


YOUR HEADSTONE

Michael Pickford

Some folks find it interesting to walk through graveyards and read the epitaphs on the headstones of those who have passed on. Could any of the following be honestly etched into your headstone?


1. **“Walked With God”**: Genesis 5:22
2. **“He Was A Good Man”**: Acts 11:24
3. **“Went About Doing Good”**: Acts 10:38
4. **“I have obeyed the voice of the LORD”**: Deuteronomy 26:14
5. **“The Friend of God”**: James 2:23
6. **“He Trusted In God”**: Matthew 27:43
7. **“Faithful Until Death”**: Revelation 2:10 

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

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- www.defendthegospel.com
 - 1st 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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MEMORIZING KEY VERSES


Michael Pickford

Peter instructs us that we are to be always ready to give a defense for the hope that is in us with meekness and fear (1 Peter 3:15). One of the most effective ways to accomplish this is to memorize key passages of scripture in relation to specific topics. Some argue that they just can’t memorize verses, yet they are able to memorize their social security number, phone numbers, addresses, statistics of their favorite sports figures, et al.

It actually takes little effort to memorize a few key verses related to the topics that folks bring up when they learn that we are members of the church of Christ. Below is a short list of verses with their related topics. Why not spend some time over the next couple of months memorizing these with their topics? You’ll be surprised at how well you’ll do, and your confidence will be boosted and you’ll find yourself wanting to find someone to discuss them with.

1. Baptism: Acts 22:16
2. Church of Christ is in the Bible: Romans 16:16
3. Singing is the type of music God wants: Colossians 3:16
4. Faith only does not save: James 2:24
5. Obedience is necessary for salvation: Hebrews 5:8-9
6. Denominationalism is against God’s will: 1 Corinthians 1:10
7. The Bible can be understood: Ephesians 5:17
8. We don’t need man-made creed books: 2 Timothy 3:16-17
9. Baptism is a burial, not sprinkling: Colossians 2:12
10. We no longer live under the Old Testament Law: Hebrews 8:13

Don’t be discouraged. Take it one verse at a time. Keep reviewing the first verse every day until you have it down, even if it takes a couple of weeks, then move on to the next verse. You’ll get better with time.

Keep your ultimate goal in mind; to seek and to save those who are lost (Luke 19:10). 

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Daily Bible Study

by Michael Pickford

This Week's Theme: Spiritual Strength

Weekly Memory Verse: Ephesians 6:10

Introduction: Being weak is the greatest danger Christians face. When our physical bodies are weak they are more vulnerable to sickness. Keeping ourselves fit and strong will help shield us from disease. So, we're careful to maintain good health. The same is true spiritually. When we allow ourselves to become weak spiritually, we are more easily swayed by the devil to do things that we know are wrong, or to neglect doing the things we know we ought to be doing (James 4:17). We are inundated in our nation with eating and exercise plans to strengthen our bodies, and God has blessed us with several avenues through which we can strengthen our souls and build our resolve in the face of temptation. This week, let's focus on some of these, so that we may do as Paul exhorted, "Be strong in the Lord, and in the power of His might" (Ephesians 6:10).

Monday: We Gain Spiritual Strength by Knowing Our Enemy.

Any good military leader will realize that his army is in danger when they are ignorant of their foe. So they read, study, and do reconnaissance to learn about their enemy. God has given us some insight about our spiritual foe, the devil. Ephesians 6:11-12; 1 Peter 5:8; Matthew 4:3; 2 Corinthians 11:3-4, 13-15

1. What are "Wiles?" How did Peter describe the devil, and what is the devil's intent? What did Matthew call the devil? Why would Satan want to transform himself into an angel of light?

Tuesday: We Can Gain Spiritual Strength by Knowing God's

Word. Winning a war is often the culmination of being victorious in a series of many battles, and soldiers don't win if they are not familiar with their equipment. We do battle with our spiritual foe every day. We must be familiar with our weapons and how to properly use them. Ephesians 6:11, 13-17; 2 Corinthians 10:3-6; Matthew 4:1-11; Psalm 119:11

1. Are many of the implements in the armor of God related to God's word? Do we use physical weapons to fight Satan? What did Jesus use to ward off the tempter? Why did the Psalmist hide God's word in his heart? What does this say about the practice of memorizing scripture?

Wednesday: We Gain Spiritual Strength through Prayer.

Thomas S. Monson is quoted as saying, "A man never stands taller than when he is on his knees." He was alluding to prayer. Paul concluded his description of the Armor of God by exhorting them to be, "Praying always with all prayer and supplication" (Eph. 6:18). Samson prayed specifically for strength to defeat his enemy (Judges

16:28). God granted Samson's request! Matthew 26:41; Ephesians 5:18; Philippians 4:6-7; 1 Thessalonians 5:17-18; Psalm 28:6-9.

1. Prayer and watchfulness are found together in the first two references above. What is meant by being watchful? What did Paul mean when he said to pray without ceasing? (Dan. 6:10). From Psalm 28:6, what had the Psalmist done to access God's "Strength?"

Thursday: We Gain Strength by Trusting in God's Promises.

God's ultimate promise is eternal life in heaven (Titus 1:1-2). Trusting in this promise keeps us focused on the big picture as we're passing through life's daily challenges. Psalm 28:6-9; Psalm 112:7

1. The Psalmist (28:6-9) said he was "Helped" when his heart did what? How did the Psalmist (112:7) deflect fear and make his heart steadfast?

Friday: We Gain Strength through Our Brethren in the Lord.

Hebrews 3:12-13; Hebrews 10:24-25

1. Why did the writer of Hebrews (3:13) tell them to "Exhort one another daily?" What are some ways by which brethren can exhort each other daily today? How important are the assemblies? What must we do "So much the more" as we see the day approaching?

DUTY LIST...

SUNDAY MORNING

- Announcements.....Michael Pickford
- Scripture Reading...Michael Pickford
Reading: 1 Peter 5:1-4
- Song Leader.....Lynn Buttrey
- Opening Prayer.....Kenny Johnson
- Lord's Table:
Lead.....Kenny Todd
Serve.....Jeff Isbell
Serve.....John Nelson
- Closing Prayer.....Michael Pickford

SUNDAY EVENING

- Song Leader.....Tony Jenkins
- Lord's Table.....Tony Jenkins

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!***

