

September 18, 2022

**Announcements**  
Britt Lindley

**Song Leader**  
John. Hopper

**Scripture Reading**  
Dale Vandygriff

**Opening Prayer**  
Randell Koon (A.M.)  
Tommy Wade (P.M.)

**Closing Prayer**  
Jarvene Shackelford (A.M.)  
Bo Chapman (P.M.)

**Lord's Table**  
Brad McAlister

**Count and Usher**  
Chase Chapman & Danny Shackelford  
**Wednesday Night Song Leader**  
Tripp Yancey (09/12/22)

### OUR RECORD

**September 11, 2022**

Sunday Bible Study: 80  
Sunday Morning Worship: 102  
Sunday Evening Worship: 97  
Wednesday Night Bible Study: 100

### BULLETIN BY E-MAIL

Receive bulletin by e-mail notify us:  
[chapmansecretary@ripleycable.net](mailto:chapmansecretary@ripleycable.net)  
View Chapman Challenger:  
[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).



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

# THE CHAPMAN CHALLENGER

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

## CAN WE UNDERSTAND GOD'S WORD? Mark Lindley

It isn't uncommon today to hear someone say that it is impossible to understand the Bible. It seems to me that this is a reflection on God. Is God not powerful enough, smart enough, and loving enough to give us a Book we can understand? Certainly, He is. The problem, therefore, when it comes to understanding the Bible, lies with men, not with God.

We shouldn't make the Bible harder to understand than it is. Here is a simple, easy-to-remember overview of the New Testament:

Think of Matthew through John as the "Belief Section." These four books were written to inform us of the life of Christ and to produce faith in our hearts (John 3:16; 8:24; 20:30-31).

Think of the Book of Acts as the "Unique Section." Acts is unique in that it is the *only* book of the Bible that gives an example of a person becoming a Christian. There are 10 such examples in Acts. Some examples include more details than others. Studying Acts, you will find that belief is mentioned in 6 examples, repentance in 1, confession in 1, and baptism in all 10. But since the Lord requires all who are in sin to believe, repent, confess, and be baptized, we safely conclude that all who were saved in the book of Acts did all these things.

Think of Romans through Jude as the "How to Live Section." These books were written to instruct Christians how to live in Christ. While studying this section, it will be helpful to remember that these books were written to those who had become Christians already (see the book of Acts for how they became Christians).

Then, think of the Book of Revelation as the "Victory Section." This book was written to encourage Christians to remain faithful to Christ that they might receive eternal life (Revelation 2:10).

There you have it—all the New Testament. If you can keep these simple divisions in mind, you can understand the Word of God.

## I Give Up!

“Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. Draw near to God and He will draw near to you.” (James 4:7–8)

For Christians to have a right relationship with God they may have to get to the point in life where they say, “I give up!”. This is not a declaration of quitting but rather admitting that they have tried to face life’s challenges on their own terms instead of submitting to the Lord and letting Him help them get through life. The above passage simply states, “submit to God” which means we should give up and give in, allowing God to control every aspect of our lives. I know that’s a tall order, however when we base our decisions upon God’s instruction and wisdom life can indeed be less frustrating. Now take a look at the next part of the passage. Resisting Satan is easier said than done because he’ll use every means possible to make us fail in both our physical and spiritual lives. But God assures us here that if we stand up and stand strong the old devil will leave us alone for a while. Finally, we’re told to “draw near to God”. We get close to God through Jesus Christ and when we trust and depend on the Lord to help us He will be right by our side. We’re never promised that life will be easy, what we are promised is we’ll be able to handle whatever life throws us because we have the peace that passes understanding in our hearts (Phil. 4:7) and our Father will never leave us or forsake us. (Hebrews 13:5)

-Jay Launius

## Acceptable Worship Glen Elliott

Religious people these days are clamoring for more exciting and appealing ways to conduct worship services. Lost in the shuffle is that fact that we do not determine what is acceptable worship. We merely recognize what God has authorized in His inspired word. Sadly enough, in an effort to attract larger crowds, some have turned their backs on God’s word in preference to human wisdom. While there are scriptural ways of enhancing the effectiveness of worship, the get-them-in-the-building-at-all-costs-philosophy is filled with pitfalls that undermine the mission of the church for which Jesus died (Lk. 19:10; Acts 20:28). Not everything done in the name of worship is acceptable to God. Nadab and Abihu lost their lives because they sought to incorporate into their worship that which was unauthorized (Lev. 10:1-3 cf. Ex. 30:34-38).

In Colossians 3:16-17, Paul writes: “Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you, with all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another with psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with thankfulness in your hearts to God. And whatever you do in word or deed, do all the name [by the authority] of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through Him to God the Father.” So, in the context of dealing specifically with an item of worship, singing, the inspired writer says that whatever we do must be done by the authority of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Respecting the authority of Jesus Christ means that we will not add to or take away from His regulations for worship. Burning incense along with prayer or playing instruments along with singing are additions to God’s instructions regarding worship. Jesus said, “God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship Him in spirit and truth” (John 4:24). God has regulated worship in the word of truth (John 17:17). By studying His word, we can recognize acceptable worship. Everything else offered to God in worship is rejected simply because it has not been authorized by Jesus Christ.

God knows how He want to be worshiped. He has given instructions as to how we must worship Him acceptably. Any changes in worship procedure must fall within the bounds of God’s inspired word.

Otherwise, our worship experience becomes little more than a sounding board for our own selfish preferences. May God help us as we seek to worship and serve Him alone! (Matt. 4:10).

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### CHAPMAN CHURCH OF CHRIST FRIENDS AND FAMILY DAY OCTOBER 9TH

### GOSPEL MEETING OCTOBER 9-12

*SPEAKER: ADAM MILLER*

### *Bryana & Luke Hobson*

*We want to congratulate  
Luke & Bryana on their  
recent Marriage.  
We are honored to have this  
young family worshipping  
with us at Chapman  
as we grow in Christ.  
There is a box in foyer if you  
wish to give them a gift.*

### 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

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

**SICK SUNDAY :** Pat Shackelford, Shelia Criswell

**HOSPITAL :** Ken Wade, Theo Smith, Ricky Rogers (Jodie Criswell’s Son-in-law),

**SURGERY RECOVERY :** Jodie Criswell, Terry Chapman

**REHAB :** Debbie Chapman

•**EXTENDED ILLNESS:** Louise Pannell (Sharon’s Mother), Malone Hurt, Gerohn Childs, Junior Derrick, Jane Morrison, Patti Hall, George Doss, Joanie Kate Reese, Louise Pannell, Thad Berryman

•**CANCER:** Lennox Kennamore (Leukemia), Jimmie Wayne Roberson, Johnnie Carpenter, Kevin Clifton, Austin Wentz, Steve Barnes (Mickey & Gail Chandler’s Son-in-law), Betty Faye Ledbury,

•**SHUT-INS:** *Tippah County Health & Rehab:* Romia Palmer #204, Jimmy Berryman, *Resthaven:* Johnnie Carpenter

## Sermons available on Facebook and YouTube

### TEXT ALERTS

Text chapmancoc to 95577 to receive Chapman’s Text Alerts.