

# 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 19<sup>th</sup>

### Attendance:

Sun. Bible Study – 75  
Sun. AM Worship – 95  
Sun. PM Worship – 70  
Wed. Night (3/22) – 60

## 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](http://www.ripleychurchofchrist.org)**

**The Ripley church of Christ**  
P.O. Box 464  
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Ripley, TN 38063

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# THE RIPLEY BEACON

FROM

## THE RIPLEY CHURCH OF CHRIST

March 26, 2023



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

## Rejoice Always?!

Part 2

Last week we noticed one of Paul’s commands to the Thessalonians. As Paul was bringing his first letter to a close, he issued a series of eight commands to the brethren there (1 Thess. 5:16-22). 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.

Why do we find this command so difficult? There are at least three reasons. Last week we noticed that sometimes we are confused about what happiness is. We related happiness with pleasure, and these two things are not the same. Let’s notice another reason.

Second, we need to avoid some of Satan’s traps when it comes to happiness. Satan seeks to lure us into areas promising happiness, but no happiness can be found there. Some seek happiness in material possessions. “For the love of money is a root of all *kinds* of evil, for which some have strayed from the faith in their greediness, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows” (1 Timothy 6:10). Jesus would say, “Take heed and beware of covetousness, for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of the things he possesses” (Luke 12:15). Happiness is not to be found in possessions.

Some seek happiness in prominence. They seek to climb the corporate ladder. They want to reach positions of power and prestige. But all of this is useless. Solomon who was a great king and was known far and wide said that prominence was vanity. Jesus said, “And whoever desires to be first among you, let him be your servant” (Matthew 20:27). Happiness is not found in prominence.

The truth of the matter is that nothing that this world has to offer can provide you with true happiness. In order to achieve true happiness, in order to be able to rejoice always, we must look beyond worldly pursuits and take hold of heavenly pursuits.

~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](mailto:ripleycoc@att.net)

*“Come Worship with Us!”*

## Those Privileged to Serve:

### AM Bible Study:

Song Leader – David Snell  
Facebook Live – Steven Dodson  
Audio/Visual – Justin Paschall  
Security – Darrell Smothers

### AM Service:

Announcements – Steve Carmack  
Song Leader – David Snell  
Facebook Live – Steven Dodson  
Audio/Visual – Bret Carmack  
Opening Prayer – David Watts  
Lord's Supper – Shannon Williams  
Closing Prayer – Raymond Neal  
Security – Darrell Smothers

### PM Service:

Announcements – Steve Carmack  
Song Leader – David Snell  
Facebook Live – Steven Dodson  
Audio/Visual – Bret Carmack  
Opening Prayer – Joe Hunt  
Lord's Supper – Shannon Williams  
Closing Prayer – David Snell  
Security – Darrell Smothers

### Wednesday Night:

Song Leader – David Snell  
Facebook Live – Bryan Hartman  
Audio/Visual – Jimmy Hartman  
Opening Prayer – Steven Dodson  
& Devotional  
Closing Prayer – Bret Carmack  
Security – Joel Sutton

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

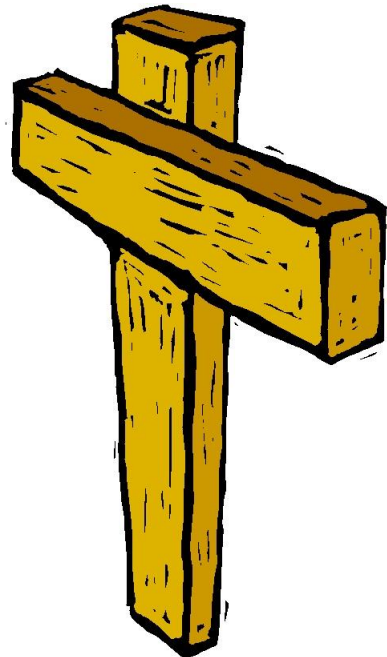
## March Birthdays

- 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
- Wade Stanley – 29
- April Stanley – 30



## Mark Your Calendars!

- **March 30<sup>th</sup>** – Ladies' Bible Class at 6 in the fellowship hall.
- **May 6<sup>th</sup>** – Ladies' Day here. More details to follow.
- **June 4<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup>** – Reelfoot Youth Camp. More details to come.
- **June 26<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup>** – Vacation Bible School.
- **July 16<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup>** – 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.
- Shannon Williams was in a car accident. He suffered only minor injuries thankfully. Please keep him in your prayers.
- Carolyn Malone (Shannon Williams' cousin) was taken to the hospital due to seizures and is in ICU. Please keep her in your prayers.
- Scott King (The Dennison's son) will have surgery to remove a mass on his neck on Tuesday (3/28). Please keep him in your prayers.
- Tommy White will have another stem cell treatment on the Tuesday (3/28). He has begun hyperbaric treatments that will continue until April 6. Please keep him in your 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. Everything went as planned, and she is at home recovering. Please keep her and David in your prayers.
- 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 is not doing well and is under hospice care. Please keep him 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. Please 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.
- Mark Paschall, 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, Tommy Watts, Brenda Sutton, Joyce Dunaway, Everett Presson, Tyler Newman, Justin Hendrix, Elvis Gay, Leslie Barnes, Drexel Reed, Martha Duggar, Paul Bridges, and Johnnie Matthews: Please keep these individuals in your prayers.