

January 4, 2026

Announcements

Danny Shackelford

Song Leader
Chris Moore

Scripture Reading
Dale Vandygriff

Opening Prayer
Terry Chapman (A.M.)
Tim McMillin (P.M.)

Closing Prayer
Michiel Criswell (A.M.)
Wayne Vandygriff (P.M.)

Lord's Table
Larry Wood

Count and Usher
Rickey Loveless & Brandon Dees

Wednesday Night Song Leader
Brock Lindley (01/07/26)

OUR RECORD

December 28, 2025

Sunday Bible Study: 95
Sunday Morning Worship: 112
Sunday Evening Worship: 81
Wednesday Night Bible Study: 84

BULLETIN BY E-MAIL

Receive bulletin by e-mail notify us:
office.chapmanchurch@gmail.com

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
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RIPLEY, MS 38663

THE CHAPMAN CHALLENGER

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chapmanchurch.com

ELDERS: Terry Chapman, Brad McAlister,
Jarvene Shackelford, Tommy Wade

DEACONS: Bryan Davis, John Hopper, Rickey
Loveless, Chris Moore, Kevin Shackelford,
Wayne Vandygriff, Larry Wood

PREACHER: Mark Lindley

MAKING PLANS FOR THE NEW YEAR Mark Lindley

It is time to make plans for the New Year. With 2026 before us, we should set goals and make plans so that we will have a productive year. Here are some Biblical ideas to guide you as you make plans:

1. Our plans might have to change. While it is important to have specific plans, plans often change. Life happens, and when it does we often have to change with it. Paul wrote, "Wherefore we would have come unto you, even I Paul, once and again; but Satan hindered us" (I Thessalonians 2:18). This verse indicates that Paul had made plans to visit Thessalonica, but for some reason he had to change his plans. Satan had "hindered" Paul.

Our plans are often "hindered" today by unexpected emergencies, tragedies, and sickness. Recently, many have been impacted by violent storms. These storms left dozens, homeless and injured. Tragically, some died. Within a few short hours, these storms changed the plans of many.

The New Year will likely bring great joy and blessings. However, there could also be devastating trials and burdens. The plans we make might have to change.

If we have to cope with trials which alter our lives, we should know that there is One Who does not change. God has promised, "I am the Lord, I change not" (Malachi 3:6). Whatever challenges may come, the God of heaven has promised that He will sustain His children (Psalm 55:22).

2. Our plans should be spiritual. The rich farmer of Luke chapter 12 had plans for "many years." He had torn down his old barns and built new ones that he might have plenty of room for an abundant harvest. The problem was that, in all his planning, he had left God out of his plans. Believing he had "many years" to live, the man died that night (verses 15-21).

Many of us make plans for traveling, saving money, dieting and exercise. While it is fine to have such plans, we should also have plans for reading God's Word, attending worship services with our families, getting closer to God, developing spiritual character, helping and serving others. In other words, we should have "spiritual" goals, in addition to our secular ones.

3. Our plans should be made to the glory of God. Scripture says, "Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God" (I Corinthians 10:31). Doing all things to God's glory gives us a sense of purpose for the New Year. Glorifying God should be the chief goal of life. Each day we should live in such a way that we honor Him in all we do.

By incorporating these ideas into our plans for the New Year, we will have a spiritual focus and purpose. Happy New Year!

Limiting God

Charles R. Rose

The 78th Psalm mentions the very serious problem of ungodly people who limited the Holy One of Israel. In Mark 5, we learn that, because of indifference toward Jesus in Nazareth, "There He could do not work..." When sinners "laughed Him to scorn..." (Mark 5:40), Christ determined that He must go to regions that would not resist the truth. One of the saddest scenes in the entire Bible is found in Acts 13:51, where Paul and Barnabas shook the dust of an unfriendly place off their shoes and left because the citizens of that area refused to listen to God's word. As we consider the actions of those mentioned in Mark 5 and Acts 13, we should also consider our own actions and attitudes as we listen to the Word being preached. Could it be that some of us are like those at Nazareth whose attitude made Jesus move on to Capernaum? Are we guilty of limiting the awesome power of Jehovah because of our neglect and self-pride?

Christ came to give YOU and ME "...life more abundantly..." (John 10:10), but some will not come to Him for that life (John 5:40). To have a lack of faith, a lack of devotion, or a lack of commitment will certainly restrict the blessings that God has promised us. The only life that counts is one that surrenders to the Master (Luke 9:23). Until, and unless, one is ready to "...forsake all that he has..." (Luke 14:33) to follow Jesus, one can never be a true disciple of Jesus Christ. He tells us that loving anyone or anything more than Him causes certain spiritual disaster (Matthew 10:37).

We must have the wisdom to empty ourselves of vanity, hypocrisy, and selfishness lest our lives become so shallow that only Satan could use us. Somewhere along the years, I picked up the following thoughts. I know not who wrote them, but they certainly fit our thoughts for this article.

Let us never limit God by:

1. Failing to pray for wisdom (James 1:5).
2. Ceasing to deeply study the Bible (2 Timothy 2:15).
3. Forgetting to tell others the Gospel story (Mark 16:15-16).
4. Leaning on our own strength (John 15:47).
5. Following the ways of the world (Romans 12:1-2).
6. Trusting in earthly riches and wisdom (Matthew 6:19-20).
7. Forsaking the worship assemblies (Hebrews 10:22-25).
8. Giving less than we should to God's cause (I Corinthians 16:2, II Corinthians 9:6-7)

How Do I Compare to Others?

David Sproule

As we approach the end of one year and the beginning of another, this is often a time of introspection and personal evaluation on numerous levels. As you spend time assessing where you are—financially, relationally, medically, spiritually, etc.—make sure that you are using a proper standard.

Paul addressed this matter in 2 Corinthians 10:12, when he defended himself against false charges that were being made against him and his authority as an apostle. His accusers were ones who were "commending themselves" (i.e., were bragging on themselves), but their standard of evaluation was a faulty standard. Paul stated that "they measure themselves by themselves and compare themselves with themselves," resulting in an inflated opinion of themselves and seeing themselves as doing better than others.

A faulty standard will lead to faulty conclusions. The inspired penman declared that those who compare themselves to others "are not wise" (NKJV) and "are without understanding" (NASB). There is one perfect standard against which we must all measure ourselves—Jesus Christ and His Word! Using any other yardstick is a serious mistake.

Some Christians compare themselves to the world and feel good about themselves. "At least I'm not living like those people anymore or doing the horrible things those people are doing. Compared to them, I'm an angel and doing just fine." A faulty standard will lead to faulty conclusions.

Some Christians compare themselves to "weaker" Christians and feel good about themselves. "I'm not doing much but at least I'm doing more than that sorry excuse for a Christian. I don't see how they think they'll ever make it to heaven. At least I'm doing better than they are." A faulty standard will lead to faulty conclusions.

Some Christians compare themselves to "stronger" Christians and feel bad about themselves. "Look at all they are doing. There is no way I will ever make that much of a difference. I'm embarrassed to even try to do more, as my efforts seem so pitiful." A faulty standard will lead to faulty conclusions.

All Christians should compare themselves to the one standard that never fails, the one standard that remains steadfastly consistent, the one standard that applies universally to all of us in all places for all time. "Imitate Christ" (1 Cor. 11:1). "Follow His steps" (1 Pet. 2:21). "Be conformed to the image of His Son" (Rom. 8:29). Look to His words (John 12:48). Look to His example (John 13:15). As we transition into a new year, spend time in evaluation of where you are spiritually, but make sure that you are using the proper standard.

UPCOMING EVENTS

MS ENHANCED CCW

(carry concealed weapon certification)

Saturday, January 10th

9AM – 5PM

At Chapman Church of Christ

By Bryant Firearm Training & Consulting

Adam Byant: 662-316-9835

As we begin a new year, may our church family continue to grow in faith and love.

Happy New Year!

PROGRAMS OF WORK

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

Articles • Sermons (Audio) • Chapman Challengers

[The Bible Broadcast](#)

Sunday Mornings at 8 AM

• WKZU radio 104.9 FM & WSKK radio 102.3 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 - 662-502-2806 , write -250 CR 550, Ripley, MS 38663) or e-mail

office.chapmanchurch@gmail.com

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

IN LOVE AND SYMPATHY: Our hearts go out in deepest sympathy to the family and friends of Arthur Koon (Randell's Brother/Hospice) and Helen Parks.

Remember count your blessings, pray for our lost ones, the sick, the world and the broken-hearted.

❖ **HOME SICK:** Rickey Loveless, Wayne Vandygriff, Pat Shackelford

❖ **SURGERY RECOVERY:** Karen Yancey, Allison Smith (Wayne Vandygriff's niece)

❖ **EXTENDED ILLNESS:** Juan Stroupe, Caleb McAlister, Pam Mathis, Lori Chapman, Garrison Coats, Thad Berryman, John Walker Perry

❖ **CANCER:** Dewayne Morgan, Teresa Rhea, Kye Elliott (Sharon Pannel's Nephew), Rosie Marie Greer (Jane Morrison's Sister), Belinda Lucy (Jane Morrison's Niece), Marilyn Harrell, Vince Jordan, Jane Childs, Kelly Foster, Paula Curtis, Maverick Speck (3 yr. old), Cindy Moffitt, Kenny James, Chris Grisham, Benny Wallis, Billy Gross, Wade Carmichael, Tiny Willis, Billy McBryde (Rita Smith's Father), George Doss (Kelly Brewer's Father), Loxlee Eaton, David South, Eddie Mauney, Haley Loveless, Sidra Davis, Tish Clark, Kevin Clifton

❖ **SHUT-INS:** *Home:* Janie Chapman, Juanita Michael **Tippah County Health & Rehab:** Romia Palmer, Mike Stroupe

TEXT ALERTS

Text **chapmancoc** to **8779897012** to receive Chapman's Text Alerts.

Sermons available on Facebook and YouTube