

The elements of our worship, as prescribed by God's word, are as follows:

- SINGING: Ephesians 5:18,19; Colossians 3:16
- *PREACHING/TEACHING:* Acts2:42; 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



- **>** <u>www.defendthegospel.com</u>
- ➤ 1st Sunday Singing Night: 6 pm
- > 5th Sunday Night: Guest Speaker
- Men's Business Meeting. 1st Sunday night of each month 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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GOSPEL MEETINGS (2) Michael Pickford

A Gospel Meeting is a special series of lessons hosted by a local church in a particular area. Generally, a visiting preacher from out of town does the preaching. Sometimes the preaching is done by several different preachers. Many formats are chosen by different churches to use to conduct their meetings. Our upcoming meeting will run from Sunday through Friday. The name is derived from the activity; we meet together to proclaim the Gospel. Our purpose in this Gospel Meeting is two-fold: (1) The edification, exhortation, and encouragement of the saints (Ephesians 4:11-16; Hebrews 10:24, 25). (2) To teach the Gospel to those who are not members of the Lord's church (1 Thessalonians 1:8). We can help ensure the success of our Gospel Meeting by...

Praying. "Pray without ceasing..." (1 Thessalonians 5:17). Pray for the preacher conducting the meeting. Pray for the members that they will have health and desire to attend all of the services without letting worldly events get in the way. Pray that parents will teach their children an essential lesson by showing them the things of God are more important than even important things in this life. Pray for yourself that you may have and make opportunities to invite people to the services, etc.

Planning. Much of the success of a Gospel meeting lies in the attendance of the local members. Don't plan things that will keep you out of town during the meeting. We need you here! When you're absent, two things can happen. (1) Members are discouraged by smaller numbers. When I come to services and very few of the members are there, my heart sinks; but when there is a good crowd, my heart is encouraged. (2) I have seen incidents where people visited from the community and the member who invited them wasn't even there at that service! There are emergencies and other things that may be unavoidable; but other than these, we really need to plan to be at all of the services of the Gospel Meeting (Matt 6:33).

Preparing. We can prepare by inviting people to the services. Use the prepared flyers to distribute. If you need more, we can make as many as you can use. See your email or our website for an electronic version of the Flyer. Share on Facebook, email it to friends, etc. Let's be diligent to ensure success in this Gospel Meeting!

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www.defendthegospel.com

QUICK-FIX SALVATION

Andy Brenton

Our culture is fixated on quick fixes: get rich quick schemes, weight loss without changing your eating habits or exercise, no-fault divorce etc. Unfortunately, quick fixes do not solve problems; they merely treat symptoms with short-term results.

Today, many have moved this quick-fix concept into religion. They seek to have a relationship with God with little or no effort. We must know that in order to be right with God it takes time, energy and effort. There is no quick and easy fix to sin and its consequences. Genuine conversion is a diligent and sometimes painful ongoing process. Many seek this quick fix: faith without faithfulness; baptism without crucifying the old man; forgiveness without repentance; a savior without discipleship. Is this possible? What does genuine conversion look like?

Genuine conversion is becoming a changed person. Repentance is not secondary to conversion. "What shall we say then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase? By no means! We died to sin; how can we live in it any longer?" Listen to Jesus on becoming such a changed person: "If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me." Crosses are not something we carry, but something we die upon. Paul goes on to say that when we die to sin, then we become "instruments of God, living sacrifices."

Genuine conversion involves a death and a resurrection to a new life. Genuine New Testament conversion is our becoming a changed person – how we think, what we think about, how we talk, act, and react to life's situations. Paul tells us in Romans, that after baptism "we are raised to walk in a new life." Conversion is our becoming more and more and more like Jesus daily. It is our "conforming to the image of His son." You see, in conversion, old things are passed away: "Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new." Are we willing to be raised to walk such a new life?

Genuine conversion is discipleship.Religious quick-fix advocates want a savior without Him becoming Lord and King of their life, without total submission to His will. Our generation shuns the idea of a Lordship Gospel. We don't want anyone telling us how to live; but genuine conversion is our walking as He walked, living according to His word,

making His agenda our agenda. Jesus said, "If you love Me you will keep My commandments. This is how we know we are in Him: Whoever claims to live in Him must walk as Jesus walked... For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men teaching us to say 'No' to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, godly lives in this present age... eager to do what is good."

Genuine conversion is perseverance. Conversion is an ongoing process. Christianity is a matter of keeping-on-keeping-on, being faithful until death. Paul wrote: "I have fought the fight, run the race, finished the course, kept the faith." The crown of life is not given as a quick fix, but as a reward for continual faithfulness. The Hebrew writer says, "Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess." Genuine conversion demands continued faithfulness.

Religious quick fixes are only Band-Aids. Perhaps they give us instant relief and a momentary religious look, but offer no lasting cure. There is no quick and easy solution to the problem of sin except genuine conversion. -

DUTY LIST...

SUNDAY MORNING

- > Announcements....Michael Pickford
- Scripture Reading...Michael Pickford Reading: Proverbs 20:9-16
- > Song Leader.....Lynn Buttrey
- ➤ Opening Prayer......Kenny Johnson
- ➤ Lord's Table:

Lead......Kenny Todd Serve.....John Nelson Serve.....Jeff Isbell

Closing Prayer......Sam Miller

SUNDAY EVENING

- ➤ Song Leader.....Jeff Isbell
- > Lord's Table.....Michael Pickford

WEDNESDAY EVENING

Gospel Meeting

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
- ➤ <u>Be Baptized</u>: 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!