DUTY LIST...

SUNDAY MORNING

- > Announcements.....Michael Pickford
- Scripture Reading...Eli Todd Reading: Psalm 106:1-5
- ➤ Song Leader.....Kenny Todd
- ➤ Opening Prayer.....Lynn Buttrey
- ➤ Lord's Table:
 - Lead.....Michael Pickford Serve......Eli Todd
- Closing Prayer......Kenny Todd

SUNDAY EVENING

- Song Leader....Kenny Johnson
- Opening Prayer...Michael Pickford
- Invitation: Kenny Todd
- Lord's Table...K. Johnson, M. Pickford
- Closing Prayer....Jeff Isbell

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.

- ➤ <u>Hear the Gospel</u>: Romans 10:17
- ➤ <u>Believe</u>: 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!

www.defendthegospel.com

WEDNESDAY EVENING

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.

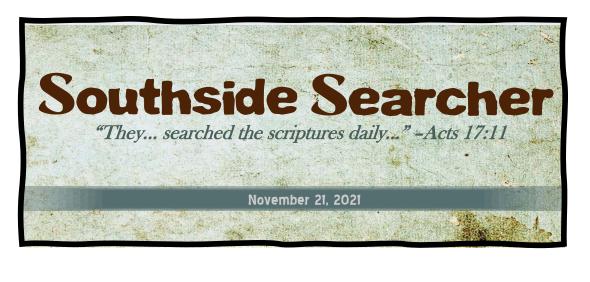
Our evangelist, Michael Pickford is the editor of this publication.

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 43



"In Everything Give Thanks"

"In everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you."

-1 Thessalonians 5:18

I LOVE GRATEFUL PEOPLE, don't you? It's always nice to hear someone say "Thank you" for a kindness given. What's more, it's nice to have them thank you just for being the person you are. This is always encouraging.

Those who say, "thank you" often are generally great encouragers. God wants us to be grateful people. The theme of thankfulness is saturated into the pages of scripture.

Too often we get into the spoiled-child mode. We grumble and complain while we are surrounded by blessings that most in the world will never know. God has richly blessed us both spiritually and materially. Let's not allow those blessings to fuel a spirit of entitlement inside of us.

Let us learn to be great thankers. Let us express our gratefulness often to others, and most importantly, to God. For God has blessed us richly with all spiritual blessings in Christ (Ephesians 1:3). He has blessed us with salvation! Be thankful!

-Michael Pickford Mpickford3@comcast.net

Thanksgiving

THE FOURTH THURSDAY in November is a day set aside to count our blessings as individuals, families, and Americans. It has been a tradition since the Pilgrims of Plymouth sat down to dinner with their Native American neighbors in 1623, and an official annual holiday since George Washington proclaimed it one in 1789.

Giving thanks is a biblical precept and should be done more often than one day a year. "Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, And into His courts with praise. Be thankful to Him, and bless His name" (Psalm 100:4). Paul wrote, "Continue earnestly in prayer, being vigilant in it with thanksgiving" (Colossians 4:2). Notice the word "Continue." This reminds us of 1 Thessalonians 5:17-18 which says "Pray without ceasing, in everything give thanks..." George Herbert said, "Thou hast given so much to me, give one thing more, - a grateful heart." Our thankfulness should be reflected through our...

Worship. We're familiar with the story of the ten lepers healed by Jesus (Luke 17:11-19). After being healed, nine of them were anxious to get back to their lives. But one of them "Glorified God, and fell down at His feet, giving Him thanks" (Verses 15-16). Our hearts should desire to worship God in response to the many wonderful ways He has blessed us, not only materially, but most importantly, spiritually. In view of God's blessings in Christ (Ephesians 1:3), it should be easy for us to keep the commandment to assemble (Hebrews 10:25), and to engage in private/family worship regularly.

<u>Works</u>. What happened to Lydia? She found eternal salvation and she was grateful. She showed her gratitude by opening up her home to Paul and Silas (Acts 16:14-15). We have been created in Christ Jesus for good works (Ephesians 2:10) and we should be zealous for them (Titus 2:14). This is a godly reaction to our having the glorious opportunity to be cleansed from our sins and saved in Christ. Rather than finding excuses to avoid spiritual works, we should gladly and gratefully accomplish them.

<u>Wages</u>. The widow gave all she had (Luke 21:1-4). Why would anyone give so sacrificially? I believe it was out of gratitude! When we are profoundly grateful, we will contribute to the Lord's work. We are commanded to give (1 Corinthians 16:1-3). In view of giving Paul wrote, "*Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift*" (2 Corinthians 9:15).

-Michael Pickford Mpickford3@comcast.net

Giving Thanks

"Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, and into His courts with praise, Be thankful to Him, and bless His name. For the Lord is good; His mercy is everlasting, and His truth endures to all generations."

-Psalm 100:4-5

"Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God;"

-Philippians 4:6

"Giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,"

-Ephesians 5:20

"I will offer to You the sacrifice of thanksgiving, And will call upon the name of the Lord."

-Psalm 116:17

"Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men,"

-1 Timothy 2:1

"And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which also you were called in one body; and be thankful."

-Colossians 3:15

"Continue earnestly in prayer, being vigilant in it with thanksgiving;"

-Colossians 4:2

"For everything God created is good, and nothing is to be rejected if it is received with thanksgiving, because it is consecrated by the word of God and prayer."

-1 Timothy 4:4-5

"Now therefore, our God, We thank You And praise Your glorious name."

-1 Chronicles 29:13

"And He took the seven loaves and the fish and gave thanks, broke them and gave them to His disciples; and the disciples gave to the multitude."

-Matthew 15:36

"Oh, give thanks to the Lord, for He is good! For His mercy endures forever."

-Psalm 107:1

"Oh, give thanks to the Lord! Call upon His name; Make known His deeds among the peoples! Sing to Him, sing psalms to Him; Talk of all His wondrous works!"

-Psalm 105:1-2