

"You will call upon me
and come and pray to me,
and I will listen to you.
You will seek me and find me
when you seek me
with all your heart,"
declares the LORD.
-Jeremiah 29:12,13

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
- 4th Sunday Singing Night: 6 pm
- 5th Sunday Night: Guest Speaker
- 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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PRAYER

Michael Pickford

God never tires of hearing us pray. Wonderful things happen to us when we live expectantly, believe confidently, and pray affirmatively. Prayer gives strength to the weak, faith to the fainthearted, and courage to the fearful. Paul said to "Pray without ceasing" (1 Thessalonians 5:17). Prayer is (a)...

PRIVILEGE. Prayer is a privilege for the child of God. "For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, and His ears are open to their prayers..." (1 Peter 3:12). If one is in Christ, he can pray with confidence that God hears his prayers (1 John 5:14). Those on the outside of Christ are not promised this confidence. In fact, Peter continued in the verse above, "But the face of the Lord is against those who do evil." If you're not a child of God through obedience to His Gospel (Galatians 3:26-27), then you are missing out on one of the most wonderful blessings ever bestowed upon mankind - the opportunity to communicate with the Creator of the universe with confidence that He hears your prayers...

PURIFIER. Once one becomes a child of God, he may sin occasionally, or he may stumble back into a life of sin. Either way, God has included prayer as part of what must be done to become pure again. One must repent, confess and pray. When he sinned, Simon was told by Peter "Repent therefore of this your wickedness, and pray God if perhaps the thought of your heart may be forgiven you" (Acts 8:22). When we sin, we often avoid prayer out of shame, thinking we don't have the right to pray to God. This is just what the devil wants us to think. Listen, we never have that right; prayer is a privilege. When we sin, God has told us that praying is what we must do. Pray, confess your sin and ask for God's forgiveness (1 John 1:9).

POWERFUL. Through prayer, we can actually change God's mind. Read 2 Kings 20:1-5. King Hezekiah was told specifically by God through Isaiah that he was going to die. After Isaiah left his room, Hezekiah prayed to God with tears. Before Isaiah could even get out to the inner court, God told him to turn around and go back and tell Hezekiah "I have heard your prayer, I have seen your tears; surely I will heal you." Hezekiah changed God's mind with his prayer! Ask yourself this question - What if Hezekiah had never prayed that prayer? He would have died! Prayer is powerful. 🔍

WHAT DOES DEATH DO?

Michael Pickford

There is still a great deal of confusion in the world regarding death. Many myths, legends, and outright errors have been taught about death and dying. Consider from scripture seven things death does.

Separates Body and Soul. Death is not annihilation; one does not cease to exist after death. Scripture defines death as the separation of the body and the Spirit. “For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also” (James 2:26).


Ends Our Earthly Existence. One does not continue to exist in any form on this earth. Reincarnation is a myth. Departed spirits are just that – departed. One need not fret about ghosts and goblins. When the spirit departs from the body, it returns to God Who gave it (Ecc. 12:7; Ecc. 3:21). David knew that after his son died, he could not return to earth (2 Samuel 12:23)... We die only once, then comes the judgment (Hebrews 9:27).

Causes Mourning. Contrary to the beliefs of some, it is proper and natural to mourn the death of a loved one. Israel mourned the death of Moses (Deut 34:8). Even Jesus wept at the death of Lazarus (John 11:35). We sorrow over the death of a saint, but not as those without hope; we can take comfort in the fact that they have a hope of life in heaven (1 Thess. 4:13).

Ends Opportunities To Obey The Gospel. It is in this life only that we have the opportunity to obey the Gospel to the saving of our souls. Our eternal judgment will be based upon the things we have done in the body (2 Cor. 5:10), not based on things done after our spirit departs from the body in death. Obey the Gospel now before it is too late eternally (Mark 16:16; Hebrews 5:8-9).

Ends Opportunities To Do Good. We are to do good while we have opportunity (Galatians 6:10). To know to do good and not do it is sin (James 4:17). We need to be busy doing good works now, for death will rob us of the opportunity. We are blessed with 86, 400 seconds each day, let us use them to maintain good works (Titus 3:14).

Ends Suffering For The Saint. I have known folks who have comforted themselves with the thought that their loved one, who suffered great pain from sickness, is suffering no longer after they die. This is true if the one who died was a faithful Christian, but if they were not, the suffering has only become worse (Luke 16:22-23). I do not say this to cause more pain to those who have lost loved ones who were not Christians, for I also have lost loved ones who were not Christians. I say this to remind us all of how diligent we need to be in trying to persuade our loved ones to obey the Gospel before they depart from this world in death.

Offers Rest From Our Labors. While in this life, Christians are to be busy with good works, but at death, we rest from those works to live out eternity in rest and paradise. “Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on. Yes, says the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors, and their works follow them” (Revelation 14:13). Paul taught that if we abound in the work of the Lord, our labor would not be in vain (1 Corinthians 15:58). Let’s not be deceived by the fanciful and popular opinions the world offers regarding death. The Bible is clear in its teachings regarding the subject. If we obey the Lord faithfully, death isn’t something we worry about, it’s something we can look forward to, for it leads to a crown of eternal life (Revelation 2:10). 

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...Michael Pickford
Reading: Matthew 26:36-46
- Song Leader.....Tony Jenkins
- Opening Prayer.....Sam Miller
- Lord's Table:
 - Lead.....Kenny Todd
 - Serve.....John Nelson
 - Serve.....Frank Anderson
- Closing Prayer.....Kenny Johnson

SUNDAY EVENING

- Song Leader.....Michael Pickford
- Lord's Table.....Michael Pickford

WEDNESDAY EVENING

- Song Leader.....Tony Jenkins
- Invitation.....Michael Pickford

Thank You For Serving!

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!

***Home Bible Studies
Available Upon Request!***