

# I LOVE MY FRIEND—THE BIBLE

Michael Pickford

*“Oh, how I love Your law! It is my meditation all the day.”*  
-Psalm 119:97.

We should love the Bible. It should be our closest friend. It is, after all, God revelation to us to guide us and show us what He desires.

Usually when a friend begins a statement to us with words like, “If you don’t mind, I’d like to point out that you...” or, “if you don’t mind my saying so, you...” But we do mind, don’t we? We don’t enjoy criticism. We just want friends to point out and praise our positive attributes and keep their mouths shut about our mistakes and shortcomings. Why? True friends will tell us those negative things because they want to help us overcome them.

I spend time with my friend, the Bible, every day. Like any good friend, it tells me unpleasant things about myself. But I love it because of that very fact. That’s how I learn and grow. That’s how I’m reminded of where I need to make corrections in order to be pleasing to God.

How about you? Do you love your friend the Bible? 🔍

## 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)
- 1st Sunday Singing Night: 6 pm
- 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Night: Guest Speaker
- Men’s Business Meeting. 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of each month at 7 pm.



# SOUTHSIDE SEARCHER

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

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## “AND THEIR EYES WERE OPENED”

Michael Pickford

Jesus came upon two blind men crying for mercy. He healed their blindness just as He did other blind men. When they were healed, Mathew stated, “And their eyes were opened” (Mtt 9: 30). Surely it’s significant when a blind man receives his sight. Much more significant is when those who are blind spiritually are made to see the light. Jesus can open the eyes of these too!

1. Those who believe baptism isn’t necessary to wash away sins can have their eyes opened by accepting Mark 16:16 and Acts 22:16.
2. Those who believe a Christian can never so sin as to lose his salvation can have their eyes opened by James 5:19-20.
3. Those who believe they can predict the end of the world and when Judgment day is coming can have their eyes opened by Matthew 24:36 and 2 Peter 3:10.
4. Those who believe folks can get divorced and remarried for any reason can have their eyes opened by Matthew 19:9.
5. Those who believe they don’t need to “go to church” or be a part of a church can have their eyes opened by Ephesians 5:23 and Hebrews 10:25.
6. Those who believe women can teach and have authority over men by serving as preachers and elders can have their eyes opened by 1 Timothy 2:11-15
7. Those who believe one can be saved by faith only (or faith alone) can have their eyes opened by Hebrews 5:8-9 and James 2:24.
8. Those who believe it’s okay to join the denomination of their choice can have their eyes opened by John 17:17-20 and 1 Corinthians 1:10.
9. Those who believe they’ll have another chance to be saved after they die can have their eyes opened by 2 Corinthians 5:10.
10. Those who believe they can be saved simply by living a good moral life can have their eye opened by comparing Acts 10:1-2 with Acts 11:13-14
11. Christians who believe they can entertain themselves like the world, dress themselves like the world, and just do what everyone else is doing can have their eyes opened by Romans 12:1-2, 1 John 15-17, and James 4:4.

Are your eyes closed? Open them! 🔍

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## IF THERE IS ONLY ONE IN THE GODHEAD...

John Isaac Edwards

Some have been made to believe that there is only one person in the Godhead, Jesus only; that Jesus is the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. If this be true...

**Why the Words “Us” and “Our”?** “And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness...” (Genesis 1:26). The words “us” and “our” demand more than one person.

**How Do You Explain the Baptism of Jesus?** “And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him: And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased” (Matthew 3:16-17). This shows three separate entities: Jesus (in the water), the Spirit of God (descending like a dove), and the Father (from heaven).

**Have You Read John 14:16-17?** Jesus, speaking to His apostles, said, “And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever; Even the Spirit of truth...” Have you thought about how this would read, if Jesus, the Father and the Holy Spirit are one and the same person? Jesus would have said, “And I will pray to Myself, and I shall give you Myself, that I may abide with you for ever; Even Myself...” Do you see the absurdity of this?

**Have You Considered the Lord’s Prayer?** The prayer of Jesus in John 17 shows Jesus is not the Father and the Father is not Jesus as “Jesus (on earth)...lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, Father...” (verse 1). If Jesus is the Father, who is “thou” and who is “him” (verse 2)? If the Father is Jesus, who is “I” and who is “thee” (verse 4)? Jesus prayed

to the Father, “That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me” (verse 21). Notice the word “us” which denotes oneself and another. Also, whatever kind of oneness characterizes the Father and Jesus is to characterize Jesus’ disciples. If this is to be understood to mean the Father and Jesus are one person, was Jesus praying that all His disciples be one person? Of course not! He was praying that they be united. Further, Jesus cannot be the Father and the Father cannot be Jesus as the Father sent Jesus. See the consequences of this thinking?—

Via [http://www.churchofchristatierrehaute.com/speaker/june\\_17\\_2012.pdf](http://www.churchofchristatierrehaute.com/speaker/june_17_2012.pdf)

### **DUTY LIST...**

#### **SUNDAY MORNING**

- Announcements.....Michael Pickford
- Scripture Reading...Michael Pickford  
Reading: Proverbs 13:9-16
- Song Leader.....Michael Pickford
- Opening Prayer.....Kenny Johnson
- Lord’s Table:
  - Lead.....Kenny Todd
  - Serve.....Michael Pickford
  - Serve.....John Nelson
- Closing Prayer.....Kenny Todd

#### **SUNDAY EVENING**

- Song Leader.....Kenny Todd
- Lord’s Table.....Kenny Todd

#### **WEDNESDAY EVENING**

- Song Leader.....Lynn Buttrey
- 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!***