

DUTY LIST...

SUNDAY MORNING

- Announcements.....Michael Pickford
- Scripture Reading...Michael Pickford Reading: TBA
- Song Leader.....Robert .Johnson
- Opening Prayer.....Kenny Johnson
- Lord’s Table:
 - Lead.....Michael Pickford
 - Serve.....Eli Todd
- Closing Prayer.....Kenny Todd

SUNDAY EVENING

WEDNESDAY EVENING

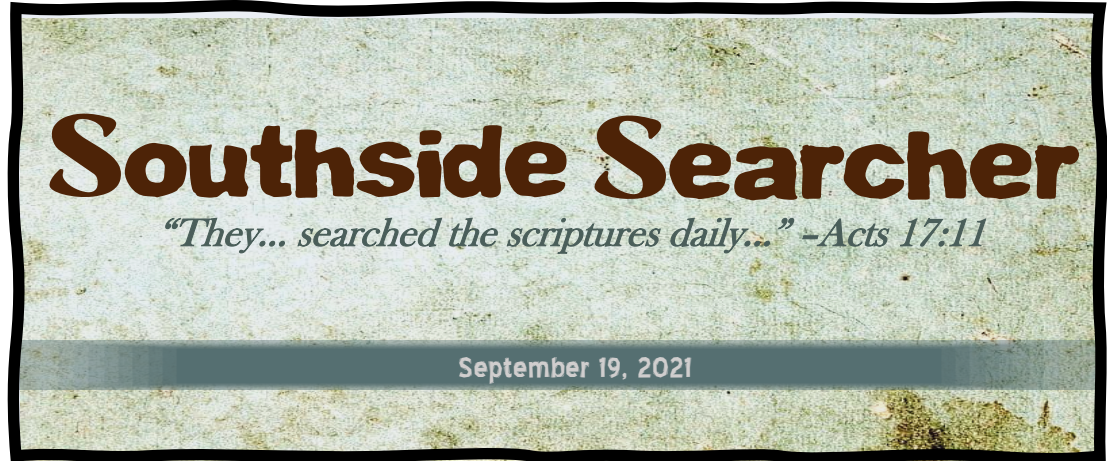
God’s Plan of Salvation

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
- **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!

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Those Who Have Not Seen

“Jesus said to him, ‘Thomas, because you have seen Me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.’ -John 20:29

We often give Thomas a hard time by tagging him with the name “Doubting Thomas.” But what about “Believing Thomas?” After all, Thomas finally believed. But those who believe in Jesus as God’s Son without having seen Him are especially blessed. That includes Us! We believe based ultimately upon the testimony of those twelve men. And how blessed we are!

We are blessed if we act upon that belief. After believing, those in Acts chapter two asked what they needed to do (Acts 2:37). Peter didn’t respond with, “There’s nothing more to do, you have believed, that’s all that’s necessary.” No! Peter said, “Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins” (Acts 2:38; see Acts 22:16). Peter said what the Lord taught him to say (Mark 16:15-16).

Those who do this today will be greatly blessed. We are blessed with the privilege of prayer. We are blessed with a more fulfilling life on earth by following God’s directions in the Gospel. We are blessed with the fellowship of other believers. And ultimately, we are blessed with eternal life (1 Peter 1:3-5)! We haven’t seen the Lord in the flesh, but if we remain faithful, we will see Him forever in eternity (Revelation 2:10; 1 Thessalonians 4:17; 1 John 3:2).

-Michael Pickford
Mpickford3@comcast.net

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.

SOUTHSIDE CHURCH OF CHRIST

1167 South Lowry Street, Smyrna, TN 37167 | 615-459-7854

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The Word Of Life

IN HIS FIRST EPISTLE, John tells us about the “Word of Life” (1 John 1:1). We have common phrases today about the word “word”: “Have you received any word yet?” “I’ve just received word that...” These usually pertain to important matters, but there is no matter more important or essential to mankind than “The Word of Life.” John shows us...

The Word Bestowed. It was John who gave us that famous verse, “*For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son...*” (John 3:16). Here, as in John 1:1-2, he refers to Jesus as “The Word” But why? The Jews had great respect for the concept of the “Word of God” (Deuteronomy 26:17, 18), and (we’re told) the pagan Greeks taught a connection between deity and the concept of “The Word.” Perhaps John meant to use a term that all could relate to deity. In either case, Jesus is eternal, He was in the beginning before creation, and by and through Him all things created were created (John 1:1-2; Colossians 1:15-17). Further, it was through Him that God (The Father) related His commands and will to man (Hebrews 1:1-3; John 14:6).

The Word Beheld. John tells us the Word became flesh and dwelt among men (John 1:14). He wrote, “*The life was manifested, and we have seen...*” (1 John 1:2). We’ll never know the exact number of people who saw the Lord while He was in the flesh, but John speaks of a special witness. Those holding a part of the office of “The twelve” were with the Lord before He died; but they were especially chosen from those who saw Him after He arose. They touched Him, handled Him, saw Him alive - Resurrected! (1 John 1:1). It was their witness and their declaration of what was seen (1 John 1:3) that ultimately brought you and me to the Lord. “*Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed*” (John 20:29).

The Word Believed. Faith is necessary to have fellowship with God and other believers (1 John 1:3). Of course, it must be an obedient faith (Hebrews 5:8-9). It has been said that John’s greatest desire was for saints to love one another. Perhaps, but he certainly had a strong desire for men to believe? After all, that’s why he wrote his Gospel account (John 20:31). Regarding salvation, “Have you received Word yet?” Is it your greatest desire that others come to believe?

-Michael Pickford
Mpickford3@comcast.net

Complaining

“Do not grumble against one another, brethren, lest you be condemned. Behold, the Judge is standing at the door!”

-James 5:9

“Do all things without complaining and disputing.”

-Philippians 2:14

“Then they despised the pleasant land; They did not believe His word, But complained in their tents, And did not heed the voice of the Lord. Therefore He raised His hand in an oath against them, To^loverthrow them in the wilderness,;”

-Psalm 106:24-26

“nor complain, as some of them also complained, and were destroyed by the destroyer.”

-1 Corinthians 10:10

“Now when the people complained, it displeased the Lord; for the Lord heard it, and His anger was aroused. So the fire of the Lord burned among them, and consumed some in the outskirts of the camp.”

-Numbers 11:1

“How long shall I bear with this evil congregation who complain against Me? I have heard the complaints which the children of Israel make against Me.”

-Numbers 14:27

“The carcasses of you who have complained against Me shall fall in this wilderness, all of you who were numbered, according to your entire number, from twenty years old and above.”

-Numbers 14:29

“Why should any living person complain, any man, because of the punishment for his sins?”

-Lamentations 3:39

“Be hospitable to one another without complaining.”

-1 Peter 4:9

“It’s better out in the desert than at home with a nagging, complaining wife.”

-Proverbs 21:19

“bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do.”

-Colossians 3:13

“I don’t say this out of need, for I have learned to be content in whatever circumstances I find myself. I know how to make do with little, and I know how to make do with a lot. In any and all circumstances I have learned the secret of being content—whether well fed or hungry, whether in abundance or in need.”

-Philippians 4:11-12