What Must I Do to Be Saved?

- Hear the Word of God – Rom. 10:17
- Believe that Jesus is the Son of God – Heb. 11:6; John 8:24
- Repent of your sins – Acts 17:30
- Confess Christ before men – Rom. 10:10; Matt. 10:32-33
- Be baptized for the remission of your sins – Acts 2:38; 1 Pet. 3:21
- Live Faithfully – Rev. 2:10

By The Numbers for March 12th

Attendance:
Sun. Bible Study – 63
Sun. AM Worship – 97
Sun. PM Worship – 70
Wed. Night (3/15) – 63

To Our Visitors:

We are so glad and honored that you chose to be with us today. If you have any questions, please feel free to ask the elders or one of the members. If we can be of any assistance, please let us know. Thanks for being with us, and we hope to see you again real soon!

Listen to WTRB 1570 AM and

104.9 FM Radio

Sunday, Tuesday, and Thursday

8:15 AM

Check us out on the web:

www.ripleychurchofchrist.org

The Ripley church of Christ
P.O. Box 464
1499 Highway 51 North
Ripley, TN 38063

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The Ripley Beacon

FROM

The Ripley church of Christ

March 19, 2023

"Where the Gospel is Preached and People are Loved!"

Elders:
Steve Carmack
731-697-0424
Joe Hunt
731-612-7221
David Snell
731-635-8311

Deacons:
Pat Carmack
Robert Anderson
Bret Carmack
Jimmy Hartman
Bryan Hartman
Steven Dodson
Shannon Williams

Minister:
Justin Paschall
731-612-1196

Service Times:
Sun. Bible Study-9:30 AM
Sun. Worship-10:30 AM
Sun. Night Worship-6 PM
Wed. Night-7 PM

Contact Information:
Address:
P.O. Box 464
Ripley, TN 38063

Phone: 731-635-2936

Email: ripleycoc@att.net

"Come Worship with Us!"

Rejoice Always?!

Part 1

As Paul was bringing his first letter to the church at Thessalonica to a close, he issued a series of commands to the brethren there. In 1 Thessalonians 5:16-22, eight imperatives are given to the brethren. And while much good can come from a study of all eight of these mandates, we will concern ourselves with just one of these lofty thoughts: "Rejoice always" (1 Thessalonians 5:16). Found within such a simple statement is a very complex command upon which every Christian should meditate.

Most people want to be happy. In fact, if you were to ask people of all ages, races, income levels, and social standing what they want from life, the most common answer you would receive is, "I want to be happy." Multi-million-dollar businesses, countless books, and talk show hosts all revolve around the concept of helping people to be happy. We seek happiness in the world around us. We rid our lives of things that make us unhappy.

God wants his children to be happy. Jesus wants us to be happy. We want to be happy. So why is it so hard to obey this commandment to "Rejoice always"? Why do we find it so difficult to be happy? I believe the problem is three-fold. First, we are confused about what happiness is. Second, we look for happiness in the wrong places. Third, we need to recognize some keys that will help us to remain joyful.

First, we need to understand what happiness is. And to understand what it is, it may be helpful to understand what it is not. Happiness is not the same things as pleasure, especially pleasure that derives from sin. Pleasure is something that is fleeting, temporary. It lacks sufficient depth and substance to have any lasting effect. It is why we see the alcoholic going back to the bottle, again and again. It is why we see the drug addict looking for the next fix and the materialistic individual looking for the next purchase. Moses understood the temporary nature of pleasure. In Hebrews 11, we are told that he choose "to suffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin."

Happiness is something that runs deeper. It originates from the love of God. It takes root in knowing that, as Christians, we are in a right relationship with Him. It is grounded in all that has been done for us by the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. True joy transcends the things of this world and looks to a world to come. ~Justin

Those Privileged to Serve:

AM Bible Study:
Song Leader – MacArthur Watkins
Facebook Live – Shannon Williams
Audio/Visual – Justin Paschall
Security – Frank Carmack

AM Service:
Announcements – Steven Dodson
Song Leader – MacArthur Watkins
Facebook Live – Shannon Williams
Audio/Visual – Bryan Hartman
Opening Prayer – Joe Hunt
Lord's Supper – David Watts
Closing Prayer – David Bridges
Security – Frank Carmack

PM Service:
Announcements – Steven Dodson
Song Leader – MacArthur Watkins
Facebook Live – Shannon Williams
Audio/Visual – Bryan Hartman
Opening Prayer – Steve Carmack
Lord's Supper – David Watts
Closing Prayer – Raymond Neal
Security – Frank Carmack

Wednesday Night:
Song Leader – David Snell
Facebook Live – Steven Dodson
Audio/Visual – Bret Carmack
Opening Prayer – MacArthur Watkins & Devotional
Closing Prayer – Bryan Hartman
Security – Darrell Smothers

Thanks to all of the men who lead in our worship service!

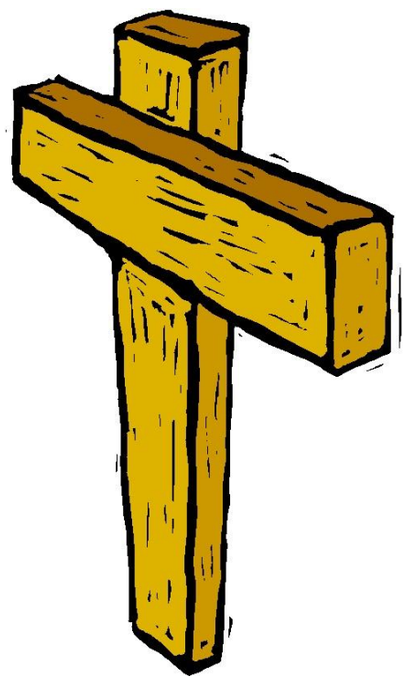
March Birthdays

- Zoe Carmack – 1
- Mary Halliburton – 5
- Renee Blakley – 7
- Ann Carmack – 9
- Everett Presson – 9
- Betty Brogdon – 10
- June Roark – 13
- Sherry Scallions – 17
- Patrice Perry – 19



Mark Your Calendars!

- **March 19th** – VBS Meeting at 5:15 in the fellowship hall.
- **May 6th** – Ladies' Day here. More details to follow.
- **June 4th-9th** – Reelfoot Youth Camp. More details to come.
- **June 26th-28th** – Vacation Bible School.
- **July 16th-19th** – Gospel Meeting with John DeBerry.



Those in Need of Our Prayers and Encouragement:

Our Regulars/Friends/Relatives:

- At any given time, there are members going through different difficulties that they would rather keep private. Please say a prayer for them; God knows who they are.
- We have been asked to keep the students, teachers, and administrators of the Ripley School System (especially the high school) in our prayers.
- Wade Stanley had surgery (3/17) to place pins and screws in his broken arm. Everything went as planned. Please keep him and the family in your prayers.
- Lisa Hunt (Joe Hunt's sister-in-law) was in a serious car accident. She is in the hospital in Ripley. Please keep her in your prayers as she recovers.
- Jane Snell has surgery scheduled for Wednesday (3/22) in Memphis. Please keep her and David in your prayers.
- Scott Sanders (Beverly Sanders' son) is home now. Please keep him in your prayers as he recovers.
- Shirley Thompson (Roy Colvin's sister) has been diagnosed with lung cancer. Please keep her in your prayers as she undergoes treatment.
- Robert Taylor is home now. He fell this week but fortunately suffered no serious injuries. Please keep him in your prayers.
- Mark Paschall's PET scan revealed a dime size mass in his upper lung. The current plan is to rescan in a couple of months and compare the two scans because a biopsy is not an option due to the locations of the mass. Please keep him in your prayers.
- Linda Jo Climer Shelton (Tommy Climer's sister) passed away Wednesday (3/1). Please keep the Climer and Shelton families in your prayers.
- Willie Bonds is having knee problems and will possibly have surgery soon. Please keep him in your prayers.
- Jill Watson (David Snell's sister) is in an assisted living center. Please keep her in your prayers.
- Deon Williams (Shannon Williams' brother) was in a serious car accident. He is home recovering and doing better. Pease keep him in your prayers.
- Larry Spiess is continuing his treatments for cancer. Please continue to keep him and JoAnn in your prayers.
- Alan Sheckell (Synthia Gibson's nephew) will be seeing a specialist in New York. Please keep him and the family in your prayers as he battles cancer.
- Johnny Olds, Frances Harrell, Pam Carmack, Tommy White, Scott Sanders, David Blakely, Marian Smith, Tim Etheridge, Linda Climer, Ruth King, Lillie Dennison, Terry and Stella Young, Josephine Latham, Tommy Watts, Brenda Sutton, Joyce Dunaway, Everett Presson, Tyler Newman, Justin Hendrix, Elvis Gay, Leslie Barnes, Drexel Reed, Martha Duggar, Paul Bridges, Robert Taylor, and Johnnie Matthews: Please keep these individuals in your prayers.