

EXCITED!

Michael Pickford

So, what gets you excited? Many get excited about a vacation, a TV program, a movie, a new car, a new house, a birthday party, a wedding, and the list goes on.

There is certainly nothing wrong with getting excited about these things, but I worry that we don't get excited about spiritual things.

Do you get excited about the upcoming worship services? Do you get excited about studying the bible (Acts 17:11), praying (1 Thessalonians 5:17), giving to the Lord (1 Corinthians 16:1-2), Singing spiritual songs (Ephesians 5:19), sharing your faith with others (Acts 8:1-4; 2 Peter 3:9),

etc.? It's shameful that instead of getting excited about serving the Lord, some have to practically force themselves to do the things God wants us to do in His service. Very often, they are so unexcited about these things that they neglect them altogether.

God wants us to be zealous in our service to Him (Titus 2:14). It is a great blessing to serve the Lord, and this should be cause to rejoice (Philippians 4:4). David wrote "I was glad when they said to me, Let us go into the house of the Lord" (Psalm 122:1). Is this you? When it comes to serving God, are you excited? 🔍

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!

- www.defendthegospel.com
- Weekly Article: Rutherford Reader
- 3rd Sunday Singing Practice: 5 pm
- 4th Sunday Singing Night: 6 pm
- Children's Class, 2nd & 4th Sundays, 5:30 pm
- 5th Sunday Men's Training Class, 3:30 pm, Prayer Service, 6 pm
- Men's Business Meeting. 1st Sunday evenings following services.



SOUTHSIDE SEARCHER

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"They...searched the scriptures daily..." –Acts 17:11

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GOSPEL MEETING (2)

Michael Pickford

Our Gospel Meeting is scheduled to begin next Sunday and go Through Friday (19th-24th). What is its purpose? What is its aim? What is it we hope to accomplish by holding these series of meetings? A Gospel Meeting...

Reinforces. All our services, including Gospel Meetings, serve to reinforce us as Christians. An entire week of services gives us more opportunities to worship with the saints (Heb. 10:24-25), thereby strengthening our relationships with them and gaining from them strength to live godly lives. We are also reinforced doctrinally. At each service, there is a sermon presented; the lessons will either remind us of things we've already learned (2 Pet. 1:12), or teach us new things we need to grow in knowledge (2 Pet. 3:18). Both are essential to our remaining faithful to the Lord.

Rallies. Gospel Meetings help rally us on in our good works. We must never allow our schedules, or other interests, to hinder our good works (Gal. 6:9). One of the best good works we can do is share with others around us the opportunity to hear the soul saving Gospel (Rom. 1:16). Whenever

we have a Gospel Meeting, all of the members are urged to invite their friends, neighbors, or others in the community.

Our Gospel Meetings are advertised through many outlets, and we encourage our members to invite others to the meeting. In a sense, we rally everyone to participate in this. This helps us establish skills and courage in inviting others to any or all of our services throughout the year. So please, everyone, take the time to invite others to our services (make use of the flyers and Postcards) so they may be exposed to the saving message of the Gospel.

Reaches. Not only do our Gospel Meetings serve to edify the saints here, and to strive to spread the Gospel in our community, they also reach beyond the confines of our town. Flyers are sent to many other local churches throughout middle Tennessee. As a result, we have visitors from other congregations. They, too, are strengthened by the services in all the same ways we are. In this sense, Gospel Meetings have success in reaching out to other children of God. Please make a special effort to greet all of our visitors throughout our meeting week. Be friendly and hospitable. 🔍

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www.defendthegospel.com

THINKING OUTSIDE THE BOX

Michael Pickford

A popular phrase today is an exhortation for folks to “Think outside the box.” I believe what is meant by this statement is the idea of being creative. Don’t always just go with the flow, but try to improve the system. Perhaps this is good advice in many areas of life, but it is deadly advice when it comes to God’s word.

Paul wrote, “Now these things, brethren, I have figuratively transferred to myself and Apollos for your sakes, that you may learn in us not to think beyond what is written...” (1 Corinthians 4:6). Sadly, there are those who like to get creative with God’s word. That is, they take liberties with it; they add and subtract. They teach things not revealed in scripture. They bind man-made laws and traditions. They pervert, twist and otherwise completely abuse the word and will of God. In speaking of Paul’s epistles and other Scriptures, Peter said “In which are some things hard to understand, which untaught and unstable people twist to their own destruction...” (2 Peter 3:16). If we may view the Bible as God’s box, they are definitely thinking outside the box.

The apostle Paul commanded folks to not think beyond what is written.

There have always been false teachers and there always will be (1 Peter 2:1-4). God places a strong condemnation upon those who would teach religious error. They are to be accursed (Galatians 1:6-9); they are to be marked and avoided (Romans 16:17-18); they will be destroyed (2 Peter 3:16); they will lose their place in the book of life and be cursed (Revelation 22:18-19). And they will not be recognized as faithful Christians on judgment day (Matthew 7:21-23). The list goes on.

It is certain, when it comes to God’s word, God says Don’t think outside the box! “If anyone speaks, let him speak as the oracles of God...” (1 Peter 4:11).

Regardless of how pretty or how logical, or how dramatic, or how glorious someone makes religious teaching sound, check it out with God’s word (Acts 17:11)! “Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits. Whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world” (1 John 4:1). If you test it and find it to be true, believe it and obey it; if it’s false, reject it. Don’t be guilty of thinking outside the box of God’s Holy word.

OUR
Gospel Meeting
 WITH DAVE MORRISON
 JUNE 19-24
 SUNDAY: 9 & 10 AM, 6 PM
 MONDAY – FRIDAY: 7 PM



SERMON NOTES

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

No Excuses!

STUDY
DAILY!
Acts
17:11

Introduction:

I. _____

II. _____

III. _____

DUTY LIST...

SUNDAY MORNING

- Announcements.....Jason Hubbard
- Bible Reading by.....Kenny Johnson
Reading: Luke 18:9-14
- Song Leader.....Robert Johnson
- Lord’s Table:
Lead.....Kenny Johnson
Serve.....John Nelson
Serve.....Ben Reagh

SUNDAY EVENING

- Song Leader.....Robert Johnson
- Lord’s Table.....Kenny Johnson

Wednesday Evening

- Song Leader.....Tony Jenkins
- Invitation.....Kenny Todd

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

**Home Bible Studies
Available Upon Request!**

Obey Today!