

May 1, 2022

**Announcements**  
Danny Shackelford

**Song Leader**  
John Hopper

**Scripture Reading**  
Tripp Yancey

**Opening Prayer**  
David Smith (A.M.)  
Brad McAlister (P.M.)

**Closing Prayer**  
Jeff Brewer (A.M.)  
Mickey Chandler (P.M.)

**Lord's Table**  
Gene Yancey

**Count and Usher**  
Kevin Shackelford & Logan Yancey

**Wednesday Night Song Leader**  
Logan Yancey(05/04/22)

### OUR RECORD

**April 24, 2022**

Sunday Bible Study: 98  
Sunday Morning Worship: 116  
Sunday Evening Worship: 82  
Wednesday Night Bible Study: 94

### BULLETIN BY E-MAIL

Receive bulletin by e-mail notify us:  
[chapmansecretary@ripleycable.net](mailto:chapmansecretary@ripleycable.net)  
View Chapman Challenger:  
[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).



CHAPMAN CHURCH OF CHRIST  
250 COUNTY ROAD 550  
RIPLEY, MS 38663

# THE CHAPMAN CHALLENGER

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[chapmanchurch.com](http://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

## INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT THE THIEF ON THE CROSS By Mark Lindley

While Jesus was suffering the dreadful death of crucifixion, two thieves also were nailed to crosses beside the Lord. According to the Biblical record, one of the thieves repented. This penitent thief has been the subject for countless Bible classes and sermons. Perhaps, he is the world's most famous thief. Consider some interesting facts about this crook who was converted to Christ.

First, the thief who repented was saved from his past sins. The Lord said, "Today, shalt thou be with me in paradise" (Luke 23:43). Jesus, who was deity in flesh, had the power on earth to forgive sins (Mark 2:10). When Jesus promised the thief a place in paradise, this implied that the robber had been forgiven. Therefore, there is no doubt—the thief died in a saved condition. This teaches us that regardless of the sin we have committed, the gracious Lord is willing to forgive (II Peter 3:9).

Second, the thief was saved personally by Jesus, before the New Testament of Christ was implemented and effective. The full gospel of the New Testament was not preached until Jesus arose from the dead and ascended back to heaven. Just before his ascension, Jesus stated that "repentance and remission of sins" would be preached in his name among all nations, "beginning at Jerusalem" (Luke 24:47). Several days later, on the day of Pentecost, the apostles of Christ preached the full Gospel in Jerusalem just as the Lord had predicted (Acts 2:1-47). It was then that the New Testament was implemented and became effective. Keep in mind that Jesus said these things would "begin" at Jerusalem. This teaches that today we cannot be saved in the same manner as the thief on the cross was saved. He was saved personally and directly by Jesus, before the Gospel "began" to be preached in Jerusalem. Paul wrote, "That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved" (Romans 10:9). Of course, the thief could not have believed that God had raised Jesus from the dead because the thief was saved "before" Jesus died. Therefore, the thief could not have been saved by following the teachings of Romans 10:9.

Third, the thief was saved before Jesus commanded that sinners be baptized in his name for the forgiveness of sins. It was after the thief had already been saved that Jesus stated, "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved" (Mark 16:16), and before Peter preached "Repent, and be baptized...for the remission of sins" (Acts 2:38). This shows that we must be saved under the conditions of the New Testament. Jesus forgave the thief by speaking to him personally. Now Jesus speaks to us through his written will, the New Testament.

**Faith and Optimism –  
A Timeless Challenge  
By Joe Chesser**

When your cup runs over, is it a blessing, or a mess? Is your glass half full or half empty? Do you make difficulties out of your opportunities, or opportunities out of your difficulties? Are you the kind that complains about the noise when opportunity knocks? Do you claim to be an optimist who doubts that being one really helps?

While reading Psalm 23 it occurred to me that King David was a true optimist. He wrote things like: "I am never in need ... green pastures ... peaceful waters ... paths of righteousness ... my cup overflows ... even though I walk through the dark valley of death, because you are with me, I fear no harm ... your rod and staff give me courage." His faith in God enabled him to overcome obstacles that would probably derail the faith of most of us. His trust in God allowed him to see winning possibilities in the most horrible circumstances. Remember how he faced a lion, a bear, a giant, and a mentally unstable king? Remember how he faced the death of a child, and rebellion from within his own family? His faith in God empowered him to live with optimism and assurance of victory.

When faced with setbacks and difficulties, our reactions reveal whether we are people of faith and optimism, or people of pessimism and defeat. There are three basic differences in the way optimists and pessimists react to adverse circumstances.

The first is that the optimist sees a setback as temporary, while the pessimist sees it as permanent. When David's infant child died, he saw it only as a temporary separation. Even after praying and fasting that the child would not die, his faith in God never wavered. He could not bring the child back, but he said, "I will go to him" (2 Sam. 12:23). Even death is not permanent for those with faith in God.

The second difference is that the optimist sees difficulties as specific, while the pessimist sees them as pervasive. David's sin with Bathsheba was not allowed to destroy his whole life and eternity. He messed up big time, but he dealt with it as the specific sin it was, repented, and went on to live as a man with the heart of God. His failure with Bathsheba broke his heart, but it did not cause his whole life to be a failure.

The third difference is that optimists view events as external, while pessimists interpret events as personal. King Saul's repeated attempts to kill David was seen by David as rebellion against God, not him personally. He would not raise his hand against Saul because he still saw him as the Lord's anointed. Difficulties are most often simply external circumstances, not personal attacks.

It's a timeless challenge to be more like David, to learn from him how to live by faith and optimism, to see the setbacks in life like a man who had the heart of God

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**CHAPMAN LADIES BIBLE CLASS**  
**May 9, 2022 at 6 PM**  
Topic: Prayer Life

### SENIORS DAY MAY 15<sup>TH</sup>

After evening services in fellowship hall.  
Congratulations to our 2022 graduating high school senior:

**Brice Lindley**

*Please make plans to join us in wishing him well in his future endeavors.*

**CHAPMAN YOUTH NIGHT**  
**May 29, 2022 at 6 PM**

We will have a meal following services at the fellowship building. Everyone is invited to stay and enjoy the meal and fellowship.

### Baby Hopper

There will be a box placed in the foyer for those who would like to give John, Candace, and baby girl a gift. We are all anxiously awaiting her arrival.

## REMEMBER IN PRAYER

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

**SICK:** Doris Williford, Mickey Chandler

**HOSPITAL:** Jodie Criswell (TCH), Cortney Cissom (Rehab), Jimmy Berryman

**•EXTENDED ILLNESS:** Junior Derrick, Jane Morrison, Patti Hall, George Doss, Joanie Kate Reese, Louise Pannell, Jimmy & Thad Berryman

**•CANCER:** Kevin Clifton, Austin Wentz, Steve Barnes (Mickey & Gail Chandler's Son-in-law), Betty Faye Ledbury,

**•SHUT-INS:** *Tippah County Health & Rehab:* Romia Palmer #204 *Resthaven:* Oleta Phillips, Johnnie Carpenter

**Sermons available  
on Facebook and YouTube**

### TEXT ALERTS

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