

**November 2, 2014
ORDER OF WORSHIP**

Announcements

Randell Koon

Song Leader

Jodie Criswell

Scripture Reading

Chase Chapman

Opening Prayer

Johnny Cissom (A.M.) Chance Criswell (P.M.)

Closing Prayer

Joel Moore (A.M.) Chase Chapman (P.M.)

Lord's Table

Rickey Loveless (Presiding),

Bobby Bridges, David Smith, Jack Harris

Count and Usher

Ricky Cissom & Eric Melton

Prepare Communion

Robin Chapman & Molly Moore

Wednesday Night Song Leader

Chance Criswell (11/05/14)

OUR RECORD

October 26, 2014

Sunday Bible Study: 126

Sunday Morning Worship: 149

Sunday Evening Worship: 114

Wednesday Night Bible Study: 102

Budget: \$3,500

Contribution this week: \$3,538

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

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Ripley, Mississippi
(662) 837-7012
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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

The Sin of Murmuring by Gene Taylor

"So all the congregation lifted up their voices and cried, and the people wept that night. And all the children of Israel complained against Moses and Aaron, and the whole congregation said to them, 'If only we had died in the land of Egypt! Or if only we had died in this wilderness! Why has the Lord brought us to this land to fall by the sword, that our wives and children should become victims? Would it not be better for us to return to Egypt?'" (Num. 14:1-3)

In the above text the Israelites murmured against their gracious and loving God. Needless to say, their murmurings displeased Him.

Sadly, many Christians are murmurers and complainers.

In the home, on the job and in the local church they grumble, murmur and complain. They can see nothing good. To them, everything is bad -- their life is miserable and they want to make it that way for everyone else.

To murmur means to grumble or whine. It is not wrong to complain if correction is needed, but there should be no murmuring.

The Grecian widows in Acts 6:1-5 had a just complaint. They were being neglected in the daily ministrations. It was in order for them to complain but not to murmur.

In relation to the local church, if you have a just complaint about services, the temperature of the building, the singing, the song leader, the elders, the preacher, Bible classes, etc., a complaint is in order. But if it is not corrected as you would have it, do not murmur. Such murmuring is wrong.

There are several examples of the sin of murmuring in the New Testament, like the parable of the laborers in the vineyard (Matt. 20:1-16). They murmured because they had worked all day while others who had worked for a much shorter period received the same wages. They had received their just due but they still murmured.

The scribes and Pharisees murmured against the disciples of Jesus because they ate and drank with publicans and sinners but they were really striking out at Jesus (Luke 5:29-32). They did not care that the publicans and sinners needed Jesus. They were only concerned with their personal agenda.

The Jews murmured about Jesus because He said He was the bread of life (John 6:41). Instead of investigating His claim in an effort to know the truth, they murmured.

If we were to summarize the general tone of these examples it would be fair to conclude that when the behavior of Jesus was not according to what they thought it should be, they murmured.

There is not a single one of us who appreciates murmurers. When another person engages in this sin, we see its ugly quality. Trust me, it does not look any better in us.

Make no mistake, murmuring is sin. "Do all things without complaining and disputing, that you may become blameless and harmless, children of God without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world" (Phil. 2:14-15). "Be hospitable to one another without grumbling" (1 Pet. 4:9). It causes one to perish (1 Cor. 10:10).

Sadly, murmuring is one of the most prevalent sins among some brethren. Those who would never think of committing adultery or murder are guilty of this sin. Some who have the highest morals, adhere most closely to doctrine and are most liberal in their giving negate all the good things they do by whining.

Discontent causes murmuring. Christians are taught to be content with necessities (1 Tim. 6:7-8); what they have (Heb. 13:5); their lot (Phil. 4:11); and God's way (Luke 5:5). Selfishness is the second cause of murmuring (Phil. 2:4; Rom. 15:2). Selfish people want their way and do not like it one bit if they do not get it, therefore, they murmur.

Being discontent and selfish, one murmurs and whines and thus sins bringing condemnation to himself. Another product of his actions, though, is division among God's people for that is what the murmurer is trying to do -- get people to become sympathetic to his point of view and antagonistic toward the other point of view. The Proverbist tells us that one of the seven things God hates is "one who sows discord among brethren" (Prov. 6:19).

Let us not murmur. Rather, let us be content in life. Let us be happy and "rejoice always in the Lord" (Phil. 4:4). Let us be thankful for our blessings and be characterized by a spirit of gratitude (1 Tim. 2:1).

Let us never be selfish. Let us always regard others better than self and look out for the interests of others (Phil. 2:3-4). Let us follow the things which make for peace and let all things be done unto edifying (Rom. 14:19; 1 Cor. 14:26).

"Let all bitterness, wrath, anger, clamor, and evil speaking be put away from you, with all malice. And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God in Christ forgave you" (Eph. 4:31-32).

Ebola and Christianity

Dan Jenkins

The introduction of the deadly virus, Ebola, in our nation has captured the attention of most Americans. It has been the featured story on all newscasts. What American is there who has not heard of it, and how many of us have not had a sense of fear about its impact? It would help us if we could learn some spiritual lessons from all that has happened.

Think about how rapidly this disease has spread. When it first arrived in Dallas, it impacted the life of just *one* man, but in the days which followed, we learned more about the disease. That single person touched the lives of *more than one hundred* others even before he entered the hospital. Suppose each of them had become infected and had also spread the disease to one hundred others. Instead of there being one individual, that “second generation” of infected people would number 10,000. If each of those spread the sickness to 100 additional individuals, the third generation would number 1,000,000. It was this kind of geometric progression that created such a stir around this nation.

Apply these numbers to the spread of Christianity, and you can understand why the first-century church spread so rapidly. The church began on Pentecost with just a handful of disciples, but by the end of the century it is estimated that there were over 6,000,000 Christians. This growth continued into the next century. Unlike Ebola, it did not bring death, but it brought life to a dying world.

While Ebola reduplicates itself in just 21 days, teaching the gospel to others can sometimes take longer. The seed of the gospel lands in various kinds of soil, and the soil, not the seed, determines if it will germinate. However, that seed has always been “living and active” (Heb. 4:12). The redeemed have “. . . been born again, not of corruptible seed, but incorruptible, through the word of God which lives and abides forever” (1 Pet. 1:23).

Our commission has never been to go into all the world and baptize every creature. It was not the task of the early church. He said, “Preach the gospel to every creature” (Mark 16:15). It is easy for Christians to become discouraged because they have not led another to the Lord.

The issue is not whether they became Christians but whether we taught them! As much as we long to see those we teach being baptized into Christ, we must remember what is involved in the great commission we have received from the Lord. He said, “Go . . . teach.”

The spread of Ebola can teach us. If each of us would win one soul each year and teach them to do the same, what impact would that have? Do the math. In just 34 years every person on earth could be a Christian! He said, “Go...teach!”

Difficult Commands

By Tom Moore

Mark Twain once commented that the sections of the New Testament giving him the most trouble were not those he couldn't understand, but rather the sections he could. The question I ask is “Why?”

Jesus said, “If ye abide in my word, then are ye truly my disciples; and ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free” (John 8:31-32). This fact should cause us to take seriously our responsibility to the Scriptures. Our responsibility is to study (2 Tim. 2:15; 1 Tim. 4:13) and obey (Matt. 7:21; Luke 6:46). Obedience is not always easy, especially for those who care more for their own personal wants and the opinions of others than the things of God. A good example of this is seen in John 9, where parents were being questioned concerning the healing of their blind son. Instead of confessing that it was the Christ that did the healing, they skirted the issue. “These things said his parents, because they feared the Jews: for the Jews had agreed already, that if any man should confess him to be Christ, he should be put out of the synagogue” (John 9:22). They cared more for the opinions of man.

Most people, it seems to me, are troubled by what is taught in the scriptures because they struggle in giving their all to God. I do not believe we will be troubled by the Scriptures, if we will “love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength” (Mark 12:30). If we do this, we will have no trouble with the teachings of the Scripture.



UPCOMING EVENTS

CHAPMAN'S TRUNK-R-TREAT/HOTDOG ROAST/HAYRIDE:

Saturday, November 1st at 6PM

We would like to encourage everyone to dress up. There will be prizes for the best child & adult costumes and best decorated trunk. The trunk-r-treat participants are to park in the front parking lot and all others park in the back.

There is a food sign up sheet in the foyer.

Molly & Chris Moore's

Baby Shower

Sunday, November 2nd

2:00 to 4:00 pm - Come and Go

at Chapman Church of Christ Fellowship Hall

NOVEMBER 2, 2014

Chapman Singing:

Tippah County Hospital Nursing Home at 2 PM

&

Visitation Group:

Will not meet.

PROGRAMS OF WORK

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 Hudson Grisham (Mildred Shackelford's Brother-in-law).

•**REHAB:** Cullen Loveless (Ricky's Father) - Landmark Nursing & Rehab in Booneville. ***Will come home end of this week.*

•**SURGERY:** Barrett Chapman

•**IN HOSPITAL:** Wayne Vandygriff (Back Surgery/Memphis), Juan Stroupe (Knee Replacement Surgery/Tupelo), Deborah Gullick (Mother of Stephanie McAlister, Bo & Brian Chapman/Oxford), Thad Berryman (Booneville).

•**HOME FROM HOSPITAL:** Audrey Box

•**EXTENDED ILLNESS:** Terry Jumper (myasthenia gravis), Glen Moore (Joel's Brother), Courtney Cissom (heart), Jane Bates, Lylah McGauhy, Fagin and Johnnie Carpenter, Sandra & Niles Jones, Thad Berryman. •**CANCER:** Elaine Mauney, David Barkley (Kelly Brewer's Uncle), 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, 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.*