#### DUTY LIST...

#### **SUNDAY MORNING**

- > Announcements.....Michael Pickford
- Scripture Reading...Michael Pickford Reading: Psalm 71:14-18
- Song Leader.....Lynn Buttrey
- Opening Prayer......Kenny Todd
- ➤ Lord's Table:
  - Lead.....Michael Pickford Serve.....Eli Todd
- Closing Prayer......Kenny Johnson

### **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

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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!

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

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

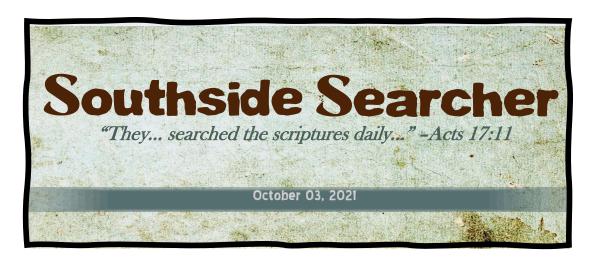
We have capable Bible teachers who would be delighted to study with you at your request and convenience.

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.

1167 South Lowry Street, Smyrna, TN 37167 | 615-459-7854 Southside Searcher, Volume 17, Number 36



# From Worthless To Worthy

THE SPIRIT HAS PUT SO much in the Psalms that it could take a lifetime to uncover new discernment with each reading. But among the significant themes that pepper the Psalms, I read one phrase this morning that stayed in my heart.

"I will not set before my eyes anything that is worthless. I hate the work of those who fall away; it shall not cling to me." (Psalm 101:3).

I will set nothing worthless before my eyes. Wow, what powerful words. For out of the things we put into our heart will flow the issues of life.

I can't tell you how many times I prayed to be a better husband, a better father, a better steward of God. This verse reminded me that to fashion what I want to be, I must first choose to put in my heart the material to build me into what I want to be.

We have a lot of things fighting to be put before our eyes. Most of it is pretty worthless, if we're honest. But the choice is mine. I'm trying to replace worthless things with good things. I'm trying to put the raw building blocks of a holy life into my heart. And I can tell you, there is wisdom in that.

The less TV I watch and the more Bible I read, the better able I am to serve God. The less idle entertainment I engage in and the more spiritual blogs and podcasts I consume, the more wisdom God imparts to me.

We all need moments of refreshing and entertainment, but I have learned for me, to let it be less worthless and more worthy.

"Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things." (Philippians 4:8).

-Tony Eldridge

## **Campbellites**

MANY "catch phrases" have been formulated about the Lord's church and His people. Most of them are the result of folk's ignorance of what God's word says about the church of Christ. One of these phrases is that we are "Campbellites."

Without giving a full biography of Alexander Campbell; let me be brief. Alexander Campbell, who lived from the late 1700's thru much of the 1800's, studied his way out of denominationalism, while his father did the same. They both finally obeyed the Gospel according to the Bible. Alexander became active and well-known throughout America as a preacher, writer, debater, and teacher. Because of his well-known association with the church of Christ, many in denominationalism began to call members of the church of Christ "Campbellites" in reference to this prominent Christian Alexander Campbell. This "catch phrase" was not given as a compliment, but rather as a name of derision. Not because Alexander was a bad man, but because those in denominationalism wanted to characterize the church of Christ as just another denomination started by another man.

Now to the facts about the Lord's church. The church of Christ was started by Jesus Christ around AD 33 in Jerusalem as recorded in Acts chapter 2. It was called the church of Christ in scripture (Romans 16:16) centuries before Alexander Campbell was born. Christ promised to build the church (Matthew 16:16-18), He built the church (Acts 2:47), and He is the head of the church and the Savior of the body (Ephesians 5:22-23), etc. It is His church and should be called such. Those who obeyed the Gospel in the Bible were called Christians (Acts 11:26; 26:28; 1 Peter 4:16) and were not to identify themselves by any human-devised names such as "Baptist," "Methodist," "Catholic," "Campbellite," etc. (1 Corinthians 1:10-17).

A preacher friend of mine issues this challenge to anyone who calls him a "Campbellite:" "Show me one thing I believe that originated with Alexander Campbell." While the term "Campbellite" is no longer commonly heard, if anyone ever calls you such, issue them the same challenge, "Show me one thing I believe that originated with Alexander Campbell."

If Alexander Campbell believed and followed everything the Bible teaches without adding to or taking away, he was a true Christian (2 John 9). If I do the same, then I am a Christian. I am not a Campbellite, and Campbell was not a Pickfordite.

While we should certainly learn from and follow the examples of faithful men and women, we are not to wear their names in religion. We are Christians, followers of Christ.

The danger in becoming any type of "ite" is that if the human we are following strays into error, we may also stray into the same error. Paul wanted Christians to follow him only so far as he followed Christ (1 Corinthians 11:1).

-Michael Pickford Mpickford3@comcast.net

# **Scripture Memorization**

"Your word I have hidden in my heart, That I might not sin against You."

-Psalm 119:11

"The law of his God is in his heart; None of his steps shall slide."

-Psalm 37:31

"I delight to do Your will, O my God, And Your law is within my heart."

-Psalm 40:8

"Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord"

-Colossians 3:16

"Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy—meditate on these things."

-Philippians 4:8

"But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear;"

-1 Peter 3:15

"If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you."

-John 15:7

"Keep my commands and live, And my law as the apple of your eye. Bind them on your fingers; Write them on the tablet of your heart."

-Proverbs 7:2-3

"This book of the law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it; for then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have success."

-Joshua 1:8

"My son, give attention to my words; Incline your ear to my sayings. Do not let them depart from your eyes; Keep them in the midst of your heart." -Proverbs 4:20-21