"Be anxious for **NOTHING**, but in

# everything by prayer and supplication,

With thanksgiving,

let your **REQUESTS** be made known to God."

-PHILIPPIANS 4:6

#### The elements of our worship, as prescribed by God's word, are as follows:

- SINGING: Ephesians 5:18,19; Colossians 3:16
- **PREACHING/TEACHING:** Acts2:42; 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



- **>** <u>www.defendthegospel.com</u>
- > 1st Sunday Singing Night: 6 pm
- > 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Night: Guest Speaker
- Men's Business Meeting. 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday evenings following services.



Smyrna, TN 37167, Phone (615) 459-7854 "They...searched the scriptures daily..."—Acts 17:11

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# MEMORIZING KEY VERSES Michael Pickford

Peter instructs us that we are to be always ready to give a defense for the hope that is in us with meekness and fear (1 Peter 3:15). One of the most effective ways to accomplish this is to memorize key passages of scripture in relation to specific topics. Some argue that they just can't memorize verses, yet they are able to memorize their social security number, phone numbers, addresses, statistics of their favorite sports figures, et al.

It actually takes little effort to memorize a few key verses related to the topics that folks bring up when they learn that we are members of the church of Christ. Below is a short list of verses with their related topics. Why not spend some time over the next couple of months memorizing these with their topics? You'll be surprised at how well you'll do, and your confidence will be boosted and you'll find yourself wanting to find someone to discuss them with.

- 1. Baptism: Acts 22:16
- 2. Church of Christ is in the Bible: Romans 16:16
- 3. Singing is the type of music God wants: Colossians 3:16
- 4. Faith only does not save: James 2:24
- 5. Obedience is necessary for salvation: Hebrews 5:8-9
- 6. Denominationalism is against God's will: 1 Corinthians 1:10
- 7. The Bible can be understood: Ephesians 5:17
- 8. We don't need man-made creed books: 2 Timothy 3:16-17
- 9. Baptism is a burial, not sprinkling: Colossians 2:12
- 10. We no longer live under the Old Testament Law: Hebrews 8:13

Don't be discouraged. Take it one verse at a time. Keep reviewing the first verse every day until you have it down, even if it takes a couple of weeks, then move on to the next verse. You'll get better with time.

Keep your ultimate goal in mind; to seek and to save those who are lost (Luke 19:10).

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

# Daily Bible Study by Michael Pickford

This Week's Theme: Unity

Weekly Memory Verse: 1 Corinthians 1:10

**Introduction**: As can be observed all around us in the religious world, division runs rampant! The number of differing denominations runs into the thousands. All of them are divided over things from the names they call themselves to the doctrines they embrace. Some are still "At one another's throats" over their differences, while most of them have bought into the "Unity in diversity" mantra. Is this really what the Lord intended when He shed His blood to purchase His church? (Acts 20:28). This week, let's focus on the biblical theme of unity. Let's explore the New Testament and see just what God wants for His church.

<u>Monday</u>: "Unity In Diversity," When it Comes To Doctrinal Matters, Is Not An Acceptable Biblical Concept. God wants His people to be united, but not at the expense of truth. "Unity in Diversity" encourages religious folks to lay their doctrinal differences aside, and just get along anyway. Romans 16:17-18; 2 John 9-10; Jude 3; Galatians 1:6-9; 1 Corinthians 1:10

1. What two things were to be done with the one teaching something other than the doctrine the Romans had learned? Does 2 John 10 Teach that we should just get along with those who teach different doctrines? What about Galatians 1:6-9? Look at 1 Cor. 1:10. Do denominations speak the same things? Are there no divisions among them?

### <u>Tuesday</u>: Jesus Prayed For His Disciples To be Unified. John 17:20-26.

1. Would Christians Today Be Included in this prayer? How many times did Jesus pray that His disciples would be "One?" What did Jesus mean by this? Jesus wants His disciples to be one just as He and the Father are one. Do Jesus and the Father disagree with each other on any doctrinal beliefs? What does this say about the kid of unity he wants for Christians today?

### <u>Wednesday</u>: Paul Plead With Those At Corinth To be Unified. 1 Corinthians 1:10-13

1. Were those at Corinth trying to divide up into different groups (denominations)? Where they trying to speak different things (hold contradicting beliefs)? How did Paul feel about this division? What did He command them to do (vs 10)? When reading these verses, do you get the sense that denominationalism is a blessing from God?

<u>Thursday</u>: The Holy Spirit Revealed Through Paul God's Plan For Unity. Ephesians 4:1-6. In the scheme of redemption, God the

Father sent His Son, The Son died on the Cross, and The Holy Spirit Revealed it all to us in the Bible. So the phrase "Unity of the Spirit" means to be unified on what the spirit has revealed to us in scripture.

1. What are we to endeavor to do? What does this mean? What does this say about the mentality of "Let's ignore our doctrinal differences and just get along anyway?"

<u>Friday</u>: There Are Times When God Demands Division, But Only One Side Is Right. God demands that His people divide themselves from those are in sin and refuse to repent. The nature of their sin could be moral or doctrinal.

- 1. Matthew 10:34-39. Did Jesus predict that His teaching would cause divisions? Was one side of those divided wrong?
- 2. 1 Corinthians 5:1-8. Was the nature of the sinner's sin here moral or doctrinal? Did God want the church to divide themselves from him?
- 3. Romans 16:17-18. Was the nature of the sinners' sin here doctrinal or moral? Did Paul instruct the Romans to fellowship them anyway? What two things did Paul instruct them to do with those who taught things contrary to the doctrine they had learned?

#### **DUTY LIST...**

#### **SUNDAY MORNING**

- > Announcements.....Michael Pickford
- ➤ Scripture Reading...Michael Pickford Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:10-17
- > Song Leader.....Kenny Todd
- ➤ Opening Prayer......Sam Miller
- ➤ Lord's Table:

Lead.......Tony Jenkins
Serve.....Michael Pickford
Serve.....Frank Anderson

Closing Prayer......Kenny Johnson

#### **SUNDAY EVENING**

- ➤ Song Leader.....Kenny Johnson
- ➤ Lord's Table.....Kenny Johnson

#### **WEDNESDAY EVENING**

- Song Leader......Kenny Todd
- > Invitation.....Michael Pickford

## **Thank You For Serving!**

#### 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; 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!

Home Bible Studies Available Upon Request!