

## GRACE AND PEACE

Michael Pickford

The apostle Paul begins ten of his epistles with, "Grace to you and peace." Three of his epistles begin with "Grace, mercy, and peace."

While grace and peace were common forms of greetings among the Jews of the first century, for Christians the words took on an entirely new meaning.

It occurred to me that anytime these appear together, grace always comes first. I'm not sure if there's significance in this, but I am certain that without God's grace there would be no hope for peace. God's grace must come first, then peace.

God's grace is epitomized in the sacr-

ifice of the Lord Jesus Christ. It is because of His death on the cross that we have any hope for reconciliation with God (Peace; Romans 5:1-2).

Grace is a free gift, unmerited favor. Man did nothing to deserve for God to send His Son, But through His love for us God sent Him anyway (Romans 5:6-9). But this grace teaches us that we must obey God (Titus 2:11-14). God's grace gives us access to peace, but we must act in order to obtain it. Through His obedience in death Jesus became the Author of eternal salvation, but only those who "Obey Him" will obtain it (Hebrews 5:8-9). 

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.
- Children's Class: Every 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday at 5:30 pm
- 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Prayer Service, 6 pm
- Men's Business Meeting. 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday evenings following services.



## 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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## GOSPEL MEETINGS (2)

Michael Pickford

A Gospel Meeting is a special series of lessons hosted by a local church in a particular area. Generally, a visiting preacher from out of town does the preaching. Sometimes the preaching is done by several different preachers. Many formats are chosen by different churches to use to conduct their meetings. Our upcoming meeting will run from Sunday through Friday. The name is derived from the activity; we **meet** together to proclaim the **Gospel**. Our purpose in this Gospel Meeting is two-fold: (1) The edification, exhortation, and encouragement of the saints (Ephesians 4:11-16; Hebrews 10:24, 25). (2) To teach the Gospel to those who are not members of the Lord's church (1 Thessalonians 1:8). We can help ensure the success of our Gospel Meeting by...

**Praying.** "Pray without ceasing..." (1 Thessalonians 5:17). Pray for the preacher conducting the meeting. Pray for the members that they will have health and desire to attend all of the services without letting worldly events get in the way. Pray that parents will teach their children an essential lesson by showing them the things of God are more important than even important things in this life. Pray for yourself

that you may have and make opportunities to invite people to the services, etc.

**Planning.** Much of the success of a Gospel meeting lies in the attendance of the local members. Don't plan things that will keep you out of town during the meeting. We need you here! When you're absent, two things can happen. (1) Members are discouraged by smaller numbers. When I come to services and very few of the members are there, my heart sinks; but when there is a good crowd, my heart is encouraged. (2) I have seen incidents where people visited from the community and the member who invited them wasn't even there at that service! There are emergencies and other things that may be unavoidable; but other than these, we really need to plan to be at all of the services of the Gospel Meeting (Matt 6:33).

**Preparing.** We can prepare by inviting people to the services. Use the prepared flyers to distribute. If you need more, we can make as many as you can use. See your email or our website for an electronic version of the Flyer. Share on Facebook, email it to friends, etc. Let's be diligent to ensure success in this Gospel Meeting! 

Evangelist & Editor: Michael Pickford, 615-785-0646, [mpickford3@comcast.net](mailto:mpickford3@comcast.net)

[www.defendthegospel.com](http://www.defendthegospel.com)

# Gospel Meeting

June 08-13

## Southside church of Christ

1167 S. Lowry Street, Smyrna, TN 37167

(Located on Murfreesboro Rd. Right next to the Nissan Fitness Center)

For Directions Call (615) 785-0646

### Preaching

Edward O.  
Bragwell Sr.

Everyone  
Welcome!

### Meeting Times & Topics

Sunday-10 am..... A Changeless Gospel in a Changing World  
Sunday-6 pm..... Authority  
Monday-7 pm..... The Dispensation of the Grace of God  
Tuesday-7 pm..... The Multidimensional Basis of Our Salvation  
Wednesday-7 pm... A Blueprint for Changing God's Order  
Thursday-7 pm..... Gifts of the Holy Spirit  
Friday-7 pm..... The Church of The Firstborn

*Bring A Bible! Bring A Friend!*

VISIT OUR  
WEBSITE

[www.defendthegospel.com](http://www.defendthegospel.com)



## SERMON NOTES

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

STUDY  
DAILY!  
Acts  
17:11

### Lover of God

Introduction:

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

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

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

#### DUTY LIST...

##### SUNDAY MORNING

- Announcements.....Michael Pickford
- Bible Reading by.....Ben Reagh  
Reading: Matthew 22:34-40
- Song Leader.....Ben Green
- Opening Prayer.....Michael Pickford
- Lord's Table:  
Lead.....Kenny Todd  
Serve.....John Nelson  
Serve.....Robert Johnson
- Closing Prayer.....Kenny Johnson

##### SUNDAY EVENING

- Song Leader.....Michael Pickford
- Lord's Table.....Kenny Todd

##### 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!**