

TRUTH HURTS!

Michael Pickford

It is often difficult to tell people the truth, or to be perfectly honest with folks because we know that the truth will hurt them. That is, it will hurt their feelings or emotions. But in the end, people need to hear the truth because it ultimately helps them.

The apostle Paul was not one to shy away from the most important truth – The Gospel. Anytime religious error or erroneous practices reared their ugly heads, Paul was ready to shine forth the truth.

To the churches of Galatia Paul wrote, “Have I therefore become your enemy because I tell you the truth?” (Galatians 4:16).

Regardless of whose feelings we hurt, we need to tell the truth about denominationalism being a sin (1 Corinthians 1:10). We need to tell the truth about homosexuality being an abomination to God (Leviticus 18:22). Those living in adulterous marriages need to hear the truth about their sinful relationships (Matthew 19:9). Women and young ladies need to be told the truth about their immodest apparel (1 Timothy 2:9).

May we always have the courage to stand for the truth! Let us not seek to please men, but rather to please God in all matters. Truth hurts, but lies and deception destroy the soul. 🔍

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
- 3rd Sunday Singing Practice: 5 pm
- 4th Sunday Singing Night: 6 pm
- Radio program on wgns. 15 minute sermon every Sunday morning from 10:45 - 11:00.
- 5th Sunday Men's Training Class, 4:30 pm. Prayer Service, 6 pm
- Men's Business Meeting. 1st Sunday evenings following services.



SOUTHSIDE SEARCHER

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“They...searched the scriptures daily...” –Acts 17:11

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WINNING THE SPIRITUAL WAR

Michael Pickford

The war we fight every day is one of a spiritual nature, not physical (2 Corinthians 10:3-6. In Ephesians 6:10-20, Paul tells us how to be strong in the Lord and win this war ...

Our Predator. Anyone who wants successfully defeat his enemy must first understand some things about his enemy. Our adversary is Satan and Peter depicts him as a predator, a lion, seeking whom he may devour (1 Peter 5:8). In Ephesians 6 we learn that he is well armed with fiery darts. He is very active and deceptive, seeking to deceive us with religious error (1 Timothy 4:1-5), and Sinful activity (Hebrews 3:12-13).

Our Panoply. The word “Panoply” means “A complete suit of armor.” God provides us what we need to fight and to protect ourselves against our predator (Ephesians 6:13-17). We gird our waist with truth, God's word (John 17:17) so that we can recognize religious error. The breast plate of righteousness refers to our doing of God's will, applying His word to our lives. Shodding our feet with the preparation of the Gospel speaks of our sharing the Gospel with others, The shield of faith speaks of our strong belief in God and Christ. This keeps

us from atheistic concepts that the devil saturates our society with. Faith gives us victory over the world (1 John 5:4). The helmet of salvation addresses the intellect. God provides us with intellectual truths in the Gospel to fight against the devils clever arguments for sin and error. The sword of the Spirit is the word of God. We must wield this sword in daily battles in order to defeat all the foes Satan puts in our path. Most of the elements of our armor are related directly to the Gospel. Being familiar with our own weapons is essential to winning the war. Study God's word daily (Acts 17:11).

Our Prayers. Without communication with our commander (God) we will lose the battle regardless of how good our armor and weapons are. Ephesians 6:19 insists that we pray “Always with all prayer and supplication.” We ask God for strength. We pray to Him when we are discouraged. We pray for wisdom to win the war. We pray for our spiritual leaders, we pray for our fellow spiritual soldiers.

How is your war with the devil going? Understanding your enemy, familiarizing yourself with the Gospel, and praying without ceasing will assure victory 🔍

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www.defendthegospel.com

How To PRAY

Michael Pickford

In the Bible, both Old and New Testaments emphasize over and over again the need to pray. Many people struggle with their prayer life either through a lack of discipline or a lack of understanding as to what to pray about.

If a lack of diligence is the problem, I would remind us of 1 Thessalonians 5:17, "Pray without ceasing." If we struggle with what to say when we pray perhaps we need a better understanding of the components of prayer revealed to us in God's word. 1 Timothy 2:1 gives us the basic components of prayer.

Supplications. This is the part of prayer where we ask God for the things we need. The root word for "Supplications" is "Supply." We ask God to supply us with the things we need. For example, "Give us this day our daily bread" (Matthew 6:11).

Prayers. Some are confused as to how "Prayers" can be an aspect of our "Prayers." The Greek word speaks to the worshipful and adoring aspect of praying. It could be properly translated "Praise." This is the part of prayer where we praise and magnify God's name. For example, "Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name" (Matthew 6:9). We praise God for Who He is and for what He has done and is doing for us.

Intercessions. This is the part of prayer where we go to God on behalf of others. We intercede for them. We pray for the sick, those traveling, those struggling with difficult times, those dealing with discouragement, etc. We pray for Preachers, Elders and other spiritual leaders in the church. We pray for brethren who have fallen away from the Lord. The list goes on.

Giving of Thanks. This aspect of prayer speaks for itself. Thanksgiving is one of the most mentioned aspects of prayers in scripture. God wants us to be thankful people! "In everything give thanks" (1 Thessalonians 5:18), "In everything by prayer and supplications, with thanksgiving" (Philippians 4:6-7), "Continue earnestly in prayer, being vigilant in it with thanksgiving" (Colossians 4:2). God has blessed us abundantly; there's so much to be thankful for. Giving thanks should come easily.

-1 Thessalonians 5:17

"Pray Without Ceasing"

SERMON NOTES

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

**STUDY
DAILY!
Acts
17:11**

Why We Sing

Introduction:

I. _____

II. _____

III. _____

DUTY LIST...

SUNDAY MORNING

- Announcements.....Michael Pickford
- Bible Reading by.....Ben Reagh
Reading: Colossians 3:12-17
- Song Leader.....Robert Johnson
- Opening Prayer.....Kenny Todd
- Lord's Table:
Lead.....Lynn Buttrey
Serve.....Tony Jenkins
Serve.....Frank Anderson
- Closing Prayer.....Michael Pickford

SUNDAY EVENING

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

WEDNESDAY EVENING

- Song Leader.....Ben Reagh
- Invitation.....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!