

INTERTWINED WITH THE VINE

Michael Pickford

If you were to try, you'd quickly find it to be extremely difficult to break off a branch from the main stem of a grapevine. By twisted, interlocking, intertwining tendrils, these branches are securely connected.

Jesus once said to His disciples, "I am the vine and you are the branches" (John 15:5). In speaking of branches, Jesus wasn't referring to various different denominations as some have contended. He was speaking to His disciples. Individual Christians are the branches interlocked and intertwined with the Lord Jesus

Christ!

It is up to us to stay intertwined by being fruitful in the Lord. Jesus warns in this context that if we become unfruitful we will die and be cut off and thrown into the fire.

There is so much fruit to bear in Christ: Teaching the lost the Gospel, visiting the sick, helping the needy. Don't tell me you don't know what to do as a Christian.

Get intertwined with the Lord by obedience (Galatians 3:26-27) and stay intertwined by staying busy!



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
- Weekly Article: Rutherford Reader
- 60 Second daily Radio Spot, "Moment of Truth." WGNS 100.5 FM, 101.9 FM, 1450 AM
- 3rd Sunday Singing Practice: 5 pm
- 4th Sunday Singing Night: 6 pm
- Children's Class, 2nd & 4th Sundays, 5:30 pm
- 5th Sunday Men's Training Class, 3:30 pm, Prayer Service, 6 pm



SOUTHSIDE SEARCHER

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"They...searched the scriptures daily..." -Acts 17:11

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WHAT DOES A PREACHER DO?

Michael Pickford

Preachers should be able to make their living preaching the Gospel (1 Corinthians 9:14). Folks often wonder what it is a preacher does for a living. When members of a local church don't know, it may be that the preacher isn't doing what he should be doing. Sadly, not only is it true that many church members don't understand the duties and responsibilities of a local evangelist, but the evangelist himself doesn't know what his job entails. I believe a quick read of First and Second Timothy and Titus will go a long way in educating everyone concerned.

Examination. Perhaps first and foremost, the preacher's job includes a close, careful and constant examination of scripture. Paul told Timothy, "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth" (2 Timothy 2:15, KJV). A preacher should discipline himself and develop good study habits with a well-planned and scheduled routine. Members should help protect the preacher's time so he can give proper attention to his studies. There are not many things more dangerous to a local church than a preacher who is ignorant of the word of God.

Evangelization. To evangelize means to preach (The Gospel). Paul told Timothy "Preach the word!..." (2 Timothy 4:2, NKJV). To Titus he adds, "Speak these things, exhort, and rebuke with all authority..." (Titus 2:15, NKJV). It is vitally important to the health and soundness of a church that the preacher preach THE WORD. Not opinions, think-sos etc, but the word! A preacher must be committed to preaching the truth even when he knows that truth will anger some folks (In season and out of season, 2 Timothy 1:2). Local churches are only as strong as the preaching they demand from their evangelist.

Example. Finally, it is imperative that a local preacher sets the proper example for the congregation he serves. He must practice what he preaches. Paul told Timothy "Let no one despise your youth, but be an example to the believers in word, in conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity" (1 Timothy 4:12, NKJV). A preacher may be extremely knowledgeable in scripture, have an attractive and dynamic preaching style, and a friendly outgoing personality, but if he doesn't live by what he preaches, his "ministry" (2 Timothy 4:5) will result in utter failure.



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INFANT BAPTISM

Michael Pickford

The Church of England, the Catholic Church, and others have for many years practiced infant baptism. Let's deal briefly with this concept of baptizing an infant.

The purpose of baptism in the New Testament is to wash away sins. Saul was told, "Arise and be baptized, and wash away your sins..." (Acts 22:16). Peter stated, "...let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins..." (Acts 2:38). Infants have no ability to understand sin, much less to actually commit sin! Therefore, baptism is not for them.

Some teach that children are born sinners; that is, they are born with sin already charged against them. The Bible states, however, "The soul who sins shall die. The son shall not bear the iniquity of the father..." (Eze. 18:20). This fact, along with the fact that baptism is for the purpose of washing away sins, clearly demonstrates the futility of baptizing infants.

Advocates of infant baptism point to the baptism of the households of Lydia (Acts 16:15), the Philippian

jailor (Acts 16:33, 34), and Stephanas (1 Cor. 1:16) in order to justify infant baptism. They argue that infants were included in these households, therefore, infants were baptized. This conclusion is false for two reasons. First, these texts NEVER mention the presence of infants in these households. This is an assumption on their part. Second, we know there were no infants baptized from these households because, as we have already pointed out, baptism's purpose is to wash away sins. Infants don't have sins! Furthermore, baptism is for believers (Mark 16:16). Can infants believe?

We do not maintain that infants do not or cannot go to heaven should they die in their infant stage. Sin causes spiritual death (separates one from God), restricting one from entering heaven (Isa. 59:1,2; Rom. 6:23). Infants do not sin; therefore, they are not barred from heaven. We refer to them as being "safe" rather than "saved." Since they have no sin, they have nothing to be "saved" from. Infant baptism is not taught in the Gospel of Christ. 🔍

NO MAP?

Someone once said, "Life is a journey without a map." Well, perhaps not for those who choose not to fear the Lord. But for those who fear the Lord, God has provided a map - His word. On this map we find the wisdom of Proverbs 1:7. If we fear the Lord, we will find on God's map the knowledge we need to navigate through life in this world successfully, and at the end of our voyage - Eternal Life!



SERMON NOTES

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

How Not To Treat Your Brethren

Introduction:

I. _____

II. _____

III. _____

STUDY
DAILY!
Acts
17:11

DUTY LIST...

SUNDAY MORNING

- Announcements.....Brad Todd
- Bible Reading by.....Tony Jenkins
Reading: 1 Samuel 18:7-9
- Song Leader.....Kenny Todd
- Lord's Table:
Lead.....John Nelson
Serve.....Chris Meade
Serve.....Ben Green

SUNDAY EVENING

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

WEDNESDAY EVENING

- Song Leader.....
- Invitation.....

**Home Bible Studies
Available Upon Request!**

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!