



-Psalm 51:10

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](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
- 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Men's Training Class, 4:30 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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## NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS

Michael Pickford

At the first of the year many people choose to do something that will positively affect their lives by cleaning out something bad. Perhaps there is some cleaning out we need to do in our own lives.

**HEART.** Our heart often determines our actions. Jesus said "For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders, thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lewdness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness" (Mark 7:21-22). No wonder the Lord said "Blessed are the pure in heart..." (Matthew 5:8). We overcome wicked thoughts by taking control of our thoughts. We should take captive every one of our thoughts (2 Corinthians 10:5). We do this, not by trying intentionally to not think about bad things, but by busying our minds with good thoughts so the bad thoughts have no room to grow and ultimately manifest themselves in evil ways. Meditate on pure things (Philippians 4:8).

**HOME.** There are many who need to do some house cleaning. I'm not speaking of picking up debris, dusting, or straightening out furniture. I'm speaking of purging out bitterness and unkind ways towards our spouses, children, and parents. Many family woes can be solved through the application of one verse, "Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you" (Ephesians 4:32). We may also need to eliminate some unsavory TV programs, movies, music, and video games. David said "I will walk within my house with a perfect heart. I will set nothing wicked before my eyes..." (Psalm 101:2-3).

**HABITS.** Two of the most popular New Year's resolutions are to quit smoking and to lose weight. Both of these affect the well being of our bodies, and both involve a great amount of self control. While applied to fornication in the context, a universal truth is disclosed in 1 Corinthians 6:19-20 where Paul wrote, "Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's." Self control is part of the fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23). Peter includes self control as one of the attributes that must be added to our faith (2 Peter 1:5-11). 🔍

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# GOD IS THE POTTER

Larry R. Ping II

We pick up with our quest of Who God is, Who God is not, What God is and What God is not. We venture into the prophets. There are 17 books in the Old testament which are considered to be part of the prophets, yet they all say the same thing, more or less — “Go back to God.”

Jeremiah has been “nicknamed” the “lamenting prophet.” During his tenure, the people of God were unfaithful and disloyal to God. This saddened the prophet. God reminded the people who they were in comparison to Him. Consider.

“The word which came to Jeremiah from the LORD, saying, Arise, and go down to the potter’s house, and there I will cause thee to hear my words. Then I went down to the potter’s house, and, behold, he wrought a work on the wheels. And the vessel that he made of clay was marred in the hand of the potter: so he made it again another vessel, as seemed good to the potter to make it. Then the word of the LORD came to me, saying, O house of Israel, cannot I do with you as this potter? saith the LORD. Behold, as the clay is in the potter’s hand, so are ye in mine hand, O house of Israel” (*Jeremiah 18:1-6*).

There are two great truths emanating from these few verses. God is the potter and He always has been and he always will be. We are the clay and we always have been and always will be. God forms us, we do not form God.

Yet many over the centuries have tried to make God change to their whims and wishes. They attempt to make themselves the potter and God the clay.

This concept is why Paul wrote “*Knowing therefore the terror of the Lord, we persuade men*” (**II Corinthians 5:11**).

Some have it backwards. Some are so scared of man and what he thinks, they begin to try to persuade God to “change His way.” May it not be said of us!

On this day, may we realize Who God is. That He is the Creator, not the created. That He is the Potter, not the clay. That He is the “center of the universe” to which we move, not the One who submits and yields to us.

Today, you either will be molded to fit God’s Word or you will attempt the utterly impossible in molding God. Which will you try? -

## SERMON NOTES

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

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

**STUDY  
DAILY!  
Acts  
17:11**

### DUTY LIST...

#### SUNDAY MORNING

- Announcements.....Michael Pickford
- Scripture Reading...Kenny Todd  
Reading: Micah 2:1-4
- Song Leader.....Tony Jenkins
- Opening Prayer.....Sam Miller
- Lord’s Table:
  - Lead.....Michael Pickford
  - Serve.....Eli Todd
  - Serve.....Frank Anderson
- Closing Prayer.....Kenny Johnson

#### SUNDAY EVENING

- Song Leader.....Michael Pickford
- Lord’s Table.....Lynn Buttrey

#### WEDNESDAY EVENING

- Song Leader.....Lynn Buttrey
- Invitation.....Kenny Todd

### 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!***