

THE RIPLEY BEACON

FROM

THE RIPLEY CHURCH OF CHRIST

January 7, 2024



“Where the Gospel is Preached and People are Loved!”

Does the Great Commission Apply to Me?

Part 1

I was recently asked the question expressed in the title of this article. It wasn't asked to abscond from one's personal responsibility to teach others as sometimes is the case. It wasn't asked from the perspective of trying to confuse or complicate what Christians are to do or not do in reference to sin and the world around them. It was asked to know how to show others that we have been given a tremendous responsibility from our Lord.

To begin to answer this question, let's notice the passage. "And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age" (Matthew 28:18-20, ESV).

It is true that in the context of the passage Jesus is speaking to the 11 apostles (Matt. 28:16). It is true that there are passages in Scripture that do not apply to us today So how do we know that this command given to the apostles applies to us as well? Let's notice a few reasons together.

First, it is important to understand that the apostles were given delegated authority. As stated in our text, Jesus has all authority, but Scripture indicates he delegated authority to the apostles. Once Jesus ascended, the apostles were His mouthpiece on the earth. As they commanded people by word and letter to teach others, it was the same as Jesus commanding them.

If only the apostles were to carry out the Great Commission, then once they and those they taught died, the church would cease to exist. Instead, Paul told Timothy to commit the things he had been taught to other faithful men who would then teach others (2 Tim. 2:2). Likewise, the letters written to various churches and individuals in the New Testament were not just for those churches and individuals. They were instructed to circulate those letters because they applied to all Christians including us today (Col. 4:16).

Next week we will notice two more reasons that show that the Great Commission applies to us today. ~Justin

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!”

The Ripley church of Christ

P.O. Box 464

1499 Highway 51 North

Ripley, TN 38063

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 December 31st

Attendance:

Sun. Bible Study – 57

Sun. AM Worship – 75

Sun. PM Worship – 46

Contribution – \$7659

Wed. Night (1/3) – 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

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Ripley, TN 38063
Permit No. 58

Those Privileged to Serve:

AM Bible Study:

Song Leader – David Snell
Facebook Live – Bryan Hartman
Audio/Visual – Justin Paschall
Security – Robert Anderson

AM Service:

Announcements – Steven Dodson
Song Leader – David Snell
Facebook Live – Bryan Hartman
Audio/Visual – Bryan Hartman
Opening Prayer – Darrell Smothers
Lord's Supper – David Watts
Closing Prayer – Jimmy Hartman
Security – Robert Anderson

PM Service:

Announcements – Steven Dodson
Song Leader – David Snell
Facebook Live – Bryan Hartman
Audio/Visual – Bryan Hartman
Opening Prayer – Joe Hunt
Lord's Supper – David Watts
Closing Prayer – Shannon Williams
Security – Robert Anderson

Wednesday Night:

Song Leader – David Snell
Facebook Live – Steven Dodson
Audio/Visual – Steven Dodson
Opening Prayer – Shannon Williams
& Devotional
Closing Prayer – David Snell
Security – Frank Carmack

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

January Birthdays

- Frank Carmack – 4
- Landon Carmack – 7
- Brent White – 11
- Chrystal Hartman – 12
- Micah Paschall – 13
- Rebecca White – 18
- Perrilyn Cherry – 19
- Zahmyia Harper – 20
- Luke Hartman – 22
- TJ White – 24
- Georgia Carden – 26

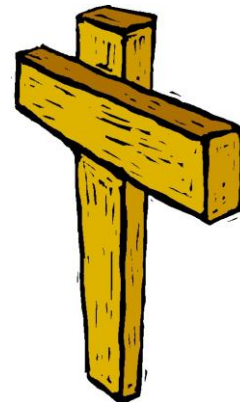


Mark Your Calendars!

- **Jan. 11th** – Thursday Night Ladies' Class at 6 pm in the fellowship hall.
- **Jan. 18th** – Thursday Night Ladies' Class at 6 pm in the fellowship hall.
- **Jan. 25th** – Thursday Night Ladies' Class at 6 pm in the fellowship hall.

Baptisms!

- **Josie Green** was baptized on Sunday (12/24) following morning services.
- **Kennedy Williams** was baptized on Tuesday (12/26) evening.
- Please keep both in your prayers as they begin a new walk in Christ. We rejoice and congratulate them on their decision!



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.
- David Blakely is in LCH. Please keep him in your prayers.
- Martha Haynes passed away. The funeral was Thursday (1/4). Please keep the family in your prayers.
- Debbie Barnett (daughter-in-law of Mary Barnett) passed away. Visitation was on Thursday (12/28) with a graveside to follow later. Please keep the family in your prayers.
- Tommy Watts (David Watts' brother) passed away (12/9). Please keep the family in your prayers.
- Margaret Meeks (BC Underwoods' sister) passed away. The funeral was on Thursday (12/21) Please keep the family in your prayers.
- Erica White (Dustin White's wife) has been diagnosed with Lupus. Please keep her in your prayers.
- Everett Presson is in LCH for rehab. Please keep him in your prayers.
- Leia Stanley (Matt and April's daughter) had to have her heart surgery postponed because she has RSV. Please keep her and the family in your prayers.
- Wyatt Stanley (Matt and April's son) will have a CT on Jan. 11th at Vanderbilt Children's Hospital due to something heard by doctors at a recent appointment. Please keep him and the family in your prayers.
- Paul Watkins (nephew of Synthia Gibson and Vickie Eastep) continues to recover from brain surgery due to cancer. Please keep him and the family in your prayers.
- Larry and JoAnn Spiess lost a grandson Will Spiess. Please keep the family in your prayers.
- Raymond and Molly Kelley are both home. Please continue to keep them in your prayers.
- Renee Blakley is dealing with health issues. Please keep her in your prayers.
- Marilyn Wilson (Doris Stocklin's cousin) passed away. Please keep the family in your prayers.
- Lynn Shepherd (Elaine Neal's brother) is home now. Please continue to keep him in your prayers.
- Frank Carmack continues to make improvement. Please keep him in your prayers.
- Larry Spiess: Please continue to keep him and JoAnn in your prayers as he deals with issues with his neck and cancer.
- Tommy White, Johnny Olds, Frances Harrell, Pam Carmack, Scott Sanders, David Blakely, Marian Smith, Tim Etheridge, Linda Climer, Ruth King, Lillie Dennison, Terry and Stella Young, Josephine Latham, Brenda Sutton, Joyce Dunaway, Everett Presson, Tyler Newman, Justin Hendrix, Elvis Gay, Leslie Barnes, Drexel Reed, Martha Duggar, and Johnnie Matthews: Please keep these individuals in your prayers.