

BE A PERFECTIONIST!

Michael Pickford

Have you ever known anyone who has the characteristics of what we term “perfectionists?” I have.

Sometimes these folks can be somewhat annoying. Everything has to be “just right.” They even take notice of small details which the average person would never see. They’ll scour the house for these little “imperfections.” Everything has to be perfect or they just can’t be comfortable.

What about Christians? Shouldn’t we strive to be spiritual “perfectionists?” Jesus said, “*Therefore you shall be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect*” (Matt. 5:48).

Striving for spiritual perfection should be the aim of every child of God.

Sometimes I think we get comfortable with those “little sins” in our lives. We should scour our souls and eliminate or straighten out any little thing that is out of place. Remove every speck. “Examine yourselves as to whether you are in the faith” (2 Corinthians 13:5).

These “little sins” which seem so insignificant in our lives will serve to be our demise spiritually. We are called upon to “*lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us...*” (Heb 12:1). Be a perfectionist! 

Welcome to our services and thank you for visiting. If you have any questions about our beliefs or practices, please don’t hesitate to ask.

God has not only commanded us to worship Him, but has also told us how, in His word. **The elements of our services, as prescribed by God’s word, are as follows:**

- **SINGING:** Ephesians 5:18,19; Colossians 3:16
- **PREACHING/TEACHING:** Acts 2:42; Eph. 4:11,12
- **PRAYING:** Acts 2:42; Acts 12:5
- **LORD’S SUPPER:** 1 Corinthians 11:23-26; Acts 20:7
- **GIVING:** 1 Corinthians 16:1,2; 2 Corinthians 9:6,7



COME WORSHIP WITH US!

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY...9:00
SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP.....10:00
SUNDAY EVENING WORSHIP.....6:00
WEDNESDAY EVENING SERVICES....7:00

EVERYONE WELCOME!



SOUTHSIDE SEARCHER

Southside church of Christ, 1167 South Lowry
Smyrna, TN 37167, Phone (615) 459-7854

“*They...searched the scriptures daily...*” –Acts 17:11

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SPIRITUAL MURDER

Michael Pickford

It’s always tragic when someone is physically murdered. We often hear about it on the news. What we don’t hear on the TV is the greater tragedy of someone being murdered spiritually. Satan seeks to murder us all spiritually. Here’s how he succeeds with many...

Starved to Death. It is tragic when someone is starving to death physically. Spiritual starvation is worse. Satan has managed to edge his way into folk’s schedules in such a way as to prevent them from feeding daily from the word of God. Jesus said “Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God” (Matthew 4:4). The Bible presents every word that God has given to us. We cannot go on living spiritually without a daily diet from it. Those in Berea studied the word “Daily” (Acts 17:11), so must we!

Scared to Death. Our “Adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour” (1 Peter 5:8). The Lion is referred to as the king of the jungle. This is interesting since he really isn’t the fastest or the strongest. What gives him his edge is his ferocious roar. He roars just before attacking, scaring his intended prey. While frightened, the

prey is vulnerable and the lion takes advantage. Spiritually, Satan roars in many ways, scaring Christians to their spiritual demise. Some are scared out of their service to the Lord with threats from their government. Because of their faith in Jesus they risk imprisonment or even execution. It was in this context that the Lord said “Be faithful until death and I will give you the crown of life” (Revelation 2:10). Some are scared away from the Lord by criticism or ostracism from their friends, family or co-workers. Don’t be scared to death!

Smothered to Death. Some are choked out by the cares of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches (Matthew 13:22). They began with zealous service to the Lord; but their jobs, their entertainment, their activities, their sports, their children’s activities became so important and burdensome that serving the Lord took a back seat. Daily family bible study and prayer were replaced with games and practices, late hours at the office, late nights with sports and video games, etc. Attending services, visiting the sick and other responsibilities are also hindered or eliminated. They’ve been smothered to death. -Don’t let Satan murder you! 

Evangelist & Editor: Michael Pickford, 615-471-1612, mpickford3@comcast.net

www.defendthegospel.com

TEEN IDOLS

Michael Pickford

Think of Elvis Presley, Sandra Dee, Marilyn Monroe or James Dean. These were popular "Teen Idols." Young people upheld them highly and longed to be like them. They patterned their lives after their habits and styles. I don't hear the term "Teen Idol" much anymore but the concept is still around. Today, the word "Hero" is used a lot. "Michael Jordan is my hero." Or, "Dennis Rodman is my hero." Enjoying sports and leisure time is healthy for children and adults alike. But I'm concerned when so much of our young people's time is saturated in these things that they begin to consider sports figures, rock stars or actors as the kind of people they want to "be like" when they grow up. Especially, when many of these "Teen Idols" are so godly.

First of all, I don't like the word "Idol," simply because of what it suggests. Secondly, why do we not hear more from our youth about wanting to grow up to be like the preacher, an elder, or an older, godly woman in the church? Wouldn't it be

nice to hear a young child say something like, "Jesus is my hero," or "the apostle Paul is my hero?" Or what about "Daddy is my hero," "Mommy is my hero," or "Grandma is my hero." Perhaps if we would stop saturating their time in one sport after another, or one television program after another, and start saturating more of their time in biblical studies and principles (Deut. 6:7-9), we would hear more of this kind of thing from them. Who is your child's "Hero" or "Idol?" Who does your child want to be like when he (she) grows up? Who do **you** want to be like?

Paul wrote, "Imitate me, just as I also imitate Christ" (1 Cor. 11:1). The idea of people wanting to be like godly men and women is a biblical one. Ultimately we should strive to be like God. Ephesians 5:1 says, "Therefore be imitators of God as dear children." John wrote about Christ, "He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as he walked" (1 John 2:6). Surround your children with cheerful godliness, and they will want to be godly people. 🔍

A BRIGHT FUTURE

It's hard when our future doesn't look bright. The difficulty is intensified when we see the wicked of the world go on seemingly exempt from the troubles we're enduring. But for the faithful child of God, the ultimate future is always bright, regardless of earthly circumstances. "Do not let your heart envy sinners, But be zealous for the fear of the Lord all the day; for surely there is a hereafter, and your hope will not be cut off" -Proverbs 23:17-18



SERMON NOTES

Search the scriptures daily to see if these things are so.

Soul for Sale

STUDY
DAILY!
Acts
17:11

Introduction:

I. _____

II. _____

III. _____

DUTY LIST...

SUNDAY MORNING

- Announcements.....Jason Hubbard
- Bible Reading by.....Kenny Johnson
Reading: Matthew 6:19-24
- Song Leader.....Lynn Buttrey
- Lord's Table:
Lead.....Kenny Todd
Serve.....John Nelson
Serve.....Brad Todd

SUNDAY EVENING

- Song Leader.....Robert Johnson
- Lord's Table.....Kenny Todd

Wednesday Evening

- Song Leader.....Robert Johnson
- Invitation.....Kenny Todd

**Home Bible Studies
Available Upon Request!**

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!