

October 5, 2014
ORDER OF WORSHIP

Announcements

Larry Wood

Song Leader

Dalton Beard

Scripture Reading

Chance Criswell

Opening Prayer

Michiel Criswell (A.M.) Jeff Brewer (P.M.)

Closing Prayer

Johnny Cissom (A.M.) Randell Koon (P.M.)

Lord's Table

Barrett Chapman (Presiding),

Junior Derrick, Brock Lindley, Eric Melton

Count and Usher

Andy Reece & Chase Chapman

Prepare Communion

Romia Palmer and Janette Rickles

Wednesday Night Song Leader

Larry Wood (10/08/14)

OUR RECORD

September 28, 2014

Sunday Bible Study: 109

Sunday Morning Worship: 130

Sunday Evening Worship: 116

Wednesday Night Bible Study: 99

Budget: \$3,500

Contribution this week: \$3,368

BULLETIN BY E-MAIL:

Receive bulletin by e-mail notify us:

chapmansecretary@ripleycable.net

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).

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THE CHAPMAN CHALLENGER

Published Weekly by
Chapman Church of Christ
Ripley, Mississippi
(662) 837-7012
chapmanchurch.com

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

Forgiveness Requires Judgment By Gerald Cowan

The Sunday School teacher asked, "What do you have to do before you can be forgiven?" Good question! You would probably expect the answer to be, repent, right? Before you can be forgiven you must repent. There's good scripture evidence for such an answer. But a little boy answered, "Before you can be forgiven you have to sin." Now that is profound! If there is no sin, no mistake, no wrongdoing, there is nothing to forgive.

Two of the most misunderstood aspects of our relationship with each other are closely related: judgment and forgiveness. We often emphasize the need for proper discipline in the church – the instruction, correction, edification, and exhortation by which we become, and help others to become, valid and faithful disciples of Christ. Judgment is implicit in the words used to describe the disciple and the process of discipleship. Judgment requires measurement, evaluation and validation, all of which serve both a negative and positive purpose and can render a verdict of either good or bad, acceptable or unacceptable.

Some insist that we are to avoid all judgment, but we cannot actually do so. We must determine whether a thing, person, or activity is good or bad so that we will know how to respond or relate to it (1 Thess. 5:21-22, Rom. 12:9, and Mt. 7:1-20). All things must be judged as good or bad, right or wrong. It is wrong – it is a sin – to refuse to make judgments, evaluations, and determinations about any thing, person, or action. We are commanded to judge, but it must be righteous judgment (John 7:24), based on the standard of God's word and not just upon human law, opinion, or personal preference.

When we ask for forgiveness, whether from God or man, it is a judgment against ourselves – we are admitting that something is wrong, that we have somehow violated a rule of propriety, committed some offense against the one from whom we seek forgiveness. When we agree to forgive another person it is a judgment against the person – we are stating that something is wrong, there has been a violation, something improper has been done to us by the person (Luke 17:1-3). Yes, repentance is necessary for true forgiveness – you can't really forgive something one refuses to confess or repent. You may be willing to forgive, and you must actually forgive, when confession and repentance are forthcoming. You may actually say, and mean it sincerely, that you do forgive the person even without repentance. But it necessarily implies a judgment against the person, implicit belief that the person is guilty.

Scripture is clear enough about the way to give and receive forgiveness. Knowledge of sin in your own life (self-judgment leads to knowledge of guilt) requires confession to the one sinned against, an implied correction, and a request for forgiveness from the person (Mt. 5:23). Forgiveness granted by that person is an acknowledgment of your sin and a resolution of your guilt. When you judge another person to have sinned against you, go and accuse him in person. If necessary take witnesses who can verify and reinforce the accusation (Mt. 18:15-20). Hopefully, the one you accuse will confess and repent, and you can forgive him. Whenever one is accused of sin by another, if it is true the sinner's obligation is to repent and receive forgiveness, be thus reconciled and restored to fellowship.

When another person falls into error or sin – is overtaken in a fault – any spiritual person who knows of it should seek to restore the sinner, looking carefully to himself and his own spiritual condition (Gal. 6:1-2). Salvation means converting the sinner from the error of his ways (James 5:19-20). Please note that judgment is involved, that judgment leads to accusation, and hopefully accusation leads to repentance, correction, forgiveness, and restoration. Those whose sins are public may be rebuked and corrected publicly. False teachers and gossips must be marked and silenced (Rom. 16:17, Titus 1:9-11).

The church and all faithful Christians must share the attitude of God toward sin. There is no doubt that what God wants to do is forgive and save the sinner. That is why Christ was given to die, as a sacrifice for sin (Rom. 5:6-8). God's forgiveness is not automatic, nor can ours be. Forgiveness is a highly conditional matter. The attitude and response of the guilty person can determine whether or not he will be or even can be forgiven. But there is another very important matter: the attitude and response of the one sinned against can determine whether or not his own sins will be forgiven.

What have we learned? That forgiveness implies the reality of sin. Recognizing sin is judgment. Judgment validates and necessitates accusation. If there is no sin (that too is a judgment) there is nothing to forgive. If there is sin, certain steps must be taken to get forgiveness.

More Important Than Myself By Greg Litmer

If I can learn to truly regard others "as more important" than myself (Philippians 2:3), then I will have taken a giant step toward living day by day as a faithful child of God. I struggle with this concept in some aspects and don't struggle with it in others. How can I view the person who has nothing and lives off of the government as more important than myself? How can I consider a person who does not match my intellectual abilities and talents as more important than myself? I can do it by looking at Jesus, that's how.

How do I compare to Jesus? Like a drop of water in the bottom of an otherwise empty 50-gallon drum. I am nothing, and the Lord died for me. One person wrote that the person who is able to think this way is "the one who is so conscious of his dependence on God, and of his own imperfections and nothingness, that his own gifts only remind him that others must have gifts also, while his sense of his own utter nothingness suggests to him that these gifts may well be superior to his own, and higher in nature and degree."

Thinking this way, it becomes possible for me to "not merely look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of others." Paul's point is that the feelings, interests, and needs of our brethren are to be put before and above our own. That does not mean to ignore our own needs, but to subordinate them to the needs of others. In Romans 12:10 Paul put it this way: "Be devoted to one another in brotherly love; give preference to one another in honor."

Just think of how this understanding would affect our conduct in very practical ways. All of the sick would be visited and cared for just because we would be thinking about them. No one's burdens would have to be borne alone -- because brothers and sisters would always be there with arms extended to help pick them up. We would all be present at every service that our health allowed because we would be concerned about considering one another, to "provoke unto love and good works" (Hebrews 10:24). Arguments concerning non-doctrinal issues would be laid aside; they would cease, because the brethren involved in them would be more respectful of the preferences of others. Even when I have been sinned against, if I understand Paul's teaching in Philippians 2, then I am going to be most concerned about the spiritual welfare of the other person. That changes my entire attitude.

When I live my life recognizing that I am to follow the example of Jesus and to see others as more important than myself, I will engage in personal evangelism even when it is inconvenient or makes me feel uncomfortable. I will be moral and conduct myself as a child of God should every minute of every day because I want to give the best possible example that I can to every one with whom I come into contact. Christianity is not about me -- that proved to be a hard lesson for me to learn. It is about the other person.

At Your House By Wendell Winkler

Will priorities be established in your children when...

- You are early for their ballgame, but late for worship?
- You check on their homework regularly, but never check on their Bible class lessons?
- You won't let them miss school even though they don't want to go, but let them miss church worship services?
- You won't let them stay up late on school nights, but let them stay up late on Saturday night.
- You will serve as room mother at their school or volunteer at school, but will not help with classes, activities, programs which involve spiritual matters?
- You attend open house at their school, but do not visit their class room of Bible school, or even know where their class meets?
- You support, attend, or even participate in their sports activities (baseball, softball, basketball, volleyball, etc.) but regularly miss activities involving the church?
- You never (almost never) miss meeting with the civic or social club of which you are a member, but frequently miss worship services?
- You go to work even though you do not feel like it, but stay home on Sunday in the same condition?

UPCOMING EVENTS

OCTOBER 5, 2014

Chapman Singing:
Tippah County Hospital
Nursing Home at 2 PM

Visitation Group:
Will meet not meet this month.

Pine Vale Children's Home Fall Food Drive:

Items requested:
Brown Sugar
Drink Boxes
Toilet Cleaner
SOS Pads

Please place items in the kitchen by classrooms.
Will be picked up the week of October 20th.

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• **Chapman Fish Fry:**
Thursday,
October 23rd
at 5 PM
Ladies please
bring desserts.



NEW MEMBERS:

John & Candace Hopper have recently placed membership with us. We are happy to have them as a part of our church family.
Address: 2551 CR 400, Falkner, MS 36829
John Cell: 587-0827
Candace Cell: 228-0172
Emails: j_hopper21@yahoo.com
candacehopper@icloud.com
✂Please add to your church directory.

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

• **SICK SUNDAY:** Phyllis Christian, Everett Hurt, Janie Carpenter

• **REHAB:** Cullen Loveless (Ricky's Father) - Landmark Nursing & Rehab in Booneville.

• **HAVING TEST/SURGERY:** Keith Newby, Wayne Vandygriff, Molly Michaels (Jeff & Amy Stagg's Niece), Jamison Staggs, Lyndon Beard.

• **IN HOSPITAL:** David Barkley (Baptist East - Kelly Brewer's Uncle), June Holcomb (Tupelo/Heart Surgery), James Jordan (Tupelo/Cancer).

• **EXTENDED ILLNESS:** Terry Jumper (myasthenia gravis), Danny Robertson (Amy Stagg's Father), Courtney Cissom (heart), Jane Bates, Lylah McGauhy, Hudson Grisham (Brother-in-law of Mildred Shackelford), Fagin and Johnnie Carpenter, Sandra & Niles Jones, Thad Berryman. • **CANCER:** Yater Shinall (Dawn Jackson's Father), Margaret Koon (Randle Koon's Sister), Brenda Wallace, Wade Hodges, Jennifer Pannell (Niece of Sharon Pannell), Grey Roberson, Merida Bane (Barrett & Starrett Chapman's Sister), Beth Kuykendall, William Thrasher, Donna Daniel (Clint Stroupe's Mother), Katherine Finley, Kane Pannell, Mary Joyce Jeter (Sister of Juanita Michael), Rhonda Shannon, Ann Bennett, John Tiesney, Danny Edmonds, Dean McNutt, John Reno, Ruth Greer

• **SHUT-INS:** *Resthaven:* Oleta Phillips (Mailing: Resthaven Care Center, 103 Cunningham Drive, Ripley, MS 38663), *Tippah County Hospital Nursing Home:* Lorene Willis, Geraldine Benefield, Christine Chapman, Billie Floyd (Mailing: Tippah County Nursing Home, 1005 City Avenue North, Ripley, MS 38663)

*Please notify Karen Yancey (chapmansecretary@ripleycable.net) of any updates to the prayer list.

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The Bible Broadcast

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