

## THE WORDS WE SPEAK

Michael Pickford

Jesus placed a high premium upon every word we speak. Whether spoken in anger or love, harshness or gentleness, kindness or hatred; we will be judged by these words spoken. *“For by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned”* (Matthew 12:37). We must consider our words before we speak them!

Paul wrote in Ephesians 4:31-32, *“Let all bitterness, wrath, anger, clamor, and evil speaking be put away from you, with all malice. And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you.”* One misspoken word or phrase can crush someone’s spirit and

cause them to be discouraged and weakened. By contrast, one kind word spoken can lift one’s spirit to the point of accomplishing great things for the Lord. *“A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in pictures of silver”* (Proverbs 25:11).

The tongue, though small, can wield great power and cause great things, whether good or bad. Let’s make sure our speech is always seasoned with salt, that it may impart grace to the hearers (Colossians 4:6).

Any time you are speaking to or about anyone, make sure it is helpful and not harmful. Because there is great power in the words we speak. 🔍

Welcome to our services and thank you for visiting. If you have any questions about our beliefs or practices, please don’t hesitate to ask.

God has not only commanded us to worship Him, but has also told us how, in His word. **The elements of our services, as prescribed by God’s word, are as follows:**

- **SINGING:** Ephesians 5:18,19; Colossians 3:16
- **PREACHING/TEACHING:** Acts 2:42; Eph. 4:11,12
- **PRAYING:** Acts 2:42; Acts 12:5
- **LORD’S SUPPER:** 1 Corinthians 11:23-26; Acts 20:7
- **GIVING:** 1 Corinthians 16:1,2; 2 Corinthians 9:6,7



## COME WORSHIP WITH US!

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY...9:00  
SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP.....10:00  
SUNDAY EVENING WORSHIP.....6:00  
WEDNESDAY EVENING SERVICES....7:00

**EVERYONE WELCOME!**

- [www.defendthegospel.com](http://www.defendthegospel.com)
- Weekly Article: Rutherford Reader
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday Singing Practice: 5 pm
- 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday Singing Night: 6 pm
- Radio program on wgns. 15 minute sermon every Sunday morning from 10:45 - 11:00.
- 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Men’s Training Class, 3:30 pm. Prayer Service, 6 pm
- Men’s Business Meeting. 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday evenings following services.



## SOUTHSIDE SEARCHER

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*“They...searched the scriptures daily...”* –Acts 17:11

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## NEEDY CHILDREN

Michael Pickford

It is tragic that so many children in this world are in situations of great poverty, not possessing even the most basic needs for the support of life. More tragic still are those children in need of a proper upbringing by strong, supportive, godly parents. It is essential for parents to realize that their children need proper...

**Direction.** *“Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it”* (Proverbs 22:6). A New Testament counterpart to this bit of divine wisdom says *“Fathers, do not provoke your children to wrath, but bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord”* (Ephesians 6:4). The first passage mentions the way he should go; the second tells us what this way is: The training and admonition of the Lord. Too many children are being directed in any way but the Lord’s way; even those being brought up by “Christian parents.” Often, more emphasis is placed on sports, making good grades in school, securing a lucrative career, etc. than on putting the Lord and His work first regardless of the sacrifices that must be made. By the way, if you train them up in the way they shouldn’t go, they are likely to take that path.

**Discipline.** In speaking of “Needy” children today, it seems painfully obvious that too many children are neglected when it comes to discipline. The old adage “Spare the rod, spoil the child” is not found in the Bible, but the concept is certainly taught, and in much stronger terms. A small sample of such passages says *“He who spares his rod hates his son, But he who loves him disciplines him promptly.”* The world has this backwards, saying that a parent hates his child when he whips him. As a consequence, children are brought up with no respect for authority. What a disservice toward a child to withhold the rod! I guarantee you that when he gets out into the world and disrespects the rules the result will be pain! It won’t be viewed as “Cute” or “Funny.” If your child is “Begging for a whipping,” show him your love and give it to him!

**Demonstration.** My children need to see me living the right kind of life. All too often the child of a drunk will himself become a drunk. The same is true of a spouse abuser, smoker, etc. Demonstrate to them a faithful walk with God; show him the way and he is likely to follow. Children are insightfully sensitive to hypocrisy. Supply spiritual needs to your children! 🔍

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# “CRAMMING” FOR TESTS

Michael Pickford

Students in school, whether it's the first twelve or college, understand what it means to “Cram” for a test. It's the idea of “cramming” as much information into your head as possible, usually the night before the test is to be taken. Of course a student who has studied diligently and worked hard throughout the semester does not have so great a need to “cram” for a test as those who have been slothful in their studies.

The Final Exam is literally a time when we must give account of ourselves as to what we have learned in the class.

Think with me for a minute about the greatest test man will ever take. I'm speaking of the great judgment of the last day when we will all stand before the Lord and give an account of the deeds of our lives (2 Corinthians 5:10). If we pass, eternal life; if we fail, eternal condemnation (Matthew 25:46).

I fear there are some in Christ who are waiting till the last minute to “cram” for judgment day. They are members of the church, they sometimes have hit and miss records of attendance, they rarely study God's word on their own, and they are not diligent in sharing the gospel with others. They're

too busy! They think that when they get older, when things slow down, when the kids are grown and gone, when they've retired, then they'll devote more time to serving in the kingdom. What a shame!

I knew a man years ago who told me he was doing this very thing. He was to retire at 55, and then he planned on devoting more time to the Lord. Guess what? He retired and almost immediately took on another job (one he really didn't need), and this job kept him busier than the other, even to the point of traveling often and missing many services!

So what happened to his plan? Well, you see, when we don't make serving the Lord with diligence a lifetime affair we become weakened over the years; we have trained ourselves to NOT be diligent! We have deceived ourselves! Don't use Mathew 20:1-16 on this, it doesn't apply. *“Remember now your Creator in the days of your youth, before the difficult days come...”* (Ecclesiastes 12:1) The “difficult” days here makes reference to the difficulties of old age (vs. 2-5). Serve the Lord now! Besides, who ever promised you that you would live to old age? (James 4:13-14). 🔑

Lessons on Bible Authority Every  
Third Sunday Evening of 2012.

## SERMON NOTES

Search the scriptures daily to see if these things are so.

STUDY  
DAILY!  
Acts  
17:11

### Proclaiming Christ's Death

Introduction:

I. \_\_\_\_\_

II. \_\_\_\_\_

III. \_\_\_\_\_

#### DUTY LIST...

##### SUNDAY MORNING

- Announcements.....Jason Hubbard
- Bible Reading by.....Frank Anderson  
Reading: Matthew 26:26-30
- Song Leader.....Tony Jenkins
- Opening Prayer.....Michael Pickford
- Lord's Table:  
Lead.....Kenny Todd  
Serve.....John Nelson  
Serve.....Ben Reagh
- Closing Prayer.....Justin Pragel?

##### SUNDAY EVENING

- Song Leader.....Justin Pragel?
- Lord's Table.....Kenny Todd

##### WEDNESDAY EVENING

- Song Leader.....Ben Reagh
- Invitation.....Ben Green

Home Bible Studies  
Available Upon Request!

#### GOD'S PLAN OF SALVATION

There is only one true saving plan of Salvation outlined in Scripture. No substitutes will do. Have you really been saved? Get out your Bible and study the plan below.

- Hear The Gospel: Romans 10:17
- Believe: Mark 16:16; John 8:24
- Repent of Sin: Acts 2:38; Acts 17:30
- Confess Faith: Romans 10:9, 10
- Be Baptized: Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; Acts 22:16; 1 Peter 3:21
- Remain Faithful: Rev. 2:10

**Obey Today!**