

TELEMARKETERS

Michael Pickford

Do telemarketers seem awfully persistent and irritating to you? Not only do they possess the amazing ability to call at the most inopportune times (e.g. During supper), but they are nearly impossible to get off the phone with. You have to wonder what part of “no” they don’t understand. Possibly even more irritating is the fact that I sometimes find myself desiring the very thing they are trying to sell (smile).

Without trying to make an unfair comparison, or unnecessary slanderous remarks against the character of these telemarketers, I must admit that they remind me a lot of Satan. Satan just doesn’t want to take no for an answer. He is persistent, rude, and relentless. He always calls at inopportune times and he always has something to offer that is actually very alluring.

We have the power to refuse the lures of telemarketers. Just hang up! Satan can be extremely alluring with His many tactics, devices, and schemes (Ephesians 6:12). And the product he’s trying to pawn off on us does produce pleasure (Hebrews 11:25). But we have the power, through Christ, to refuse the lures of Satan. “I can do all things through Christ Who strengthens me” (Philippians 4:13). When Satan calls, let the Lord answer it! 

Satan just doesn’t want to take

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

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 45

November 21, 2010

THANKSGIVING

Michael Pickford

The fourth Thursday in November is a day set aside to count our blessings as individuals, families, and Americans. It’s been a tradition since the Pilgrims of Plymouth sat down to dinner with their Native American neighbors in 1623, and an official annual holiday since George Washington proclaimed it one in 1789.

Giving thanks is a biblical precept and should be done more often than one day a year. “Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, And into His courts with praise. Be thankful to Him, and bless His name” (Psalm 100:4). Paul wrote, “Continue earnestly in prayer, being vigilant in it with thanksgiving” (Colossians 4:2). Notice the word “Continue.” This reminds us of 1 Thessalonians 5:17-18 which says “Pray without ceasing, in everything give thanks...” George Herbert said, “Thou hast given so much to me, give one thing more, - a grateful heart.” We should let our thankfulness show through our...

Worship. We’re familiar with the story of the ten lepers healed by Jesus (Luke 17:11-19). After being healed, nine of them were anxious to get back to their lives. But one of them “Glorified God, and fell down at His

feet, giving Him thanks” (Verses 15-16). Worship should be a desired thing in our hearts in response to the many wonderful ways God has blessed us, not only materially, but most importantly, spiritually. In view of God’s blessings in Christ (Ephesians 1:3), it should be easy for us to keep the commandment to assemble (Hebrews 10:25).

Works. What happened to Lydia? She found eternal salvation and she was grateful. She showed her gratitude by her works of opening up her home to Paul and Silas (Acts 16:14-15). We have been created in Christ Jesus for good works (Ephesians 2:10) and we should be zealous for them (Titus 2:14). This is a godly reaction to our having the glorious opportunity to be cleansed from our sins and saved in Christ. Rather than finding excuses to avoid spiritual works, we should gladly and gratefully do them.

Wages. The widow gave all she had (Luke 21:1-4). Why would anyone give so sacrificially? I believe it was out of gratitude! When we are truly grateful, we will give to the Lord’s work. We are commanded to give (1 Corinthians 16:1-3). In view of giving Paul wrote “Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift” (2 Corinthians 9:15). 

Evangelist & Editor: Michael Pickford, 615-471-1612, mpickford3@comcast.net

www.defendthegospel.com

STRESS MANAGEMENT

Michael Pickford

Duke University did a study on "peace of mind." Factors found to contribute greatly to emotional and mental stability are: 1) the absence of suspicion and resentment. Nursing a grudge was a major factor in unhappiness. 2) Not living in the past. An unwholesome preoccupation with old mistakes and failures leads to depression. 3) Not wasting time and energy fighting conditions you cannot change. 4) Refuse to indulge in self-pity when life hands you a raw deal. Accept the fact that nobody gets through life without some sorrow and misfortune. 5) Cultivate the old-fashioned virtues--love, humor, compassion and loyalty.

While other things appeared in their list, I found these to be more biblically based. Is there a biblical answer to this idea of "Stress Management?" Yes! Here are a couple of more suggestions.

1) PRAY! *"Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made know to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding,*

will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus" (Phil 4:6-7).

Life presents many things we can do nothing about. God does not expect us to be lazy, but He also does not expect us to accomplish things which are impossible for us to accomplish. Pray to God about it, do what you can, and don't worry about it. Worrying will accomplish nothing but stress, sickness, and anxiety attacks! If a man who is 5'5 really wants to be 6'3; can he accomplish this by worrying about it? Of course not! (Matthew 6:27). Do your best and leave the rest in God's hands.

2) Read God's word. The Psalmist said, *"This is my comfort in my affliction, For your word has given me life."* *"I remembered Your words of old, O Lord, and have comforted myself"* (Psalm 119:50, 52). God's word has the power to calm your soul and refresh your spirit. What greater comfort can we acquire than to hear the words of the living God?

Don't let Satan rule your soul through stress and anxiety. Turn to God through His word and prayer, and you will find comfort for your soul! 🔍

THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE HOME

Someone once said "A broken home is the world's greatest wreck." What a shame that fifty percent of all marriages in the USA end in divorce. Everything is tugging us away from home; Overworking, overplaying, etc. Sadder still, everything is tugging us away from keeping God in the home. We've got to get daily Bible study and prayer back in the home! "The curse of the Lord is on the house of the wicked, But He blesses the home of the just." -Proverbs 3:33



SERMON NOTES

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

The Exalted Christ

STUDY
DAILY!
Acts
17:11

Introduction:

I. _____

II. _____

III. _____

DUTY LIST...

SUNDAY MORNING

- Announcements.....Jason Hubbard
- Bible Reading by.....Sam Miller
Reading: Philippians 2:5-11
- Song Leader.....Robert Johnson
- Lord's Table:
Lead.....Lynn Buttrey
Serve.....Chris Meade
Serve.....Frank Anderson

SUNDAY EVENING

- Song Leader.....Ben Reagh
- Lord's Table.....Lynn Buttrey

Wednesday Evening

- Song Leader..... Lynn Buttrey
- Invitation.....Ben Green

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!

**Home Bible Studies
Available Upon Request!**