

September 29, 2024

Announcements
Ross Shackelford

Song Leader
Larry Wood

Scripture Reading
Tim McMillin

Opening Prayer
Bobby Bridges (A.M.)
Young Men (P.M.)

Closing Prayer
Terry Chapman (A.M.)
Young Men (P.M.)

Lord's Table
Mickey Chandler

Count and Usher
Danny Shackelford & David Smith

Wednesday Night Song Leader
Brice Lindley (10/02/24)

OUR RECORD

September 22, 2024

Sunday Bible Study: 96
Sunday Morning Worship: 113
Sunday Evening Worship: 92
Wednesday Night Bible Study: 86

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
250 COUNTY ROAD 550
RIPLEY, MS 38663

THE CHAPMAN CHALLENGER

Published Weekly by
Chapman Church of Christ

Ripley, Mississippi
(662) 502-2806
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

VOTING AND CHURCH MEMBERSHIP Mark Lindley

Voting for Church membership is a common practice in denominationalism. I remember that when I first heard about the practice many years ago, I knew it did not “sound” Scriptural. The Bible clearly teaches that God loves all, wants all to be saved, and desires that all be members of the New Testament church. These basic Bible facts seem to clash with the concept of voting for Church membership. Since God wants every person to be a member of the New Testament church, why would there be any need to vote? Do people who vote have more power or authority than God? The answers to these questions seem obvious.

What is involved in the voting process? There may be some variation among Churches, but the following are the basics steps involved: First, a candidate presents himself/herself to be considered for Church membership. Second, the person affirms that he/she has been saved, and tells about the “experience” of being saved. Third, the Church then votes on that person to determine if the person is a suitable candidate for Church membership. Fourth, depending on the vote, one is either accepted or rejected.

The practice of voting for Church membership is unscriptural for a number of reasons. First, it is not found anywhere in the Scriptures. In order for a practice to be Scriptural, the practice has to be found in the Scriptures. If voting for Church membership is not found in the Scriptures, and it is not, then it must be an “addition” that originated with men. Second, the whole concept of joining a denomination is foreign to the pages of Bible. Not one person mentioned in the Bible ever joined a protestant denomination. This is an indisputable fact since there were no protestant denominations in the first century. In the New Testament, people were members of “the Lord’s church” (see Matthew 16:18; Acts 20:28; 1 Corinthians 1:2). Third, after the church of Christ was established in Acts chapter 2, no one was ever saved at “point A,” and then joined a Church at “point B.” In the Bible, the moment one is saved from sin, that person is “added,” by God, to the church. Scripture says that “the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved” (Acts 2:47). If the Lord adds the saved to “the” church, and He does, then why would anyone need to join “another” church? First century Christians were members of “one” church, not two. Should it not be the same in the 21st century? If not, why not?

Dear reader, if you have been led to believe that the only option you have is to “join” a church (and to be voted on), please understand that you have another option, a Biblical one: be saved and God will add you to His church (Acts 2:37-47). God has already cast His vote for you!

COME TO REPENTANCE

James Pilgrim

Peter wrote, “The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is long-suffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.” What a “great and precious promise.” (2 Peter 1:4). Pause and read verses 1-11, taking time to reflect on each word, phrase, and thought. Know that I (We) can do the will of God and be saved. (1 John 2:3).

As a child, the writer used to listen to a song about a little train approaching a large hill. Doubtful at first, as the train began going up the hill it began to say, I think I can. I think I can. I think I can. As it climbed higher, it began to say, I know I can. I know I can. I know I can. As it went over the crown of the hill, it said, I thought I could. I thought I could. I thought I could. Beloved, you can overcome anything before you to reap the abundant entrance into the everlasting kingdom. (2 Peter 1:11, 1-10; 1 Corinthians 10:13).

You can follow Paul as he followed Christ. (1 Corinthians 11:1). Paul came to the end of his life, saying, “For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith. Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.” (2 Timothy 4:6-8).

We must have the attitude of Paul to imitate him, “I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me” (Philippians 4:13), and “For me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.” (Philippians 1:21). Read 2 Corinthians 6 and 11 to see what Paul endured. In all of this he remained faithful to God. Paul was not Superman. (1 Corinthians 9:27). He, like the Centurian (Matthew 8:5-13) and Canaanite Woman (Matthew 15:21-28) was committed to God, having great faith. We cannot serve God with half a heart. (Acts 8:37). We must “love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength and with all thy mind;....” (Luke 10:27). Also, Involved in this love is keeping His commandments (John 14:15); not some of them, not only those with which we agree.

You are not robbing banks, practicing idolatry, engaged in witchcraft, and so much more. (Galatians 5:19-21; 1 Corinthians 6:9-11; Romans 1:18-32). You are already doing much of God’s will. (Galatians 5:22-26; Philippians 4:8). In other words, you are doing much of God’s will already. That lets you know that you can do the rest. Do so, and enjoy the benefits. (Matthew 25-26). Imitate Paul. Be like that little train. See you in the eternal kingdom of God, and joy of thy Lord. (Matthew 25:21, 23; 34).

UPCOMING EVENTS

FIFTH SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 29TH

10:00 A.M. BIBLE STUDY

10:45 A.M. WORSHIP

12 NOON FELLOWSHIP MEAL

1:30 P.M. AFTERNOON SERVICE BY
YOUNG MEN

PUMPKIN PATCH

For the Young & Old

OCTOBER 13TH

3:30 PM

2100 CR 805, Blue Mountain

Pumpkin Picking/Festive Food/Fellowship &
Activities for All Ages

Please RSVP – sign up sheet and
more information in foyer

PROGRAMS OF WORK

Website: chapmanchurch.com

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The Bible Broadcast

Sunday Mornings at 8 AM • WKZU radio 104.9 FM

Southern Sentinel Article

Every other Wednesday

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by enrolling in a free Bible correspondence course.
To enroll: call (837-7012), write (250 CR 550, Ripley,
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REMEMBER IN PRAYER

IN LOVE AND SYMPATHY: Our hearts go out in deepest sympathy to the family and friends of Laurie Loveless.

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

HOME SICK: Juan Stroupe

HOSPITAL: Ray Henderson (Vanderbilt)

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

CANCER: Billy Gross, Wade Carmichael, Tiny Willis, Dorothy Hopper (John’s Mother) 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

SHUT-INS: *Tippah County Health & Rehab:* Romia Palmer, Jimmy Berryman, Peggy Davis, Joe Clark

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