

**December 1 2019
ORDER OF WORSHIP**

Announcements

Jarvene Shackelford

Song Leader

Chance Criswell

Scripture Reading

Danny Shackelford

Opening Prayer

Ricky Cissom (A.M.)

Mickey Chandler (P.M.)

Closing Prayer

Kevin Shackelford (A.M.)

Eli Carter (P.M.)

Lord's Table

Bryan Davis(Presiding),

Ricky Loveless, Mason McAlister, Palmer Jones

Count and Usher

Bobby Bridges & Terry Chapman

Prepare Communion

Jill and Hannah Loveless

Wednesday Night Song Leader

Larry Wood (12/04/19)

OUR RECORD

November 24, 2019

Sunday Bible Study: 105

Sunday Morning Worship: 128

Sunday Evening Worship: 96

Wednesday Night Bible Study: 99

Budget: \$3,500

Contribution this week: 3,865

BULLETIN BY E-MAIL:

Receive bulletin by e-mail notify us:
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

THE CHAPMAN CHALLENGER

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

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

IN EVERYTHING GIVE THANKS Mark Lindley

"In everything give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you" (1 Thessalonians 5:18). This statement Paul wrote to the church of Thessalonica is one that should be applied to our lives daily. During the holiday season, there is an emphasis on the need for being thankful. However, if we adopt the attitude Paul commanded, we will give thanks "in everything," at all times, and not just during Thanksgiving.

Notice that Paul admonished to "give thanks." This term implies that God wants His children not only to feel thankful, but also to "express" (give) gratitude and thanksgiving. Paul taught this same principle in writing to the church at Ephesus: "Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ" (Ephesians 5:20). One way to give thanks is through prayer. By offering prayers of thanksgiving to God, we are reminded that we are dependent on God for all things. Every "good and perfect" gift is from God (James 1:17). Without His blessings upon our lives, we would have nothing. "For in him we live, and move, and have our being" (Acts 17:28). Every breath, every meal, every ray of sunshine is from His bountiful hand.

Further, consider that Paul instructed us to give thanks "in everything." He did not teach that we should be thankful "for" everything. Certainly, we should not be thankful "for" gang violence, child abuse, broken homes or divorce. Nevertheless, Christians can learn to be thankful "in" all circumstances. For the Christian, there is always a "bright side." In all circumstances, there is the quiet confidence and calm assurance that comes from knowing God and being close to Him. The Father has promised that He will never leave or forsake His children (Hebrews 13:5-6).

Finally, notice from the text that being thankful is "the will of God in Christ Jesus." Jesus taught in the Sermon on the Mount that "doing the Father's will" is necessary to go to heaven: "Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven" (Matthew 7:21). "Doing" the Father's will is vital! It is only by doing His will that we can enter into the kingdom of heaven. We might think that "doing the Father's will" involves some great accomplishment that would dazzle others who heard of it. But Paul taught that simply being thankful in everything is part of doing God's will.

In view of these thoughts, we should all realize the great importance of being thankful. If we have not been "giving thanks in everything," then a change is in order. A day should not pass without every person giving thanks to God for the countless blessings He provides!

THOSE WHO FOLLOW GOD

As dear and precious children of God Christians must feel strongly the obligation to be God's followers. Paul admonished the Christians at Ephesus to, "Be ye therefore followers of God, as dear children." (Ephesians 5:1) As members of God's family, believers must rightly seek to be like their loving Father. We are God's children. God created us. If we are Christians God saved us by His grace. We are to live like Jesus by imitating Him. We must do as God does. After all, you are His dear children.

Those who follow God must walk in love. Jesus, our great example of love, offered Himself to God as an offering and a sacrifice. "And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet smelling savour." (Ephesians 5:2) Love motivates the sacrifice of self to God. Once self has been offered, the sacrifice of time, money or other possessions is not difficult. Those who have difficulty offering "things" to God should "first give their own selves to the Lord." God's love for us motivates us to "walk in love." "We love him, because he first loved us." (1 John 4:19)

Those who follow God must avoid sinful things. "But fornication, and all uncleanness, or covetousness, let it not be once named among you, as becometh saints; Neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor jesting, which are not convenient: but rather giving of thanks." (Ephesians 5:3-4) Followers of God must avoid, (1) Any type of illicit sexual intercourse,

(2) All impurity -- moral, physical or motive, (3) A greedy desire to have more, (4) Obscenity, (5) Foolish talking, and (6) Language that is indecent, coarse, vulgar or abusive. These qualities are very unbecoming to those professing Christianity. If these things are allowed into the life of a Christian it says to the world that Christianity is only being professed, not practiced.

Those who follow God must practice the art of giving thanks. Do not practice sinful things instead; practice the art of "giving thanks." (Ephesians 5:4) Jesus is our great example of thanksgiving. At the tomb of Lazarus Jesus gave thanks. (John 11:41) While instituting His Supper the Bible says Jesus "gave thanks." (Luke 22:17-20) Jesus was thankful and His followers must also practice the art of thanksgiving. "In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you." (1 Thessalonians 5:18)

Our greatest privilege and our greatest challenge are to be a follower of God. Following God begins with Bible study and obedience. (2 Timothy 2:15, Acts 2:38.) To become a Christian you must hear the gospel (Romans 10:17), believe in Jesus as the Christ (Mark 16:16), repent of all sins (Acts 17:30), confess Christ as Lord (Acts 8:36) and be baptized for remission of sins. (Acts 2:38) Following God continues as self is sacrificed to God. (Romans 12:1) The result of following God is "an inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God." (Ephesians 5:5)

-Charles Box

UPCOMING EVENTS

Pine Vale Christmas Child

Girl - 16 years old

December 7th - Pine Vale Holiday Party

West Church of Christ at 11 AM

Bring a dish.(Potluck Luncheon)

Please give money to Karen if you would like to help with her gifts.

Make plans to attend this special event for Pine Vale. If you plan to come to Party – please sign list in foyer. Will need to know number attending party for seating arrangements.

CHAPMAN HOLIDAY BASKETS

December 8th– after Evening Service

If you wish to help on purchasing items for baskets - please give money to Karen.

List of Names doing baskets for - posted in foyer - please review - want to make sure we don't miss anyone.

CHAPMAN

WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE CLASS

Guest Speakers - Starting 11/27/19

"Onward and Upward with Christ"

11/27/19 – Donald Roberson

12/04/19 – Wayne Cox

12/11/19 – Josh McCrary

12/18/19 – Barry Kennedy

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 Brother **James Barrett Chapman, Sr.** He served as an elder at Chapman for 41 years. He will be greatly missed.

I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith
(2 Timothy 4:7)

•**RECOVERY:** Loretta Criswell, Debbie Chapman, Anna Palmer

•**EXTENDED ILLNESS:** George Doss, Pat Waide, Joanie Kate Reese, Linda Chapman, Nina Morrison, Jo Chapman, Louise Pannell, Tony Morrison, Thad Berryman

•**CANCER:** Keith Hall, Hermie Henry (Bonnie Hurt's Mother), Kay Thompson, Cohen Hurt, Frank Elliott, Jimmy Smith, Lanny Yancey (Treatments), Danny Yancey, Sandra Jones, Dianne Graves, Betty Faye Ledbury, Cutah Newby, Peggy Boggs, Marsha Jones, Nita Trotter, Carolyn Medlin, Niani Colom-Omotesa

•**SHUT-INS:** Resthaven: **Oleta Phillips, Johnnie Carpenter** (Mailing: Resthaven Care Center, 103 Cunningham Drive, Ripley, MS 38663), Tippah County Hospital Nursing Home: **Christine Chapman, Earnestine Murphy** (Mailing: Tippah County Nursing Home, 1005 City Avenue North, Ripley, MS 38663).