

**December 24, 2017
ORDER OF WORSHIP**

Announcements

Danny Shackelford

Song Leader

Chris Moore

Scripture Reading

Palmer Jones

Opening Prayer

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

Closing Prayer

Jarvene Shackelford (A.M.) Britt Lindley (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

Brock Lindley (12/27/17)

OUR RECORD

December 17, 2017

Sunday Bible Study: 117

Sunday Morning Worship: 139

Sunday Evening Worship: 112

Wednesday Night Bible Study: 106

Budget: \$3,500

Contribution this week: \$3,854

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).



THE CHAPMAN CHALLENGER

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Ripley, Mississippi
(662) 837-7012
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

Edify One Another by David Padfield

At the close of Paul's first letter to the church at Thessalonica, he exhorted them to "edify one another" (1 Thes. 5:11). The word "edify" comes from the Greek word *oikodomeo*. This word occurs thirty-nine times in the original text, and all except eight times it is translated as "build" or "built." Our Lord chose to use this word in Matthew 7:24 when He spoke of the wise man who "built his house on the rock." The idea Paul had in mind was that Christians should "build" one another up in the faith. After defining the word, Thayer comments that it is "the act of one who promotes another's growth in Christians wisdom, piety, holiness, happiness"

(*Greek-English Lexicon Of The New Testament*, p. 440). W. E. Vine said the word is "used metaphorically, in the sense of 'edifying,' promoting the spiritual growth and development of character of believers, by teaching or by example, suggesting such spiritual progress as the result of patient labor." (*Expository Dictionary Of Biblical Words*, p. 194).

One of the highest duties that a Christian has is to encourage others. In a world filled with pessimism, violence and despair, our need for encouragement is great. It is all too easy to let the "ways of the wicked" become our ways. The happy man is the one who refuses to "stand in the path of sinners" or "sit in the seat of the scornful" (Psa. 1:1).

After a week of listening to the gripes and complaints of this sin-sick world, Christians should look forward to an isle of retreat on the Lord's day. A place where the name of God is blessed, not cursed. A place where we can enjoy the "seasons of refreshing" which only God can provide (Acts 3:19).

It is truly a shame the Christians do not spend more time in each other's company. The Hebrew writer bids us to "consider one another in order to stir up love and good works" (Heb. 10:24). After the command, he tells us how it is to be accomplished, i.e., "not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together" (Heb. 10:25).

In the days of Haggai, the people of God grew discouraged while the working to rebuild the temple. God commanded them to get back to work, then gave them comfort by saying, "I am with you, says the Lord of hosts" (Hag. 2:4). Consider what it meant for those Jews to whom Haggai spoke to know the Lord was with them. Surely they could remember the stories of how Jehovah had been with their fathers as they passed through the Red Sea. They knew that God had "led them by the hand" through the wilderness on their way to Canaan. In view of God's goodness, how could they doubt Him now?

In a similar vain, Jesus has promised to be "in the midst" of His disciples when they assemble (Matt. 18:20). What a thought! The Son of God in our midst every Lord's day. He has also promised to be with us as we carry out the great commission (Matt. 28:20). Do you desire to be in the presence of the Lord and His people?

As we run our race toward eternal glory, let us continually encourage each other and "run with endurance the race that is set before us" (Heb. 12:1,2).

The Gift of Us
By David A. Sargent

Marjorie Tallcott was married and had one child during the Great Depression. The family managed to scrape their way through, but as Christmas approached one year Marjorie and her husband were disappointed that they would not be able to buy any presents. A week before Christmas they explained to their six year old son, Pete, that there would be no store-bought presents this Christmas. "But I'll tell you what we can do," said Pete's father, "we can make pictures of the presents we'd like to give to each other."

That was a busy week. Marjorie and her husband set to work. Christmas Day arrived and the family rose to find their skimpy little tree made magnificent by the picture presents they had adorned it with. There was luxury beyond imagination in those pictures – a black limousine and red speedboat for Dad, a diamond bracelet and fur coat for Mom, a camping tent and a swimming pool for Pete.

Then Pete pulled out his present: a crayon drawing of a man, a woman and a child with their arms around each other laughing. Under the picture was just one word: "US".

Years later Marjorie writes that it was the richest, most satisfying Christmas they ever had.

It took a present-less Christmas to remind Marjorie and her family that the greatest gift we can ever offer is ourselves, our presence. *

Our sins separate us from God (Isaiah 59:1-2) and place us on the path to eternal destruction (Matthew 7:13-14).

But God loves us so much that He offers to us "His Presence." God put on human flesh in the Person of Jesus (John 1:14) to come and live among us and then to go to the cross as our perfect representative to die for our sins (2 Corinthians 5:21). Because of His atoning sacrifice, we may have salvation from our sins (Ephesians 1:7), the gift of eternal life (Romans 6:23), and the presence of His indwelling Spirit (Acts 2:38).

In order to accept God's offer of salvation and eternal life, we must place our faith and trust in Jesus (Acts 16:30-31), turn from our sins in repentance (Acts 17:30-31), confess Jesus before men (Romans 10:9-10), and be baptized (immersed) into Christ for the forgiveness of our sins (Acts 2:38). Then, as we walk in the light of His Word, the blood of Jesus continues to cleanse us from sin (1 John 1:7).

Jesus came to this world and died for us so that God and we can become "US" – reconciled to God and together in God's family with the hope of living eternally with Him in heaven.

Won't YOU accept God's offer on His terms?

UPCOMING EVENTS

REMINDER:
SUNDAY EVENING TIME – 2:00 PM



5th Sunday - December 31st
Fellowship meal (potluck) after morning service. Evening service at 1:30 PM conducted by Chapman young men.

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

•**SICK SUNDAY:** Jimmy Berryman

•**SURGERY:** Joan Berryman, Ellis Powell (Jodie & Loretta Criswell's Grandson)

•**IN HOSPITAL:** Amy May (TCH)

•**EXTENDED ILLNESS:** Venie Holbrook, Cortney Cissom, Tony & Jane Morrison, Juanita Mauney, Tracie Gross, 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:** Diane Hodges, Bobby White, 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).