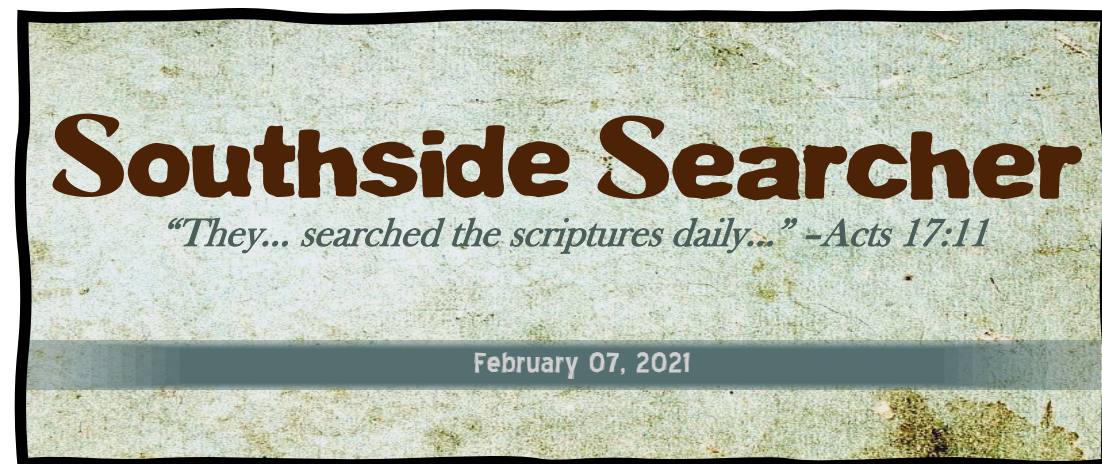


<p><b>DUTY LIST...</b></p> <p><b>SUNDAY MORNING</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Announcements.....Michael Pickford</li> <li>➤ Scripture Reading...Eli Todd Reading: TBA</li> <li>➤ Song Leader.....Michael Pickford</li> <li>➤ Opening Prayer.....Jeff Isbell</li> <li>➤ Lord's Table: Lead.....Michael Pickford Serve.....Eli Todd Serve.....</li> <li>➤ Closing Prayer.....Kenny Todd</li> </ul> <p><b>SUNDAY EVENING</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Song Leader.....Kenny Todd</li> <li>➤ Opening Prayer...Michael Pickford</li> <li>➤ Invitation.....Michael Pickford</li> <li>➤ Lord's Supper.....Mike P. / Eli T.</li> <li>➤ Closing Prayer.....Kenny Johnson</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>God's Plan of Salvation</b></p> <p>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.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <u>Hear the Gospel</u>: Romans 10:17</li> <li>➤ <u>Believe</u>: Mark 16:16; John 8:24</li> <li>➤ <u>Repent of Sin</u>: Acts 2:38; Acts 17:30</li> <li>➤ <u>Confess Faith</u>: Romans 10:9, 10</li> <li>➤ <u>Be Baptized</u>: Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; Acts 22:16; 1 Peter 3:21</li> <li>➤ <u>Remain Faithful</u>: Rev. 2:10</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Obey Today!</b></p>
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## Promoting Spiritual Growth

Our primary concern in this life should be to grow spiritually. We look for vitamins and foods that will promote bone health, heart health, brain function, et al. What about promoting spiritual growth! Consider seven things you can do to accomplish such...

**Read Your Bible.** A young preacher once asked an older preacher about the best thing he could do to grow spiritually and stay encouraged in his preaching. The older man replied, "Read your Bible." Daily Bible reading will keep you in tune with God, His word, and His will. Read daily to grow in grace and knowledge (Acts 17:11; 2 Peter 3:18).

**Pray Regularly.** Growing spiritually means growing closer to God. The best way to get closer to someone is to speak to them often. God communicates with you through his word (Bible reading), you communicate with God through prayer. Pray daily for acceptable results (1 Thessalonians 5:17; Daniel 6:10).

**Be Thankful.** Being thankful for our blessings will keep us in tune with our perception of God's reality. It will also keep us in mind of the fact that we depend solely upon God for our life, breath, and sustenance. Without Him we would be and have nothing. Every good gift comes from God (James 1:17). He holds our next breath in His hand (Daniel 5:23). Ungratefulness leads to bitterness, complaining, and dissatisfaction, while gratitude gives us unsurpassable peace within (Philippians

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Southside Searcher, Volume 17, Number 06

# Confessing Faith

4:6-7). Thank God daily (1 Thessalonians 5:18; Ephesians 5:20). “Continue earnestly in prayer, being vigilant in it with thanksgiving” (Colossians 4:2).

**Examine Yourself.** Defeating illnesses and diseases often means catching them early enough to be successfully treated. This is why we have physicals regularly, and why doctors recommend certain self-examinations one can do at home daily to check for lumps, lesions, etc. This promotes healthy living. The same is true spiritually. We should examine ourselves regularly, identify spiritual problems early, and eliminate them. Make a list of faults you perceive within yourself (Dissatisfaction, talk too much, gossip, slander, poor attendance, weak giving, etc). Examine yourself daily to remain healthy in Christ (2 Corinthians 13:5).

**Visit Others.** Especially The aged! Visiting others will keep you in tune with their needs. It will encourage them and make them feel cared for and special. It will help them grow spiritually as you encourage them. And it will work wonders for your emotional and spiritual psyche. Set up a regular visitation schedule and make notes as to who needs extra attention. Pure and undefiled religion is achieved by visiting orphans and widows in their trouble (James 1:27). Do not neglect the physically sick, the spiritually weak, and those who have fallen (Matthew 25:36; Hebrews 3:12-13; Galatians 6:1-2; James 5:19-20).

**Attend Services & Bible Classes Regularly.** Attending is required by God for the purpose of exhorting and being exhorted (Hebrews 10:24-25). To promote spiritual growth! Teachers in the Bible classes were the Lord’s idea to equip us for His work, edify us, unify us, and enhance our knowledge to protect us against religious error, to lead us to maturity (Ephesians 4:11-16).

**Help Someone With Their Needs.** If you have troubles, one of the best remedies is to find someone else with troubles and help them with theirs! (Philippians 2:3-4).

-Michael Pickford  
Mpickford3@comcast.net

*“that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.”*

-Romans 10:9-10

*“When Jesus came into the region of Caesarea Philippi, He asked His disciples, saying, “Who do men say that I, the Son of Man, am?” So they said, “Some say John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” Simon Peter answered and said, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.”*

-Matthew 16:13-16

*“Then He said to Thomas, “Reach your finger here, and look at My hands; and reach your hand here, and put it into My side. Do not be unbelieving, but believing.” And Thomas answered and said to Him, “My Lord and my God!”*

-John 20:27-28

*“that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”*

-Philippians 2:10-11

*“Now as they went down the road, they came to some water. And the eunuch said, “See, here is water. What hinders me from being baptized?” Then Philip said, “If you believe with all your heart, you may.” And he answered and said, “I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.”*

-Acts 8:36-37

*“Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, to which you were also called and have confessed the good confession in the presence of many witnesses.”*

-1 Timothy 6:12

*“Therefore whoever confesses Me before men, him I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, him I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.”*

-Matthew 10:32-33