

A TRUE FRIEND

Michael Pickford

It has been said that “A friend walks in when everyone else walks out.” The Bible says “A man who has friends must himself be friendly, But there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother” (Proverbs 18:24).

The closest friend we’ll ever have is the Lord Jesus Christ; “Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one’s life for his friends” (John 15:13). Jesus laid down His life for “everyone” (Hebrews 2:9), for “the whole world” (1 John 2:2), for “all men” (1 Timothy 4:10). This makes Him the closest of friends.

How can we be friends with Christ? Jesus gave the answer. “You are My friends if you do whatever I command you” (John 15:14). Are you friends with Christ? Have you obeyed His Gospel, that “form of doctrine,” in order to have your sins washed away and to be reconciled to God? 2 Thessalonians 1:8-9; Romans 6:17). Jesus said, “He who believes and is baptized shall be saved.” (Mark 16:16). Obey the Gospel today. Right now. ☞

The elements of our worship, 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

- 
- www.defendthegospel.com
 - 1st Sunday Singing Night: 6 pm
 - 5th Sunday Night: Guest Speaker
 - Men’s Business Meeting. 1st 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

Volume 13, Number 39

October 08, 2017

SPOKESMEN FOR CHRIST

Michael Pickford

Large companies often hire celebrities to be their spokesmen. These celebrities are paid handsomely to speak out for the product. Shouldn’t we, as Christians, be spokesmen for Christ? After all, the incentives are not earthly and passing, but spiritual and eternal!

Paul was a great spokesman for the Lord. He wrote, “But I speak concerning Christ and the church” (Ephesians 5:32). In this context Paul was comparing the Christ/church relationship with the husband/wife relationship, but, Paul was always ready to speak about Christ and His church. Do you find this odd from a man who was once adamant about destroying the church? (Galatians 1:13). Regardless of the circumstances Paul was always ready to speak the wonderful words of Christ. All through the middle to latter part of the book of Acts we find Paul speaking concerning Christ and the church. Why? Because “I would to God that not only you, but also all who hear me today, might become both almost and altogether such as I am, except for these chains” (Acts 26:29). He wanted people to be saved and he knew that this necessitated the preaching of the gospel of Christ (Mark 16:15; Romans 10:14, 17).

Should we not be quick to follow Paul’s example? (1 Corinthians 11:1). We must speak concerning Christ and His church. Those Christians in Jerusalem in the first century were quick to speak about Christ when they were driven out of Jerusalem due to a great wave of persecution against the saints (Acts 8:1-4). Sadly, not only are some saints not trying to teach and convert their friends, neighbors, relatives and co-workers, but, some would not be able to cite a single Bible passage in answer to a simple bible question (1 Peter 3:15). Not only should we, through diligent study, be able to answer the world’s Bible questions when asked, but we should take the initiative to speak out first in trying to convert lost sinners to the Lord. If you need incentive to do so, then just picture them burning in the eternal flames of fire; this should break your heart enough to try and teach them. In fact, this was a strong incentive for Paul: “Knowing, therefore the terror of the Lord, we persuade men...” (2 Corinthians 5:11). Let’s be spokesmen for Christ! ☞

Gospel Meeting & Singing

**October
8-13**

Preaching: Joel Plunkett

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

Singing

Sat, October 7

7 pm

Everyone Welcome!

Gospel Meeting

October 8-13

Sunday: 9:00 & 10 am

Sunday: 6:00 pm

Monday – Friday: 7 pm

Bring A Bible! Bring A Friend!

VISIT OUR
WEBSITE



www.defendthegospel.com



WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

Michael Pickford

A recent survey explored peoples' views of Heaven and Hell. In all, 76% believe that Heaven exists, while nearly the same proportion said that there is such a thing as Hell (71%).

Most Americans do not expect to experience Hell first-hand: just one-half of 1% expect to go to Hell upon their death. Nearly two-thirds of Americans (64%) believe they will go to Heaven.

One in every four adults (24%) admitted that they have "no idea" what will happen after they die.

Jesus gave us a pretty good idea when He said "Enter by the narrow gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it. Because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it" (Matthew 7:13-14).

It is sad that so many have "No idea" where they are going in eternity. The Bible assures us that we can know our eternal destiny. Those who obey the Gospel are promised eternal life (Acts 2:38; Titus 1:1-2), while those who do not obey the Gospel will be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power (2 Thess 1:7-9). Have you obeyed the Gospel (Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; Acts 22:16)? Where are you going?

DUTY LIST...

SUNDAY MORNING

- Announcements.....Michael Pickford
- Scripture Reading...Tim Thompson
Reading: Proverbs 11:24-31
- Song Leader.....Michael Pickford
- Opening Prayer.....Kenny Johnson
- Lord's Table:
 - Lead.....Kenny Todd
 - Serve.....Michael Pickford
 - Serve.....John Nelson
- Closing Prayer.....Lynn Buttrey

GOSPEL MEETING SONG LEADERS

- Monday.....Lynn Buttrey
- Tuesday.....Michael Pickford
- Wednesday.....Kenny Johnson
- Thursday.....Kenny Todd
- Friday.....Michael Pickford

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!**

Thank You For Serving!