

**December 3, 2017  
ORDER OF WORSHIP**

**Announcements**

Danny Shackelford

**Song Leader**

Jodie Criswell

**Scripture Reading**

Casey Harris

**Opening Prayer**

Larry Wood (A.M.) Gene Yancey (P.M.)

**Closing Prayer**

Mickey Chandler (A.M.) Jeff Brewer (P.M.)

**Lord's Table**

Terry Chapman (Presiding),

Bobby Bridges, Chase Chapman, J C Newby

**Count and Usher**

Bryan Davis & Kevin Shackelford

**Prepare Communion**

Janette Rickles & Romia Palmer

**Wednesday Night Song Leader**

Mason McAlister (12/06/17)

**OUR RECORD**

**November 26, 2017**

Sunday Bible Study: 120

Sunday Morning Worship: 134

Sunday Evening Worship: 130

Wednesday Night Bible Study: 117

Budget: \$3,500

Contribution this week: \$3,721

**BULLETIN BY E-MAIL:**

Receive bulletin by e-mail notify us:

[chapmansecretary@ripleycable.net](mailto:chapmansecretary@ripleycable.net)

Also can view on our website:

[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).



# THE CHAPMAN CHALLENGER

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[chapmanchurch.com](http://chapmanchurch.com)

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

## IT'S ALL ABOUT CHOICES Mark Lindley

God created man with the freedom to make choices. In the beginning, God created Adam and Eve, and placed them in the Garden of Eden. God allowed them to eat of all the trees of the garden except the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. The first couple had a choice to make, and they made the wrong choice, eating the fruit of the forbidden tree. As a result of their disobedience, they were driven out of the garden of Eden and away from the tree of life (Genesis 3:22-24).

All across the ages, people have had the God-given freedom to make choices. Making the wrong choices brings heartache and sorrow. Making right choices leads to peace and happiness.

On the occasion of Genesis chapter 39, Joseph had a choice to make. Potiphar's wife tried to seduce Joseph. She enticed him, saying, "Lie with me" (Genesis 39:7). Joseph was a young man who had normal desires and passions; yet, Joseph resisted the temptation, saying to Potiphar's wife: "Behold, my master wotteth not what is with me in the house, and he hath committed all that he hath to my hand; There is none greater in this house than I; neither hath he kept back any thing from me but thee, because thou art his wife: how then can I do this great wickedness, and sin against God?" (Genesis 39:8-9).

What great moral strength and determination to make the right choice! Joseph had been sold by his brothers as a slave. He was far away from his home and family. Potiphar's wife surely would not tell her "secret." Joseph could have felt sorry for himself because of his unfortunate circumstances. He could have reasoned, "My own brothers betrayed me. My life has been hard. I deserve some pleasure." However, Joseph was a true man of God and would not compromise his moral convictions. He remained pure because he made a "choice" to refuse temptation. No one would "make" Joseph commit sin. He had a "choice."

There is no doubt that one's childhood and upbringing have an impact on the choices one makes later in life. Nevertheless, a poor childhood does not give one a free pass to live the balance of his days in rebellion to God. Many people overcome the challenges of an awful childhood and go on to serve the Lord.

No one is ever "defined" by things that happened to one in childhood. Josiah was a godly king, even though his father and grandfather were exceedingly wicked (II Kings 21-22). Josiah served God despite the poor example his father and grandfather set. As difficult as it may be, people can still do the same today. No one will force you to sin against God.

One can choose moral purity, even if one's parents were immoral. One can choose to be clean and sober, even if parents were addicted. One can choose to be faithful to one's spouse, even if one's parents were unfaithful. It's all about choices! "Chose you this day whom ye will serve...as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord" (Joshua 24:15).

## How George Foreman Quit Drinking

Former heavyweight boxing champion George Foreman, in his book *God in My Corner*, tells how he quit drinking. He writes:

On my nineteenth birthday, I got so drunk that I couldn't remember what happened that night. The next day, I ran into my friend who had been badly beaten up. He had a swollen eye and other bruises. I asked what happened.

"Don't you remember?" he asked. "You beat me up last night!"

That stunned me. It shook me so much that I decided to never take another drink of alcohol. And I never have since then. I wouldn't be where I am today if I hadn't quit smoking and drinking.

"Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging: and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise."

--Proverbs 20:1

## Why Should We Go to Church? By Jeff Arnette

From time to time I am asked this straightforward question, "why should I go to church?" Believe it or not, most often it's Christians who ask this question. Typically, this question comes up because you invited someone to church.

This is probably a friend or loved one who hasn't been to church in a while and you are genuinely concerned for them. I would even bet that you hope they could experience the love, fellowship, sense of belonging, and awe of coming into the presence of God to worship. I would bet that you want them to feel the spiritual boast that you personally feel when you go to church services.

This person hasn't been to church in a long time, you genuinely want to see them at church, and you really care about their life. So, you carefully approach them and say, "Hey \_\_\_\_\_, it's good to see. We have missed you at church lately. How are you doing?"

Let me say upfront that most often when you ask someone about church or say to them, "I missed you at church," they hear something totally different from what you are saying or meaning to convey to them. What they hear is "I was at church! Where were you?" They hear, "I'm judging you! You're a horrible person! Why haven't you been to church?" You are trying to convey love and concern but they only hear judgment and being pressured into doing something they don't want to do. This is not always the case but more often than not it is how they feel.

So, let me challenge you instead to ask about their life. Ask them how things have been going. Don't tell them you missed them. It might be true but typically they will not believe it. Instead, of saying I miss you and you are important to me show them by spending time with them.

So, why would anyone want to go to church? You really do need to know this because you will be asked. If it hasn't happened already it will happen eventually.

First, let me say that the greatest motivation is not about rules. It's not because God says to go (It's true but those who are weak don't really care about that) but because of the mutual benefits we will all gain from it. "And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near." (Hebrews 10:24-25, ESV).

The point of this passage is so much bigger than God says you have to go to church. The point of this passage is much greater than simply keeping the rules. First, notice that the writer tells us that stirring up one another to love and good works happens when we assemble together. In fact, he says that we should give considerable thought to how we will do that. Second, he says don't neglect meeting together instead we are to encourage one another.

The goal and reason for going to church is not because God demands it but because when you attend church services it's beneficial for you. You will be strengthened, encouraged, feel the love of the Lord's people, and given the opportunity to do good works for others. Living the Christian life is not meant to be lived alone but among the Lord's people within the church.

Why should you attend church? Because it's good for you and will make your life better.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**REMINDER:  
SUNDAY EVENING TIME – 2:00 PM**

**LADS TO LEADERS 2018**  
Don't forget to turn in your registration & hotel forms.

**Pine Vale Christmas Child**  
Girl - 14 years old  
**December 9<sup>th</sup> - Pine Vale Holiday Party**  
Foote Street Church of Christ at 11 AM  
Bring a dish.(Potluck Luncheon)  
Please make plans to attend this special event for Pine Vale.

### 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 Lynn Pannell (Sharon Pannell's Brother) and Nelda Wallace (Wilma Wood's Cousin)

•**SICK SUNDAY:** Robin Newby, Daxten McVey, Debbie Chapman, Crystal Graves (Car Accident)

•**HOSPITAL:** Kyle Hollis, Buddy Gross, Cortney Cissom, Debbie Chapman

•**EXTENDED ILLNESS:** Venie Holbrook, Cortney Cissom, Tony & Jane Morrison, Juanita Mauney, David Young, Bobbie Prather, Sandra Hopper, George Doss (Kelly Brewer's Father), Connie Mauney, Brandon King, Jane Bates, Lylah McGauhy, Niles Jones, Thad Berryman.

•**CANCER:** Ray Henderson, Bobby White, David Moffitt, Sandra Jones, Dianne Graves, Johnny Johnson, Betty Faye Ledbury, Chester Smith, Lana Waldon, Cutah Newby, Peggy Boggs, Marsha Jones, Nita Trotter, Carolyn Medlin, Lanny Yancey, Niani Colom-Omotesa, Kenneth Rainey, Marilyn Harrell, Janice Willingham, Lester Wommack, Doug Pannell, Sam Camp, Sam Warrington (cystic fibrosis & leukemia), Sue Mauney, Wade Hodges, Katherine Finley, Kane Pannell, Danny Edmonds, Dean McNutt, John Reno.

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