "babes" in Christ, then "children" in Him.

An adult needs nourishment to live. Throughout our lives, we continue to need nourishment. The same is true of us spiritually. Man needs nourishment for spiritual and physical growth.

How long ago did you become a Christian? Have you stagnated in Biblical growth? Are you growing ". . . in the grace and knowledge of the Lord" (2 Pet. 3:18)? If you have stopped feeding yourself, you are dying. Tragically, you may not realize it. Is private Bible study, prayer and meditation part of your life? It was part of the life of David, who had a heart like God. Do you want to become a mature, complete and perfect Christian? Wherever you are spiritually, you must be nourished!

## When the Church Hurts Young People's Spirituality

Brad Harrub

I have been a Christian for several decades now, and I still struggle with an observation that I see throughout the church. Allow me to explain. When children reach fourteen or fifteen years of age parents collectively hold their breath until those children make the decision to obey the Gospel and be baptized. Afterwards there is rejoicing as Mom and Dad breath a sigh of relief. Cards are sent. Prayers are offered. And we may even allow the newly converted male children to wait on the Lord's Table. Instead of social functions, why not focus on youth service to God?

But after a few weeks/months that young person's zeal wanes, and we all return back to the "normal" activities of life. We don't expect much from this new Christian. In fact, truth-be-told, we don't expect anything except for them to continue attending services. After all, they have demands at school and will soon be heading off to college.

It is like baptism is their "cape" that will get them into heaven, and as long as they have that somewhere nearby then that's enough. And so, our young people get into the habit of obtaining their cape, and then promptly hang it on a nearby coatrack. Surely we don't expect them to fly right away ... right? It's like we baptize our children and then put it on cruise control until we once again collectively hold our breath to see if they escaped college with their faith in tact. Why have we allowed this to be the normal? This is not the pattern we find in the New Testament—so why is this the pattern we find in the church?

Here's what I intend to teach my children regarding putting off your service to Christ.

Once you make the decision to follow Christ that becomes your lifelong commitment. It doesn't officially start once school is out or at a more convenient time. Rather your decision to step onto the narrow path begins once you put on that new man (Colossians 3:8-10).

Saul (who would later become known as Paul) was persecuting Christians. He was a dangerous man for Christians to be around. In Acts chapter 9 we find Saul's conversion and baptism. Saul went three days without food and water (verse 9) and then Ananias came to him and taught him the Truth. We then learn "So when he had received food, he was strengthened. Then Saul spent some days with the disciples at Damascus. Immediately he preached the Christ in the synagogues, that He is the Son of God" (Acts 9:19-20, emp. added).

Saul didn't wait years and years to begin bearing fruit. The text says "immediately" he preached Christ! This is a man who was radically changed and wanted to tell the world about Jesus Christ. He wasn't interested in waiting a few years or waiting until he was out of college. He wanted to tell the lost about Jesus.

My prayer is that you will have Saul/Paul's attitude—that you will immediately look for opportunities to teach the Truth and bear fruit. Don't buy into what the world is promoting that you don't start life until you are out of school. You are already alive and you were created for good works (Ephesians 2:10)! God has blessed each of you with talents. Look for ways to use those talents for Him.

If you take the world's mentality of waiting until you are older then several things are likely to happen: (1) you will become cold and apathetic; (2) you will waste several years that you could have reached lost souls; (3) you will help perpetuate this false notion that only older people can bear fruit for Him; (4) you will lose sight of the importance Christ should have in your life!

Don't wait. Come out of that water looking for ways to serve Him. Turn the world upside down and don't let anyone tell you that you can't! After all, you are a new man with God on your side.

Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness (Isaiah 41:10).

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### WONDERFUL Youth Night!

Thanks to everyone who helped make our Area-Wide Youth Night such a great success! Cole Chapman (Song Leader) & Brad Pounders (Speaker) did an outstanding job. Attendance was over 200!!! Special thanks to the ladies for the great meal.

### Chapman Ladies Bible Class Thursday, August 18th at 6:30

#### 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

**IN LOVE AND SYMPATHY:** Our hearts go out in deepest sympathy to the family and friends of Sikes Lyles (11 month old/auto accident).

•**HOME SICK:** Amy Staggs, Clint Stroupe, Gerohn Childs, Juan & Guy Stroupe, Tony & Jane Morrison, Everett Hurt

•**IN HOSPITAL:** Christine Chapman (broke hip-Tupelo)

•**HOME RECOVERING:** Lynn Beard (Hospice), James and Hope Cockrell, Deborah Gullick, Pat Morgan (Robin Criswell's Mother), Janie Chapman

•**EXTENDED ILLNESS:** George Doss (Kelly Brewer's Father), Guy Stroupe, Willie Jeanes, Hollis Fowler (Frankie Fowler's Father), Ed James Pannell, Connie Mauney, Randall Hancock (Liver & Kidney Transplant - Dawn Stroupe's Father), Taylor Crawford, Genice Collette (Mildred Shackelford's Sister), Tony Morrison, Brandon King, Jane Bates, Lylah McGauhy, Fagin and Johnnie Carpenter, Sandra & Niles Jones, Thad Berryman.

•**CANCER:** Carolyn Medlin, Lanny Yancey, Niani Colom-Omotesa, Kenneth Rainey, Marilyn Harrell, Janice Willingham, Wayne Crabb, Lester Wommack, Grady Chandler, Lorie Christian, Deborah Gullick (Mother of Stephanie McAlister, Bo & Brian Chapman), Doug Pannell, Don Allen Riggs (19, student at FU from El Paso, TX), has stage 3 cancer. Cards may be sent to Target House 1, 1811 Poplar Ave, Apt. 211, Memphis, TN 38104), Sam Camp, Sam Warrington (cystic fibrosis & leukemia), Rodney Hilliard, Sue Mauney, Wade Hodges, Jennifer Pannell (Niece of Sharon Pannell), Merida Bane (Barrett & Starrett Chapman's Sister), Katherine Finley, Kane Pannell, Danny Edmonds, Dean McNutt, John Reno, Ruth Greer, Margie James.

•**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).