

**LAZINESS**  
Michael Pickford

## *Those Who Are Lazy...*

- 1) Must learn from the ant: Pro 6:6-11
- 2) Will suffer poverty: Pro 10:4; 13:4, 23
- 3) Make their lives difficult: Pro 15:19
- 4) Teach others by example to avoid laziness: Pro. 24:30-34
- 5) Lean towards thievery: Eph 4:28
- 6) Will suffer hunger: Pro 20:13; 21:5; 2 Ths 3:10
- 7) Turn to gossip and slander: 1 Tim 5:13

*We must avoid spiritual laziness! Rom 12:11; 1 Cor 15:58; Titus 2:14; 3:14....*

The elements of our worship, 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)
- 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday Singing Night: 6 pm
- 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Night: Guest Speaker
- Men's Business Meeting. 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday evenings following services.



## ***SOUTHSIDE SEARCHER***

Southside church of Christ, 1167 South Lowry  
Smyrna, TN 37167, Phone (615) 459-7854  
*"They...searched the scriptures daily..." –Acts 17:11*

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### **GO TO THE FISH!**

Michael Pickford

Many times in scripture we are directed to living things in the world in order to glean spiritual lessons. The Lord Himself directed people to the birds of the air and the lilies of the field in order to learn to trust in God for the provision of daily necessities (Matthew 6:25-34). The Proverbs writer invites the "Sluggard" to consider the ant in order to learn the importance of diligent labor (Proverbs 6:6-11). In this article, I want us to visit the river, creek, pond, or aquarium and learn some spiritual lessons from fish...

**BE VIGILANT.** Fish are very quick to escape their predators. They seem to be very watchful for any possible danger. We have an adversary who seeks to devour us, and we are told that we must be vigilant (watchful for danger). Rather than seeking opportunities to sin, we should be seeking opportunities to escape such! **HUNGER AND THIRST FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS.** I'm told that some fish don't possess a mechanism that tells them they are full. They will gorge themselves to death, so one must be careful about how much food to put in the tank. Do I have such an insatiable appetite when it comes to feeding from the word of God? The Lord teaches us to hunger and thirst for righteousness. Our desire to be righteous engenders our desire for what makes us righteous – a knowledge of God's word! (Matthew 5:6).

**KEEP GROWING.** I'm also told that some fish never stop growing for the duration of their life. This is how it should be with Christians! Peter tells us to desire the pure milk of the word that we may grow thereby (1 Peter 2:2).. Even a wise and well educated man has much to learn (Proverbs 1:5). But taking in knowledge of God's word daily isn't enough, we must seek to use it through living and teaching it, so that by reason of use we may learn the difference between what is good and what is not, then avoid the bad while diligently pursuing the righteous things (Hebrews 5:12-14; 1 Timothy 6:11).

**SWIM AGAINST THE CURRENT.** Trout will swim in place into the stream in order to catch insects, worms, and other food that's floating downstream. Being a Christian often seems to be an uphill battle, a swim against the current. The trout is willing to do so for the reward. We must keep our eternal reward in mind in order to keep from giving up and being carried away (Rev 2:10; 2 Cor 4:16-18).

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# Mark Your Calendar

## Gospel Meeting & Singing

October 15-21

Preaching: Alex Ogden

*Southside church of Christ*

1167 S. Lowry Street, **Smyrna, TN** 37167

*(Located on Murfreesboro Rd. Right next to the Nissan Fitness Center)*

*For Directions Call (615) 785-0646*

Singing

**Sat, October 15**

7 pm

**Everyone Welcome!**

Gospel Meeting

**October 16-21**

Sunday: 9:00 & 10 am

Sunday: 6:00 pm

Monday – Friday: 7 pm

*Bring A Bible! Bring A Friend!*

VISIT OUR WEBSITE

[www.defendthegospel.com](http://www.defendthegospel.com)



## “NOT OBEY”

Michael Pickford

*While many in religion reject the concept of obedience for salvation, the New testament makes much use of the phrase “Not obey.” ...*

- 1) Self seeking leads one to “Not obey”: Rom 2:8
- 2) Peter indicated a terrible “end” for those who do “not obey the gospel”: 1 Pt 4:17
- 3) “Indignation and wrath” is the ultimate result when one does “Not obey”: Romans 2:8
- 4) Flaming fire and eternal destruction await those who “Do not obey the gospel”: 2 Thessalonians 1:7-9
- 5) False teachers bewitch folks to “Not obey the truth”: Galatians 3:1
- 6) Christians who do “Not obey” God’s word are to be disfellowshipped : 2 Thessalonians 3:14
- 7) Those who do “Not obey” cannot enter God’s rest: Hebrews 3:18-19

*It looks to me like obedience to God’s truth, the gospel, is pretty essential!  
What about you? ☞*

### DUTY LIST...

#### SUNDAY MORNING

- Announcements.....Michael Pickford
- Scripture Reading...Michael Pickford  
Reading: 2 Thessalonians 3:6-15
- Song Leader.....Kenny Todd
- Opening Prayer.....Lynn Buttrey
- Lord’s Table:  
Lead.....Kenny Johnson  
Serve.....Michael Pickford  
Serve.....John Nelson
- Closing Prayer.....Sam Miller

#### SUNDAY EVENING

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

### 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!***

**Thank You For Serving!**