

January 5, 2025

Announcements

Danny Shackelford

Song Leader

Chris Moore

Scripture Reading

Eli Carter

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 & Jimmy Vandgriff

Wednesday Night Song Leader

Tripp Yancey (01/08/25)

OUR RECORD

December 29, 2024

Sunday Bible Study: 82
Sunday Morning Worship: 99
Sunday Evening Worship: 72
Wednesday Night Bible Study: 61

BULLETIN BY E-MAIL

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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
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THE CHAPMAN CHALLENGER

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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

A HAPPY NEW YEAR—GUARANTEED!

Mark Lindley

Over the past several days it is likely that we have wished someone a “happy New Year,” and others have wished us the same. But what is it that would bring happiness in the New Year? We may imagine that happiness will be ours to enjoy if we have plenty of money, maintain good health, find a good job, get a job promotion, or if our children excel in school. While these things may be desirable, it is possible for one to have all these things and still not be happy.

The reason one may enjoy many good things in life but not be happy is that the spiritual part of us may be neglected. Scripture refers to this part as “the inward man” (II Corinthians 4:16). Jesus said, “Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God” (Matthew 4:4). The physical body must have food to survive, and the spiritual component within each of us must have spiritual nourishment to survive. True happiness must stem from the inner, spiritual part of us.

From a Biblical perspective, having a happy New Year is not just a wish but a guarantee, if we do certain things. Paul encourages us to “Rejoice in the Lord always: and again I say, Rejoice” (Philippians 4:4). The word “rejoice” means “calmly happy or well off.” This is the type of happiness that does not change with life’s circumstances. Although we may have some adverse and difficult circumstances with which to cope, a child of God can have peace, joy, and happiness in spite of troubles.

The following ideas (spiritual ideas) will guarantee you a happy New Year: (1) Draw near to God (James 4:7-8). Our spirits are made for communion with God, and in order to have spiritual peace we must draw near to Him. A half-hearted effort will not be sufficient. We must totally submit to God and determine to follow His will. (2) Avoid sin and its consequences (Hebrews 3:13). Nothing will take pleasure out of life faster than putting the wrong kind of pleasure into it. Sin promises what it cannot deliver, and in the end, it causes low self-esteem, emptiness, shame, and despair. (3) Maintain a positive attitude. It isn’t easy, but when we experience hardships, we can choose to be positive. James wrote, “Count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations” (James 1:2). When we reflect on our trials with a positive attitude, we understand that our trials are opportunities to get stronger for God. We all need that! (4) Stay busy for God. Having too much time on our hands gives the devil too much time to distract our minds. We should get busy serving others and working in the Lord’s church (Galatians 6:9-10). Then, we won’t have time to murmur or feel sorry for ourselves. (5) Learn to be content. We could all think of things we would like to have, but most of us already have more than we need. We can go through the New Year complaining about the things we don’t have, or we can be thankful for the many blessings God has bestowed upon us (Philippians 2:14; I Timothy 6:7-8).

Practicing these principles will not make us immune to problems in the New Year. However, when trouble comes to us, we can deal with it in God’s ordained way and not lose our joy. Remember: “Rejoice in the Lord always: and again I say, Rejoice.”

Our Forgiving Of Others

By Ron Boatwright

Jesus in His teaching on prayer and in asking God to forgive us of our sins says, "For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses" (Matthew 6:14-15). Our forgiving others may be difficult, but it is essential if we want God to forgive us of our sins. If we aren't forgiven of God then our sins will separate us from God and we will be eternally lost.

In our striving to be Christ-like we are to try to have the same mind-set that Christ has. Philippians 2:5 says, "Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus." According to Jesus, how are we to think of others? "But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you" (Matthew 5:44). Jesus demonstrated this forgiving attitude as He was being nailed to the cross, "Then Jesus said, 'Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do'" (Luke 23:34). Many of these people were later forgiven of God when they repented and were baptized (Acts 2:38, 41). And also Stephen had a forgiving attitude as he was being stoned to death in Acts 7:60, "Then he knelt down and cried out with a loud voice, 'Lord do not charge them with this sin'. And when he said this he fell asleep".

We must not hold grudges and have hatred in our hearts for the wrongs others have done to us. God's word says to us "Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering; bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, and if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you must also do" (Colossians 3:12-13). We must be forgiving of others if we want God to forgive us so we can go to Heaven.

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 that 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).

UPCOMING EVENTS

GRIEF SEMINAR

JANUARY 18-19, 2025

GUEST SPEAKER: JEFF JENKINS

Saturday, January 18th

2:00 PM - Session 1: "Some Things I Wish Everybody Knew About Grief" - Part 1

3:00 PM - Session 2: "Some Things I Wish Everybody Knew About Grief" - Part 2

Sunday, January 19th

10:00 AM - Bible Class: "You Are Not Alone"

10:45 AM - Worship: "A Glimpse into Glory"

12:00 PM - Lunch

1:30 PM - Worship: "God Can & God Will"

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REMEMBER IN PRAYER

IN LOVE AND SYMPATHY: Our hearts go out in deepest sympathy to the family and friends of William Hill (Sam's Father) and Fred Edward Bullock.

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

HOME SICK: Margie Hurt, Wayne & Dala Vandygriff, Mark Lindley, J C & Sandy Newby, David Smith, Sharon Pannell, Myra Palmer

SURGERY RECOVERY: Robin Chapman, Roger McAlister (Brad's Father)

EXTENDED ILLNESS: Wilma Wood, Joanie Kate Reese, Pam Mathis, Lori Chapman, Garrison Coats, Joe Clark, Thad Berryman, John Walker Perry, Juanita Michael

CANCER: Billy Gross, Wade Carmichael, Tiny Willis, Billy McBryde (Rita Smith's Father), George Doss (Kelly Brewer's Father), Ralph Shaw (Janie Chapman's Son-in-law), Loxlee Eaton, David South, Eddie Mauney, Haley Loveless, Sidra Davis, Tish Clark, Kevin Clifton, Austin Wentz, Betty Faye Ledbury

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