

**DUTY LIST...**

**SUNDAY MORNING**

- Announcements.....Michael Pickford
- Scripture Reading...Michael Pickford  
Reading: TBA
- Song Leader.....Michael Pickford
- Opening Prayer.....TBA
- Lord’s Table:  
Lead.....TBA  
Serve.....TBA
- Closing Prayer.....TBA

**SUNDAY EVENING**

- Song Leader.... TBA
- Opening Prayer...TBA
- Invitation: N/A
- Lord’s Table: TBA
- Closing Prayer: TBA

**WEDNESDAY EVENING**

- Song Leader...
- Invitation:

**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!**



THE **SOUTHSIDE SEARCHER**

July 30, 2023

**The Path To Righteous Thinking**

Philippians 4:8-9 provide essential guidance for our mindset and conduct. What we dwell on mentally will influence our actions and our relationship with God. Dwelling on these virtues aligns us with God's peace and keeps us on the path to eternal life.

- *True* - Encourages honesty in all dealings and truthfulness in our thoughts.
- *Noble* - Calls for high moral standards and respect for the dignity of others.
- *Right* - Implores us to seek justice and righteousness in all circumstances.
- *Pure* - Urges us to cultivate clean, wholesome thoughts and actions.
- *Lovely* - Inspires the pursuit of beauty and harmony in our interactions.
- *Admirable* - Promotes a focus on praiseworthy deeds and uplifting narratives.
- *Excellent* - Challenges us to strive for exceptional quality in our endeavors for God.
- *Praiseworthy* - Directs our attention to things that give glory to God.

We would welcome a visit from you. Our meeting times are:

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

Capable Bible teachers would be delighted to study with you at your request and convenience.

This bulletin is designed and produced by our evangelist, Michael Pickford.

Please visit our website at [www.defendthegospel.com](http://www.defendthegospel.com)

Bible Correspondance Courses Available At Your Request.

**SOUTHSIDE  
CHURCH OF CHRIST**

1167 South Lowry Street, Smyrna TN 37167, 615-991-8594

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All Articles written and edited by Michael Pickford unless otherwise noted

Following these guidelines will transform our thoughts and actions, crowd out undesirable thoughts, and reward us with the peace of God (vs. 9). Meditating and acting on these virtues will cause us to experience God’s presence in our lives.

-Michael Pickford

Southside church of Christ, 1167 South Lowry Street, Smyrna TN 37167

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## The Fruit Of The Spirit

The Fruit of the Spirit, as detailed in Galatians 5:22-23, provides a blueprint for Christian living. In totality, they form two crucial lessons. First, living a Spirit-led life via the word of God results in a transformation of character to resemble Christ's. Second, each 'fruit' is not just an individual virtue, but interconnected, collectively enabling us to reflect God's image.

- *Love* - It is unconditional, selfless love shown toward everyone, mirroring the love of Christ.
- *Joy* - This is not just happiness, but a deep-rooted, steadfast delight in the Lord even amidst trials.
- *Peace* - A tranquility that stems from the confidence of being in God's care, overcoming worldly anxiety.
- *Patience* - The capacity to tolerate delay and endure under difficult circumstances without anger or frustration.
- *Kindness* - This is about being considerate, compassionate, and sympathetic to others.
- *Goodness* - An inclination to do good, to be generous and selfless, rooted in moral and ethical righteousness.
- *Faithfulness* - This calls for unwavering trust in God, loyalty to His teachings, and reliability to others.
- *Gentleness* - It is about demonstrating power with restraint, showing humility, and respect toward others.
- *Self-control* - The ability to control desires and emotions, embodying moderation and discipline.

Embracing and nurturing the Fruit of the Spirit in our lives is a transformative journey, leading us closer to God and enriching our influence as bright lights in a dark world.

-Michael Pickford

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## The “Christian Graces”

The “Christian graces” in 2 Peter 1:5-11 form a divine ladder leading us to heavenly success. Two critical lessons can be discerned from the text. First, failure to cultivate each attribute can result in stumbling, jeopardizing our hope for eternal life (Vs. 10-11). Second, these attributes are not to be pursued sequentially but concurrently, each one enhancing the others.

- *Faith* - The foundational step, it represents complete trust and belief in God's promises.
- *Goodness* - An internal disposition to do good, reflecting Christ-like morality.
- *Knowledge* - Acquiring spiritual understanding, leading to a deeper relationship with God.
- *Self-control* - Disciplining our desires, being measured and balanced in our actions.
- *Perseverance* - Steadfastness in the face of trials, embodying a never-give-up attitude.
- *Godliness* - An earnest desire to live a life pleasing to God, reflecting divine attributes.
- *Kindness* - Showing compassion and understanding towards others, mirroring God's grace.
- *Love* - The apex of the ladder, it signifies a selfless, encompassing love for God and all His creation.

Cultivating these “graces” is a lifelong commitment. Developed concurrently and applied consistently, they equip us with spiritual steadfastness. By nurturing and developing these attributes, we remain fruitful and secure our entrance into the everlasting kingdom of God—heaven (Vss. 8, 11).

-Michael Pickford

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