

DUTY LIST...

SUNDAY MORNING

- Announcements.....Michael Pickford
- Scripture Reading...Robert Johnson
Reading: TBA
- Song Leader.....Kenny Todd
- Opening Prayer.....Kenny Johnson
- Lord's Table:
Lead.....Michael Pickford
Serve.....Eli Todd
Serve.....
- Closing Prayer.....Eli Todd

SUNDAY EVENING

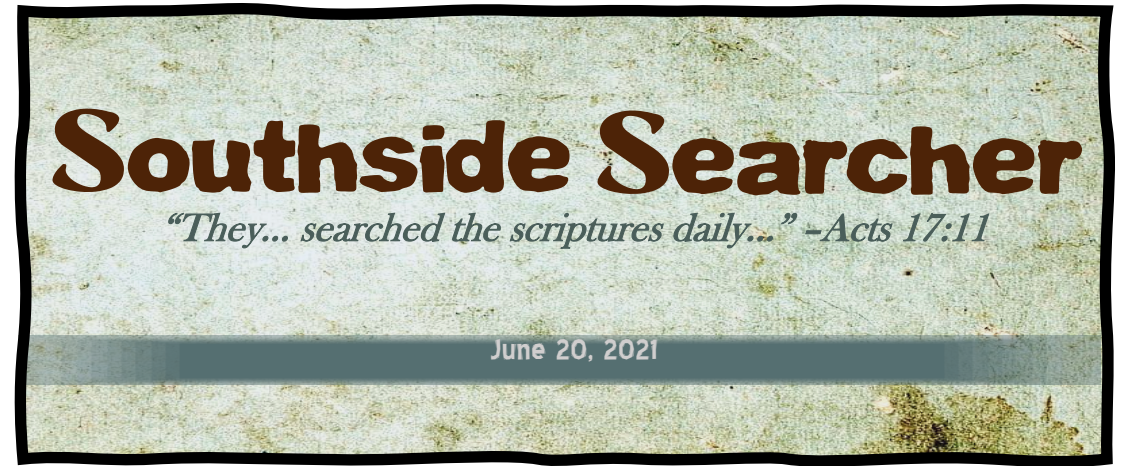
- Song Leader..... Eli Todd
- Opening Prayer.... Mike Pickford
- Invitation..... Kenny Johnson
- Lord's Supper.....Mike P. / Eli T.
- Closing Prayer..... Kenny Todd
-

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

Obey Today!



Not Much Help

THE STORY IS TOLD of a young man who entered a local business and enquired about a job. The manager told him, “I’m sorry young man, we don’t need much help right now.” Anxious to please and hopefully get hired anyway, the young man responded, “That’s okay, I wouldn’t be much help.”

We often sing a hymn that states, “There is much to do there’s work on every hand.” Jesus Himself taught that “The harvest truly is plentiful, but the laborers are few” (Matthew 9:37). Truly, there are many around us in this world who are without God and without hope (Ephesians 2:12).

If we obey the Gospel and are added to the church by the Lord (Acts 2:47) we need to understand that we must be about our Father’s business (Luke 2:49). That is, the business of seeking the lost (Luke 19:10). There is no room in the kingdom for those who “Wouldn’t be much help.”

Employers hire people because there is work that needs to be done. Those who aren’t much help don’t last long as an employee. God has created us in Christ for the very purpose of doing good works, that we should walk in them (Ephesians 2:8-10) Let’s not take a back seat in the church with the comfortable attitude of “I wouldn’t be of much help.” Let’s be always looking for opportunities to be zealous for good works (Titus 2:14).

-Michael Pickford
Mpickford3@comcast.net

We would love to have you visit with us. Our meeting times are:

SUNDAYS: 9 & 10 AM & 6 PM / WEDNESDAYS: 7 PM

We have capable Bible teachers who would be delighted to study with you at your request and convenience.

Our evangelist, Michael Pickford is the editor of this publication.

Please visit our website at www.defendthegospel.com

Bible Correspondance Courses Available At Your Request.

**SOUTHSIDE
CHURCH OF CHRIST**

1167 South Lowry Street, Smyrna, TN 37167 | 615-459-7854

Southside Searcher, Volume 17, Number 25

The Blessing Of Irritation

Someone once wrote, "In some Western States, in order to make things grow, it is necessary to irritate the land."

I sometimes wonder if many professing Christians hold their beliefs too lightly. Maybe we just take our faith for granted. We may sometimes meditate on softball questions like, "Why do I go to church?" or, "What do I believe about God and His existence?" Our answer to these questions is readily available in our minds. But how deep is our faith, really? Are we really prepared to "give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you?" Are we ready to contend for the faith? (1 Peter 3:15; Jude 1:3).

"As iron sharpens iron, So a man sharpens the countenance of his friend" (Proverbs 27:17). Perhaps if someone were to irritate our minds with sharp questions our knowledge of the Bible and God's will would grow. We tend to avoid the tough questions. We complain if the Bible class material we're studying is too complicated or the questions are too difficult. But these difficult questions cause us to do some hard thinking about what we believe and why we believe it. Seeking discussions with those we know to be more biblically literate helps to mold our faith into more of the kind of shape God desires it to be in. We grow!

We can't drink spiritual milk our whole lives and expect to be what God wants us to be. At some point we need to add meat to that milk. We need to stay reminded of the elementary principles of our faith, but we also must press on towards perfection (Hebrews 6:1). Let us ever be studying daily and diligently so that we might show ourselves approved to God (2 Timothy 2:15; Acts 17:11).

-Michael Pickford
Mpickford3@comcast.net



FATHERS!
Be Patient
Be Persistent
Be Present

Fathers

"And you, fathers, do not provoke your children to wrath, but bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord."

-Ephesians 6:4

"My son, hear the instruction of your father, And do not forsake the law of your mother;"

-Proverbs 1:8

*"As a father has compassion on his children,
so the Lord has compassion on his faithful followers."*

-Psalm 103:13

"Train up a child in the way he should go, And when he is old he will not depart from it."

-Proverbs 22:6

"I will be to him a father, and he shall be to me a son. When he commits iniquity, I will discipline him with the rod of men, with the stripes of the sons of men, but my steadfast love will not depart from him."

-2 Samuel 7:14-15

"The father of a righteous child has great joy; a man who fathers a wise son rejoices in him."

-Proverbs 23:24

"But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him."

-Luke 15:20

"If you endure chastening, God deals with you as with sons; for what son is there whom a father does not chasten?"

-Hebrews 12:7

"And these words which I command you today shall be in your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up."

-Deuteronomy 6:6-7

*"He who spares his rod hates his son,
But he who loves him disciplines him promptly."*

-Proverbs 13:24

"For you know that we dealt with each of you as a father deals with his own children, encouraging, comforting and urging you to live lives worthy of God, who calls you into his kingdom and glory."

-1 Thessalonians 2:11-12

"Whoever fears the LORD has a secure fortress, and for their children it will be a refuge."

-Proverbs 14:26