## DUTY LIST...

### **SUNDAY MORNING**

- > Announcements.....Michael Pickford
- Scripture Reading...Jeff Isbell Reading: TBA
- ➤ Song Leader.....Robert Johnson
- > Opening Prayer.....Lynn Buttrey
- ➤ Lord's Table:

Lead.....Michael Pickford Serve......Eli Todd Serve.....

Closing Prayer......Kenny Johnson

## **SUNDAY EVENING**

- > Song Leader.....Kenny Johnson
- Opening Prayer....Eli Todd
- ➤ Invitation.....Kenny Todd
- ➤ Lord's Supper......Mike P. / Eli T.
- Closing Prayer.....Michael Pickford

### **God's Plan of Salvation**

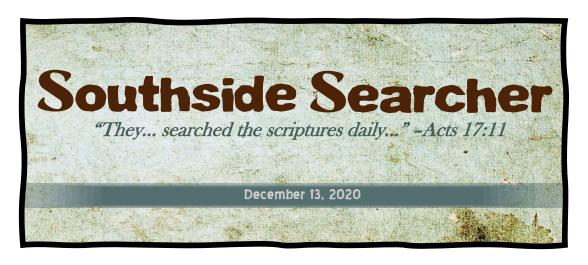
There is only one true saving plan of Salvation outlined in Scripture. No substitutes will do. Have you really been saved? Get out your Bible and study the plan below.

- ➤ Hear the Gospel: Romans 10:17
- ➤ Believe: Mark 16:16; John 8:24
- > Repent of Sin: Acts 2:38; Acts 17:30

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- > 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!



## **Follow Your Heart?**

A YOUNG PERSON IS FACED WITH a decision and receives counsel from an adult to, "Just follow your heart." This isn't uncommon. A friend gives the same advice to another friend. Is it good advice? Well, it depends.

If it's a matter of morally neutral situations this advice sometimes fine. But when it comes to spiritual matters, be careful. The wise man wrote long ago, "Walk in the ways of your heart, and in the sight of your eyes; But know that for all these God will bring you into judgment" (Ecclesiastes 11:9).

Too often men and women act on their emotional impulses, later claiming that they were just following their heart. Somehow this magically justifies one's actions.

Some choose a non-biblical church because they are following their heart. Some accept religious error by following their heart. Some enter immoral situations and relationships because they were following their heart. Remember, "There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death" (Proverbs 14:12). Trust in the Lord and follow His heart rather than leaning on your own understanding (Proverbs 3:5-6).

But the Bible is clear that we should trust in God's wisdom over the impulses of our heart, especially when it comes to spiritual matters.

# SOUTHSIDE

We would love to have you visit with us. Our meeting times are:

SUNDAYS: 9 & 10 AM & 6 PM / WEDNESDAYS: 7 PM

We have capable Bible teachers who would be delighted to study

with you at your request and convenience.

Our evangelist, Michael Pickford is the editor of this publication.

Please visit our website at www.defendthegospel.com

Bible Correspondance Courses Available At Your Request.

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# **Hitting The Target**

AN INSURANCE SALESMAN DROVE out to see an old farmer hoping to make a sale. As he approached the man's house, he gazed into the field to his left and noticed several targets painted on the side of a barn. Each target had an arrow stuck in the very center of the bull's-eye. The salesman said to the farmer, "You're a great shot with a bow!" The farmer replied, "Not really. You see, I shot the arrows first, and then I painted the targets around them."

The way our children turn out when they are grown speaks volumes about the kind of job we did raising them. You see, "Like arrows in the hand of a warrior, So are the children of one's youth" (Psalm 127:4). Children are arrows, and it takes great patience and a very intentional aim to hit the bullseye.

In what direction am I aiming my children? If I drink, I'm aiming them toward a life of drunkenness. If I divorce my spouse for any reason under the sun, I'm aiming them toward failed relationships. If I'm using foul language, I'm aiming them toward careless speech. If I'm speeding or running stop signs, I'm aiming them toward a rebellious attitude, et al. If I speak disrespectfully to my spouse, I'm aiming them toward a marriage that lacks peace and stability.

How I train my child determines how I aim my child (Proverbs 22:6). I should aim him in the way he should go, and then do all I can to make it stick in that bull's-eye! Which way should I aim him? God has the answer! "And you, fathers, do not provoke your children to wrath, but bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord" (Ephesians 6:1-3).

If I'm reading my bible daily, I'm aiming them toward a love and respect for God's word. If I'm praying regularly in front of them, I'm aiming them toward a life of respect for God and a real sense of His reality and presence. If I'm assembling with the saints consistently, I'm aiming them toward a habit of worshipping God. If I'm visiting the sick, feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, and sharing God's word with others, I'm aiming them toward a lifetime of the most valuable type of service this world ever knew.

I'm praying that God will make me a great marksman with my son. I would be a fool to raise him badly and then expect to be happy with the outcome. May God bless all parents with the wisdom, knowledge, patience, strength, and tough love required to raise their children in a God-honoring way.

-Michael Pickford Mpickford3@comcast.net

## **Confessing Sins**

"He who covers his sins will not prosper, But whoever confesses and forsakes them will have mercy."

-Proverbs 28:13

"When I kept silent, my bones grew old Through my groaning all the day long. For day and night Your hand was heavy upon me; My vitality was turned into the drought of summer. Selah. I acknowledged my sin to You, And my iniquity I have not hidden. I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord," And You forgave the iniquity of my sin. Selah."

-Psalm 32:3-5

"'And it shall be, when he is guilty in any of these matters, that he shall confess that he has sinned in that thing;"

-Leviticus 5:5

"we have sinned and committed iniquity, we have done wickedly and rebelled, even by departing from Your precepts and Your judgments."

-Daniel 9:5

"And the tax collector, standing afar off, would not so much as raise his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me a sinner!'"

-Luke 18:13

"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

-1 John 1:9

"Confess your trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much."

-James 5:16

"For I acknowledge my transgressions, And my sin is always before me. Against You, You only, have I sinned, And done this evil in Your sight— That You may be found just when You speak, And blameless when You judge."

-Psalm 51:3-4