

A WAY WITHOUT WORDS

Michael Pickford

Our words are very important. The way we speak to our spouse, our boss, our friends, and even our enemies – all important. In fact, Jesus taught that our eternal destiny can be altered by the words we speak (Matthew 12:36-37).

Words are also important in trying to spread the gospel. God has not called us to silence, “And he who wins souls is wise” (Proverbs 11:30). This requires a way with words (Colossians 4:5-6; 2 Timothy 2:23-26).

But when it comes to winning souls, not only must we have a way with words, we must have a way without words. That is, our lives should speak even when our mouths are silent. We

should live holy and righteous lives before the world so that perhaps we can win them through example.

Through the way we live, we can either endear sinners to Christ or we can push them away from the Lord. Jesus told us to let our lights shine so that perhaps they might come to glorify God through our good works “Which they observe” (Matthew 5:16). Both Paul and Peter reinforced this concept (Philippians 2:15-16; 1 Peter 2:11-12).

How is your speech? Not necessarily your oral words, but your living language. When it comes to reaching a lost world, do you have a way without words? 🔍

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

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



SOUTHSIDE SEARCHER

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

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BLESSED TO BLESS

Michael Pickford

I'm convinced that there are many generous people on this earth, in our nation. But there are also many who live by the “What's in it for me” mentality. They want something free, they want to receive, and they're always looking for a handout. And, they're stingy with the possessions they have. God has a lot to say about giving in the Bible.

It is more blessed to give than to receive. We don't have a record of this statement of Jesus in the Gospels, but Paul attributed these words to Jesus in Acts 20:35. And how true they are. If we always want to receive, yet we're slow about giving, we possess an immature, childish mentality. As a child, I was only interested in which gifts under the tree were for me. Shopping and getting gifts for others wasn't my top priority, or even a consideration. As an adult, I now get more joy from watching others open the gifts I got them. This is what it means to be blessed more by giving. We should be willing to sacrifice personal resources in order to help those who have need, ready to give, willing to share (1 Tim. 6:17-19).

Jesus commended sacrificial giving. He complimented the widow who gave her entire livelihood to the cause of God (Mark 12:43-44). Her gift was but a small fraction of what others were giving, but it was so much more because it took great sacrifice to give it. One may put in a hundred dollars a week, but if he's taking in a few thousand a week, is his giving really sacrificial? Paul commended some who gave even while they themselves were struggling with poverty (2 Corinthians 8:1-7). If our giving is meager, are we really putting our full faith in God to supply our needs? (2 Corinthians 9:6-9).

We are commanded to give. It is a command (1 Corinthians 16:1-3). But we must give willingly, not just “Because I have to.” Understanding the purpose for the money will certainly help. That money goes to support the greatest institution on earth – the church of Christ. Preachers need to be paid (and sometimes elders, 1 Corinthians 9:14; 2 Corinthians 11:8; 1 Timothy 5:17-18). And sometimes, members who have fallen on hard times need assistance.

Remember where your blessings come from as an incentive to use them to bless others (James 1:17). If we are blessed, then we are blessed to bless. 🔍

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www.defendthegospel.com

HEAR AND FEAR

Larry R. Ping II

The book of Deuteronomy can be summed up in one word — “obedience.” God has plainly declared He craves our obedience to Him. Moses uses the phrase “hear and fear” four times in his fifth book (**Deuteronomy 13:11, 17:13, 19:20, 21:21**). This expression beautifully and simply sums up our responsibility to our Father.

We must have a burning desire within us to hear what God wants from us. Jesus said it this way: “Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled” (**Matthew 5:6**). There needs to be a spiritual craving inside each of our hearts.

When we arrive at the crossroads of critical spiritual decisions, we must make an appeal only to God’s Word — to want to hear it and it alone. Far too many (even children of God) solicit the advice of man, or make a quick visit to the self-help section of the bookstore, when in reality all the help needed is in The Volume containing 66 books.

Hearing, however, is only half the equation. Once we have determined what God’s path is for us, we must fear (or respect) Him enough to implement His commands. Solomon plainly concluded man’s duty was to “Fear God” and “keep His commandments” (**Ecclesiastes 12:13,14**).

On this day, and from this day forward, may we be intelligent enough to hear God’s Word. May we know to avoid the trappings of this “world’s wisdom.” May we possess the courage and fortitude to execute what has been gleaned from God’s Word. May we ascribe higher value to God’s Word than any other words we will hear.

Life really isn’t that difficult when boiled down. God wants us to “hear” and to “fear.” Such shouldn’t be hard to forget. -

Via <http://thedailybiblemessage.com>

"The Lord is on my side;
I will not fear,
What can man
do to me?"
"The Lord is on my side;
I will not fear,
What can man
do to me?"

Psalms 118:6

SERMON NOTES

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

Perfect Law Of Liberty

I. _____

II. _____

III. _____

**STUDY
DAILY!
Acts
17:11**

DUTY LIST...

SUNDAY MORNING

- Announcements.....Michael Pickford
- Scripture Reading...Michael Pickford
Reading: James 1:21-27
- Song Leader.....Ben Green
- Opening Prayer.....Sam Miller
- Lord's Table:
Lead.....Ben Reagh
Serve.....Michael Pickford
Serve.....Kenny Johnson
- Closing Prayer.....Kenny Todd

SUNDAY EVENING

- Song Leader.....Lynn Buttrey
- Lord's Table.....Ben Reagh

WEDNESDAY EVENING

- Song Leader.....Ben Reagh
- Invitation.....Michael Pickford

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; 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!

Thank You For Serving!

*Home Bible Studies
Available Upon Request!*