

September 26, 2021

**Announcements**

Larry Wood

**Song Leader**

Brad McAlister

**Scripture Reading**

Britt Lindley

**Opening Prayer**

Danny Shackelford (A.M.)

Bryan Davis (P.M.)

**Closing Prayer**

John Hopper (A.M.)

Larry Wood (P.M.)

**Lord's Table**

Terry Chapman

**Count and Usher**

David Smith & Jimmy Vandygriff

**Wednesday Night Song Leader**

Larry Wood (09/29/21)

**OUR RECORD**

**September 19, 2021**

Sunday Bible Study: 98

Sunday Morning Worship: 118

Sunday Evening Worship: 79

Wednesday Night Bible Study: 76

**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

## TESTIMONIES OF GOD James Pilgrim

What a great morning, and the beginning of a new day. The writer's wife, Sammie, had already awakened and turned the television on when he arose. She had a video playing of beautiful mountains and valleys, lakes, streams, and a host of fowl and animals. Soothing piano and stringed instruments were playing. As the program was viewed, the song, "Our God, He Is Alive", by A. W. Dicus, continued to flood the mind. Soon, the writer was singing the words of the song in his mind. How good it would have been to have enjoyed a congregation singing his words in the background.

There are highly educated people who do not see and believe in God. That does not change the fact that God exists. David said, "The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God. They are corrupt, they have done abominable works, there is none that doeth good." (Psalm 14:1). Education does not settle the matter. Evidence does! One may ignore the evidence and reject God and His inspired word. However, facts are facts. How else would one explain the prophecies and their fulfillment without God and His inspired word? (2 Timothy 3:16, 17). Consider the prophecy of the virgin birth of Jesus and the fulfillment thereof (Isaiah 7:14; Matthew 1:16-25), over seven hundred years apart. Or, read Isaiah 53, John 19; Acts 8:26-39, and explain how Isaiah could have known this some seven hundred years earlier. The same is true of all other prophecies and their fulfillment. Doctors, with all their modern equipment, sometimes fail in their predictions of the sex of babies to be born. God gave the prophets their messages.

The beautiful scenery, animals, fowl, and music were interrupted by two hen turkeys and their three chicks coming into our yard to eat. As they were going about their design stood out, "Every winged fowl after his kind." (Genesis 1:21). Who knows what evolution might have caused. However, GOD DESIGNED each fowl, fish, beast, and man to bring forth "after their kind." Neither of the little ones looked like crows, doves, cats, or anything else. They looked like their parents. Chase and Olivia Chapman recently had an addition to their family. This gives them three beautiful girls. Each of these girls look like their parents, humans. Neither of them look like a fish, fowl, or beast. Beloved, that is DESIGN!

Turn some of the junk OFF. Watch some of these faith-building programs. Ignore their evolutionary comments, and see what is shown as it is. You cannot help but see God! Thanks, "good thing" and "helpmeet." (Proverbs 18:22; Genesis 2:18).

## A Tough Parable By Joe Chesser

Most of Jesus' parables are easily understood; they cut straight to the heart of his point. For example, the message of the parable of the wise and foolish builders (Matthew 7.24-27) is simple and clear – foolish people hear only while the wise ones hear and do. But a few of Jesus' parables leaves us scratching our heads.

One of these for me is the parable of the dishonest manager (Luke 16.1-9). First of all he was caught squandering his master's possessions and was being fired. So, he decided to cheat his master for selfish purposes by making deals with the master's debtors. When the master found out what he did, he commended the dishonest manager for being shrewd. That's as far as the story goes, but on the surface it sounds like Jesus was commending a crook: "For the sons of this world are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than the sons of light" (Luke 16.8). Thankfully, with a little help from Mike Ireland I was able to see that "Jesus told this story to explain the importance of making the wise and right use of the money and possessions we have ... to be wise and faithful stewards who invest our money in kingdom priorities" (From Morning to Evening: Every Day With Jesus, August 18th).

Volumes have been written on the subject of money. But I'm afraid that many of us have concluded that as long as we give generously in church on Sundays we can use the rest of our money and possessions any way we choose that pleases us. Perhaps Jesus is using this parable to broaden our perspectives as stewards of His blessings to us. It has challenged me to think more seriously about how I use all of what God has given me. How honest or dishonest have I been with my finances? How have I allowed selfishness to justify my decisions regarding my possessions? Have I been faithful enough with unrighteous wealth to be entrusted with true riches? Am I serving God or money. It certainly can't be both (Luke 16.10-13).

Perhaps it's not so much that this parable is tough as it is that dealing with money as God teaches is what's tough. Who really trusts Jesus enough to give up all their possessions in order to be his disciple (Luke 14.33)? Who really seeks the kingdom of heaven more than worrying over the physical needs of life (Matthew 6.25-33)? Who really stores up treasures in heaven in the way they use their money and possessions (1 Timothy 6.17-19; Matthew 6.19-21). Who really begs for the opportunity to contribute to the needs of others (2 Corinthians 8.1-5)? Who really believes that we reap what we sow (2 Corinthians 9.6)? Who really walks by faith in how they use their possessions and not by sight (2 Corinthians 5.7)? Tough questions for honest hearts.

### Pine Vale Children's Home 2021 Fall Food Drive

Due to COVID-19 – We will be  
doing monetary donations.  
Donation Box is in the foyer.

## Can You Count the Apples in a Seed? By Mark Adams

In 1877, James A. Harding (for whom Harding University is named) went to Clark County, Kentucky, where he held a gospel meeting. When asked how the meeting went, one of the elders at the congregation responded, "It was not much of a meeting.

Oh, brother Harding did his usual powerful preaching, the attendance was fair, but the results were negligible. Only little Jimmy Shepherd was baptized."

God doesn't always perceive things the way that we do. When we work hard to serve people in the name of Christ and few respond to our message, it is easy to think, "The results of my work are negligible."

But we must never underestimate the power of one seed that really takes root. In the case of little Jimmy Shepherd, the sole response to Harding's preaching in that gospel meeting, he stayed dedicated to the cause of Christ all of his life. He is better known to some as James W. Shepherd. While he was in college, he began preaching. In 1883, he helped to establish the Berea Church of Christ in Madison County. In 1888, he left with his family to do mission work in New Zealand for several years, preaching all around the country, as well as in Australia.

Upon returning to the states, he worked from 1905 to 1912 as the office editor of the Gospel Advocate, where he both wrote and edited some works that have been treasured for decades.

In Luke 8:8, Jesus is teaching a parable about a sower. Though much seed might never take root or grow, the seed which does take root can produce "one hundred times" what has been sown. Every seed you plant matters, because only God knows just how much good can be done when a person plants a seed through a single act of Christian conviction.

### 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:** Juan Stroupe, Tavin & Sailor Fitzgerald, Lorelei Chapman, John & John Luke Hopper, Everett & Margie Hurt

•**HOSPITAL:** Michelle Bellew

•**SURGERY:** Larry Wood

•**EXTENDED ILLNESS:** Junior Derrick, Jane Morrison, Patti Hall, Johnny Cissom, George Doss, Joanie Kate Reese, Louise Pannell, Thad Berryman

•**CANCER:** April Pounders, Lori Duke, Billy McBryde, 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:** *Tippah County Health & Rehab:* Romia Palmer #204 *Resthaven:* Oleta Phillips, Johnnie Carpenter

**Sermons available on  
Facebook and YouTube**

### TEXT ALERTS

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