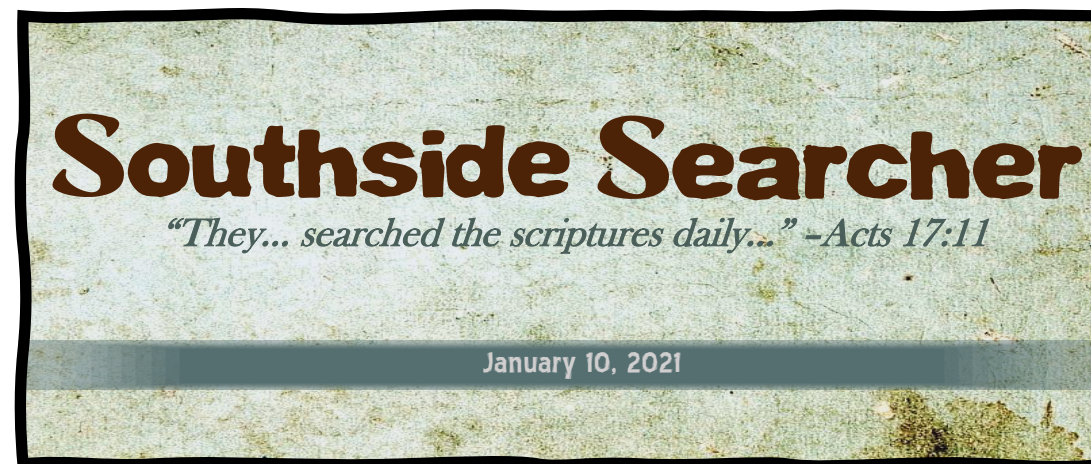


<p><b>DUTY LIST...</b></p> <p><b>SUNDAY MORNING</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Announcements.....Michael Pickford</li> <li>➤ Scripture Reading...Jeff Isbell Reading: TBA</li> <li>➤ Song Leader.....Robert Johnson</li> <li>➤ Opening Prayer.....Lynn Buttrey</li> <li>➤ Lord's Table: Lead.....Michael Pickford Serve.....Eli Todd Serve.....</li> <li>➤ Closing Prayer.....Kenny Johnson</li> </ul> <p><b>SUNDAY EVENING</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Song Leader.....Kenny Johnson</li> <li>➤ Opening Prayer...Elie Todd</li> <li>➤ Invitation.....Kenny Todd</li> <li>➤ Lord's Supper.....Mike P. / Eli T.</li> <li>➤ Closing Prayer.....Michael Pickford</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>God's Plan of Salvation</b></p> <p>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.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <u>Hear the Gospel</u>: Romans 10:17</li> <li>➤ <u>Believe</u>: Mark 16:16; John 8:24</li> <li>➤ <u>Repent of Sin</u>: Acts 2:38; Acts 17:30</li> <li>➤ <u>Confess Faith</u>: Romans 10:9, 10</li> <li>➤ <u>Be Baptized</u>: Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; Acts 22:16; 1 Peter 3:21</li> <li>➤ <u>Remain Faithful</u>: Rev. 2:10</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Obey Today!</b></p>
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## Amen

MOST ARE AWARE OF THE recent event where Emanuel Cleaver, a United Methodist minister and Democratic congressman ended his opening prayer on the first day of the new Congress by saying “amen and a-woman.” Regardless of the political ramifications this may spur, I agree with Jesus — it is important that we know what words mean, and that we use them correctly and properly (Matthew 12:36-37).

A teacher asked a child what the word “amen” means. He said it meant, “Let’s eat.” The teacher was confused until she realized that from the child’s perspective the food was always eaten right after a prayer, and directly after the last word of the prayer – amen. We expect this type of behavior from children. But we should expect better from adults, especially adults serving in leadership capacities.

The word “amen” is neither gender specific, nor does it mean “Let’s eat.” Yes, the word “men” is part of the word, but it has nothing to do with a man or a male in any way. It would be like substituting “womend” for “mend,” or “womention” for “mention.”

The word “amen” goes back to the Hebrew language. Its meaning comes from two perspectives – God’s and man’s. When God says amen, it essentially means, “it is and shall be so.” When man says amen, it essentially means, “so let it be” (Vine). May we always strive to understand words accurately, and to use them properly. Amen!

-Michael Pickford  
Mpickford3@comcast.net

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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.

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# What To Do With The Bible

During trips to thrift stores or used bookstores, I often see Bibles. You can tell they have been rarely read, used, or studied. This makes me think there are scores of folks who do not know what to do with God's Word, the Bible. Here are some things you should do with the Bible!

**Buy the Bible.** The wise man penned, "Buy the truth, and sell it not; also wisdom, and instruction, and understanding" (Prov. 23:23). The Bible is such a great investment, one should purchase it without ever consider parting ways with it. To "buy the truth" is to "put God's Word into practice." One should do so as these are the same "words" by which Cornelius and his household were saved (Acts 11:14). One should do so because this "word" is able to "save" souls (Jam.1:21). Have you bought the Bible yet?

**Investigate the Bible.** Paul commanded, "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth" (II Tim. 2:15). The Bereans were championed because they "searched the scriptures daily" (Acts 17:11). The Bible is well-worth investigating, for within it is the truth which "shall make you free" (Jn. 8:32). Be warned though, a lack of knowledge of God's Word leads to destruction (Hos. 4:6). Have you investigated the Bible yet?

**Believe the Bible.** It is one thing to have and read a Bible, but an entirely different thing to believe it. Paul wrote of those who "believe and know the truth" (I Tim. 4:3). It was the Lord who commanded, "repent ye, and believe the gospel" (Mk.1:15). The reader of God's Word must accept it is "in truth, the word of God, which effectually worketh also in you that believe" (I Thess. 2:13). Have you believed the Bible yet?

**Love the Bible.** The longest Psalm stands as a reminder of the Psalmist's love affair with God's Word. Of the 176 verses in Psalm 119, 170 of them have some sort of reference to God's Word in some way. Be sure to read verses 97,113,119,127,159,163 and 165. Near the end, the write iterates, "My soul hath kept thy testimonies; and I love them exceedingly" (Psa. 119:167). The lover of God's Word will put it, and it alone, above all words of others. The lover of God's Word will make it their source of nourishment rather than binging on man's uninspired words (I Tim. 4:6). Have you loved the Bible yet?

**Exemplify the Bible.** Someone long ago said, "I would rather see a sermon any day rather than hear one." This is the essence of "Practice what you preach." Luke said of Jesus, he "began both to do and teach" (Acts 1:1). Like Paul, others must see Christ and His Word living in me (Gal. 2:20). Consider, it may never be the words you say which generates spiritual interest in others. Rather, it may be your actions which causes a spiritual stir in their heart. Have you exemplified the Bible yet?

What are you doing with the Bible?

-Larry R Ping II  
Via [firstcitychurchofchrist.com](http://firstcitychurchofchrist.com)

# Following In Jesus' Steps

*"He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as He walked."*  
-1 John 2:6

*"For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps:"*  
-1 Peter 2:21

*"Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself. Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others. Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus,"*  
-Philippians 2:3-5

*"how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him."*  
-Acts 10:38

*"So He Himself often withdrew into the wilderness and prayed."*  
-Luke 5:16

*"though He was a Son, yet He learned obedience by the things which He suffered. And having been perfected, He became the author of eternal salvation to all who obey Him,"*  
-Hebrews 5:8-9

*"So He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up. And as His custom was, He went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and stood up to read."*  
-Luke 4:16

*"for the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost."*  
-Luke 19:10