

DUTY LIST...

SUNDAY MORNING

- Announcements.....Michael Pickford
- Scripture Reading...Michael Pickford Reading:
- Song Leader.....Kenny Todd
- Opening Prayer.....Jeff Isbell
- Lord's Table:
 - Lead.....Kenny Johnson
 - Serve.....Robert Johnson
- Closing Prayer.....Lynn Buttrey

SUNDAY EVENING

- Song Leader.... Jeff Isbell
- Opening Prayer...TBA
- Invitation: N/A
- Lord's Table: Michael Pickford
- Closing Prayer: TBA

WEDNESDAY EVENING

- Song Leader...Kenny Johnson
- Invitation: Kenny Todd

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!

Thoughts On Thoughts

"We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ." -2 Corinthians 10:5, NIV. Our amazing minds can generate a whirlwind of thoughts every single day. Our thoughts profoundly affect our actions, attitudes, and moral stability. With today's technology, our minds are often bombarded with conflicting information, negative news, and harmful influences. We are exposed to thousands of thoughts and ideas every day, many of which don't align with God's will. As God's children, we are to capture every thought and make it obedient to Christ. Our thoughts must not be left unchecked. *"Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from*

Memory Verse

"He who loves purity of heart
And has grace on his lips,
The king will be his friend."
—Proverbs 22:11

it" (Proverbs 4:23). Our thoughts determine the course of our actions. Controlling them requires deliberate effort on our part along with discernment and patience. The key lies in keeping our minds busy with good productive thoughts so there is no time or space for evil thoughts to creep in (Philippians 4:8-9). Every thought that enters our mind, whether it's a fleeting worry, a nagging doubt, a bold idea, or a lingering dream, must be sifted through God's word and prayer so we can accurately acknowledge those that align with His will and purge those that don't. -MP

We would welcome a visit from you. Our meeting times are:

SUNDAYS: 9 & 10 AM & 6 PM / WEDNESDAYS: 7 PM

Capable Bible teachers would be delighted to study with you at your request and convenience.

This bulletin is designed and produced by our evangelist, Michael Pickford.

Please visit our website at www.defendthegospel.com

Bible Correspondance Courses Available At Your Request.

**SOUTHSIDE
CHURCH OF CHRIST**

1167 South Lowry Street, Smyrna TN 37167, 615-991-8594

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A Prayer For Contentment

"...give me neither poverty nor riches, but give me only my daily bread. Otherwise, I may have too much and disown you and say, 'Who is the Lord?' Or I may become poor and steal, and so dishonor the name of my Lord."

-Proverbs 30:8-9

THE PROFOUND and timeless wisdom of this proverb emphasizes a fundamental truth: the need for balance and contentment in life. Our modern world frequently encourages us to desire more - more wealth, more possessions, more power. Conversely, it can also encourage us to fear having less - less financial stability, less comfort, less security. But this proverb provides us with a radically different prayer: *"give me neither poverty nor riches, but give me only my daily bread."*

The plea for only "daily bread" reflects a desire to satisfy our needs, not our greed. It is echoed in Jesus' teaching in Matthew 6:11: *"Give us this day our daily bread."* We must learn that God's provision is sufficient and that living a content and balanced life is key.

This proverb also highlights the dangers of extremes. Wealth might lead to an arrogant mentality of self-sufficiency absent of an appreciation of God's provision while poverty might force one into theft, thereby tarnishing God's name.

This doesn't mean that wealth is inherently evil or that poverty is the result of a curse. Rather, it underscores the importance of contentment. Paul spoke of his trust in Christ's provision in Philippians 4:12-13, *"I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation."* Our desire for more can lead us away from relying on God's provision. It can subtly replace our trust in God with worship of material possessions.

-Michael Pickford

To Vent Or Not To Vent

"A fool gives full vent to his spirit, but a wise man quietly holds it back." -Proverbs 29:11

IN TODAY'S high-speed world we may face moments of stress, tension, or outright anger which tempt us to give full vent to our emotions, expressing them on social media and other outlets with great fervor and with no regard for the consequences. Proverbs 29:11 challenges us to reflect and take a different path. It contrasts the behavior of a fool and a wise person. A fool lets out all his anger, frustrations, and impulses unfiltered. He gives full vent to his spirit, with no restraint or consideration. This is often detrimental, leading to broken relationships, hurt feelings, and regret.

But a wise person knows the value of restraint. He understands that the reparations and productive results he desires may be thwarted by expressing his emotions without control. He feels the natural intensity of emotions but chooses to remain silent until he can manage and express it in a more productive, considerate, and respectful way.

This doesn't mean we should deny our emotions. It means we should take the time to reflect upon them, understand their root causes, and express them in ways that are constructive rather than destructive. By doing so, we can prevent ourselves from saying or doing things we might regret, promote peace, and bring about resolution.

The challenge for us is to grow in wisdom - to be people who, even in the face of tension, stress, and anger, can quietly hold back our hurtful outbursts. We need to ask God to help us cultivate a heart of wisdom, to control our impulses, and to guide our words and actions toward peace and understanding.

-Michael Pickford
