

## A NEW LANGUAGE


Michael Pickford

Learning a new language can be difficult and challenging. When one seeks to become a citizen of a new country, he is often required to learn a new language.

When we become children of God, we too must learn a new language. Our everyday speech should have an entirely new ring to it. If we once used filthy language, “curse” words, or partook in lewd jokes, this should all change!

“But now you yourselves are to put off all these: anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy language out of your mouth” (Colossians 3:8).

Perhaps we had a problem with lying when outside of Christ; this too should change. “Therefore, putting away lying, let each one of you speak truth...” (Ephesians 4:25).

Maybe we had a problem with backbiting, gossip, slander, or outbursts of wrath. Eliminate them. We are now citizens of heaven (Phil 3:20), and we must learn the language; a language of sharing the gospel with the lost, a prayerful language, a worshipful language, an exhorting language, etc. Learning this new language can be challenging, but through Christ, you can do it! 

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](http://www.defendthegospel.com)
- Weekly Article: Rutherford Reader
- 60 Second daily Radio Spot, “Moment of Truth.” WGNS 100.5 FM, 101.9 FM, 1450 AM
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday Singing Practice: 5 pm
- 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday Singing Night: 6 pm
- Children's Class, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays, 5:30 pm
- 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Men's Training Class, 3:30 pm, Prayer Service, 6 pm



## 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 6, Number 41

October 17, 2010

### It's EASY!

Michael Pickford


It's not uncommon in our society to hear someone saying, “It's easy.” I fear that some things have become easy for Christians which have a negative effect on their service to the Lord.

**Giving.** The Gospel makes it clear that we are to be willing to give to those who have needs arise. In fact, this is one of the reasons we are to work (Ephesians 4:28). The rich may have an even bigger responsibility in this area (1 Timothy 6:17-19). But it's easy to rationalize our way out of this obligation. It's easy to say “Well, they should have been better stewards of their money.” It's easy to say “Why don't they just go get a job.” It's easy to say “Someone else will help them.” John said, “But whoever has this world's goods, and sees his brother in need, and shuts up his heart from him, how does the love of God abide in him?” (1 John 3:17). Oh, and it's easy to say “I'm barely supporting my own family.” The Macedonians were blessed for giving liberally though they themselves were in poverty (2 Corinthians 8:1-2).

**Growing.** The Bible tells us we must grow in grace and knowledge of

our Lord (2 Peter 3:18). But it's easy to weasel out of this one to. “I'm too busy with other important things to maintain daily Bible study.” We are fools when we clutter up our schedules so much that there's no time for deep, diligent, daily Bible study (Acts 17:11). It's easy to say “I'm too tired to study today, but I'll make it up tomorrow.” Does it happen tomorrow? We make time for ballgames, social events, TV, Internet, etc. If most Christians were one quarter as diligent about studying their Bible as they are about these things, the Lord's church would be bursting open with “Bible experts!”

**Going.** We know we are to assemble with the saints (Hebrews 10:25), but it's easy to get out of this one too. “I'm just so tired.” “I have a headache.” “I have this important thing to do.” I've seen very aged people with dilapidated bodies struggling to faithfully attend every service for years, while healthy folks a third their age “blow off” the assembly for a “Little sniffle.” There are legitimate reasons for missing, but most the reasons we hear are surely not among them.

Oh, did I mention? It's easy to lose your soul! (Matthew 7:13-14). 

Evangelist & Editor: Michael Pickford, 615-785-0646, [mpickford3@comcast.net](mailto:mpickford3@comcast.net)

[www.defendthegospel.com](http://www.defendthegospel.com)

# TRADITIONS

Michael Pickford

When we think of traditions, we usually think of something bad. For example, the Pharisees made useless the commands of God by their traditions (Mk. 7:13). A tradition is something handed down from one generation to the next. These Jews had developed what they called oral traditions. To them, these traditions were as binding as the word of God. They asked Jesus, "Why do your disciples transgress the tradition of the elders?" (Matt. 15:2). In binding these traditions of men these Jews transgressed the commandment of God (Matt. 15:3, 6). Before his conversion, Paul was a Pharisee (Phil. 3:5) and extremely zealous for these oral traditions (Gal. 1:14).

On the other hand, God's word itself is referred to as "traditions." They are traditions handed down by Him through the Holy Spirit (1 Cor. 2:10-13) and He is serious about folks holding them. Paul wrote, "Therefore, brethren, stand fast and hold the traditions which you were taught..." (2 Thess 2:15). Paul praised the Corinthians for keeping God's traditions just as Paul delivered them (1 Cor. 11:2). We must keep all of

God's traditions just as He delivered them without addition or subtraction. Those who change or go beyond them bring on themselves a curse (Gal. 1:6-9) and are cut off from fellowship with God (2 Jn. 9). Paul tells us how to deal with those who fail to keep God's traditions (2 Thess. 3:6).

Many religious groups today are guilty of doing to the Gospel the same thing the Jews did to the old law: Making it useless by their traditions. As a result, the Jews were splintered into different "denominations," - Pharisees, Essenes, Sadducees, etc. Today, as a result of mingling traditions and commandments of men with the pure Gospel, there are different "denominations." Just as the Jews recorded theirs in the Mishna, religions today record theirs in books called the Methodist Discipline, the Baptist Manual, and The Catholic Catechism, etc. Just like the Pharisees, these people will be condemned for making vain the commandments of God by their traditions. God's word contains all we need to serve Him faithfully (2 Tim. 3:16, 17; 2 Pet. 1:3). Traditions of men are unneeded, uninspired and unscriptural! 🔍

## OUR Gospel Meeting

WITH GARY HENRY

OCTOBER 17-22

SUNDAY: 9 & 10 AM, 6 PM

MONDAY – FRIDAY: 7 PM



# SERMON NOTES

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

STUDY DAILY!  
Acts 17:11

Introduction:

### DUTY LIST...

#### SUNDAY MORNING

- Announcements.....Michael Pickford
- Bible Reading by.....Chris Meade  
Reading: 2 Peter 3:14-18
- Song Leader.....Michael Pickford
- Lord's Table Lead: Kenny Johnson  
Serve.....John Nelson, Brad Todd

#### SUNDAY EVENING

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

#### GOSPEL MEETING SONG LEADERS

- Monday..... Robert Johnson
- Tuesday..... Ben Reagh
- Wednesday..... Tony Jenkins
- Thursday..... Ben Green
- Friday..... Michael Pickford

**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!**