

## IMPOSTERS!

Michael Pickford

When I worked in the fast food management business, one rule we followed diligently was to check the ID of anyone before letting them behind the counter.

For example, if a man came in claiming to be the Health Department Inspector, we would ask for his ID before letting him come to the back of the store.

Restaurants have been robbed and people have been harmed or killed by those claiming to be who they are not.

What about imposters in religion? There are many “religious leaders” today claiming to be men of God when in reality they are wolves in sheep’s

clothing (Matthew 7:15).

Sadly, many unsuspecting people are letting these imposters right through the door of their souls. As a result, many are going to spend eternity in hell for being misled into error.

If someone comes to you claiming to be a man of God, Check his ID, that is, test his teaching 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 he proves to be teaching the truth, let him in. If his teaching contradicts God’s word, kick him out, he’s an imposter! 🔍

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](http://www.defendthegospel.com)
- Weekly Article: Rutherford Reader
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday Singing Practice: 5 pm
- 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday Singing Night: 6 pm
- Radio program on wgns. 15 minute sermon every Sunday morning from 10:45 - 11:00.
- 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Men’s Training Class, 4:30 pm. Prayer Service, 6 pm
- Men’s Business Meeting. 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday evenings following services.



# SOUTHSIDE SEARCHER

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

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## GOSPEL MEETING

Michael Pickford

Our Gospel Meeting with Eric Reynolds begins June the 10th and goes Through June the 15th. What is its purpose? What is its aim? What is it we hope to accomplish by holding this series of meetings? A Gospel Meeting...

**Reinforces.** All of 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 (Hebrews 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 Peter 1:12), or teach us new things we need to grow in knowledge (2 Peter 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 (Galatians 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 (Romans 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 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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# “CAMPBELLITES”

Michael Pickford

Many sayings have gone forth about the church. Most of them came about because of folk’s ignorance of what God’s word has to say about the church of Christ. One of these “Sayings” 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 very 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 name 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. 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) long before Alexander Campbell was to be 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 name such as “Baptist,” “Methodist,” “Catholic,” “Campbellite,” ect. (1 Corinthians 1:10-17).

A preacher friend of mine once made this challenge to those who would call him a “Campbellite:” “Show me one thing that I believe that originated with Alexander Campbell.” While the term “Campbellite” is no longer commonly heard, if anyone ever calls you such, make to 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 take on 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). 

## SERMON NOTES

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

STUDY  
DAILY!  
Acts  
17:11

### How Do You “Fare?”

Introduction:

I. \_\_\_\_\_

II. \_\_\_\_\_

III. \_\_\_\_\_

#### DUTY LIST...

##### SUNDAY MORNING

- Announcements.....Jason Hubbard
- Bible Reading by.....Robert Johnson  
Reading: 1 Peter 2:11-12
- Song Leader.....Robert Johnson
- Opening Prayer.....Michael Pickford
- Lord’s Table:  
Lead.....Ben Green  
Serve.....Kenny Johnson  
Serve.....John Nelson
- Closing Prayer.....Robert Johnson

##### SUNDAY EVENING

- Song Leader.....Michael Pickford
- Lord’s Table.....Ben Green

##### WEDNESDAY EVENING

- Song Leader.....Justin Prugel
- Invitation.....Kenny Johnson

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!