

Melbourne

Church of Christ

Where You Are Part of God's Family

July 10, 2011

My Name Is Mephibosheth

Mephibosheth bowed down and said, "What is your servant, that you should notice a dead dog like me?"
2 Samuel 9:8 (NIV)

I have done some research and it is clear to me that the name Mephibosheth, translated into English, is Ken Jones. Let me give you a little history. Jonathon, son of King Saul, was the father of Mephibosheth. David and King Saul were at war; well, King Saul was anyway, and David was merely defending himself. Jonathan and David were best friends and had made a covenant. David had promised to care for Jonathan's remaining family if Jonathan was killed. Sure enough, Jonathan was killed. David kept that covenant and sought and found the last remaining family of Jonathan. This was Mephibosheth, a crippled young man who was in hiding. He believed David would kill him because he was the enemy.

When David met Mephibosheth, he gave him everything that was Saul's, which included servants, land, a home and a place at David's own dinner table. David took Mephibosheth in as his own son. Mephibosheth was adopted as a son into David's heart. One minute this young man thought himself a low-life, dead dog, the next he was a son to the King.

Does this sound familiar? Imagine, we are adopted by the King. Well, we don't have to imagine too hard. Let's see what God tells us: Romans 8:16-17 (NIV), *The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children. Now if we are children, then we are heirs -- heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ.* I don't know about you but I have committed some sins, which means I have been at war with God's very commands. At one time I felt I was the enemy of God.

As God's enemy, I too tried to hide. There is no place to hide. Just look to the Psalms, or ask Adam and Eve. As I metaphorically bowed down before God, I asked Him, "After all I have done, why would you notice a low-life, dead dog like me?" What did God say? Let's look to John 3:16 (NIV). *For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.* It says, "whoever." Hey, that's Mephibosheth, that's Ken Jones and that is you. The war was over; I had been adopted by the King. I had been invited into His home and invited to sit with Him at His dinner table.

I sit with Jesus each Sunday and share His last supper, I partake in the sacrifice of His body, blood and life. I am invited to take part in a dinner that is offered to all. I am also invited into the wedding banquet that takes place in heaven, which was written about by Matthew, but was a parable of Jesus himself. Isaiah also discusses the banquet with God. *On this mountain the LORD Almighty will prepare a feast of rich food for all peoples, a banquet of aged wine -- the best of meats and the finest of wines.* Isaiah 25:6 (NIV). I may have been lost, but now I am found and my Father, God is killing the best and fattest of calves for my return.

David showed Mephibosheth great love, mercy and grace. You and I have been given the same. Pull up a chair, brothers and sisters, let the feast begin. Let me introduce myself, my name is Mephibosheth.

God Bless
Mephibosheth
AKA: Ken Jones



*As Jesus welcomed crowds to listen to him teach,
so the Spirit of God welcomes us to listen to God's teachings now. Be blessed!*



Melbourne Church Family Calendar/Area Events

(See the bulletin board, bulletin insert, or call the church office for more information)

- 7/10 **Blood Drive** in our parking lot, 8:45 a.m. - approx. 1 p.m.
7/10 **Worship at Consulate**, 2 p.m.: Nick Kurtz (speaking) & Melbourne Family Singers
7/12 **Ladies Bible Class**, 10:30 a.m. in the church office - all ladies welcome
7/13 **Wild Wednesdays PandaMania VBS - Not Just for Kids** - through 7/27 on Wed. nights. Dinner served from 5:30-6 p.m.; kids' VBS from 6-8 p.m. ("PandaMania"); adult VBS 6:30-7:45 p.m. ("Reason for God" DVD series)
7/17 **Young At Heart**, lunch at Piccadilly in the Melbourne Square Mall after morning worship
7/17 **Bridal shower** for Wendi Wagner, 2 p.m. at the church building. She is registered at Bed, Bath & Beyond
7/31 **Worship at Consulate**, 2 p.m. with Bill Pinch and Melbourne Family Singers
7/31 **All-church Fellowship and TORCH Mission Trip Presentation**, 5:30 p.m. Please bring finger foods - desserts will be provided



Ramblings From the Tilted Halo Society

Why I Share

May you experience the love of Christ, though it is too great to understand fully. Then you will be made complete with all the fullness of life and power that comes from God. Ephesians 3:19 (NLT)

I have had the privilege in this life to know great love. I have loved and been loved. I have loved and been loved by my wife, parents, siblings, children, friends and family. The love I have received from many of these people is beyond words, and some beyond even my understanding. The lessons I have learned from these people are lessons of love that I will never forget. Many of these people have stood beside me through thick and thin and I have done this for them, as well. The relationships and the love I have shared with these people have brought me a little closer to a complete life. The world's libraries are filled with descriptions and types of love. The Greek language has many definitions for love.

The love Jesus offers has made my life complete. Jesus has offered me eternal life, a life beyond my years here on this earth. Jesus has given me a great purpose – to love as he loves. His love, as Paul says, is too great to fully understand. Jesus' love is complete; he is pure love, and something I will not achieve until I am called home. Jesus has made me righteous through his death. He has given me assurance of eternal life through his resurrection. Jesus has given me meaning through God's words in the Bible. With

God at my side, Jesus in my heart, as well as God's own Holy Spirit, I have been given great power.

The love of Christ says I am never alone. I am loved and I am worth dying for. I love to witness and give testimony to others, telling that even a one-time wretch like me can share in God's amazing grace. Would you like to share in the love of Jesus? Maybe you already do. It is never too late; call out and reach to him. Share in his sacrificial death and resurrection, obey and believe in Jesus. Love God, love others and serve as you are called. Use the gifts he has given you for the glory of God. That is what I have been called to do. I do it with my limited understanding of the love of Jesus and out of sincere gratitude and appreciation for all that Jesus has done and all he continues to do for me. My heart is His.

God Bless
Ken Jones
THS
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*Counseling is available, free of charge, for any of our members, your families, and any referrals you may want to make.
Call Ken Jones to schedule an appointment - church office, 723.8233 or cell, 501.2014.*

Melbourne Church of Christ
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West Melbourne, FL 32904
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office@melbournechurchofchrist.org

Schedule of Services

Sunday

Bible Classes All Ages 9:30 a.m.
AM Worship 10:30 a.m.
PM Worship 6:00 p.m.
(Alternative Care Group meetings various
times - contact Ken Jones)
Pancake breakfasts and 4th Sun. fellowships
will take a break for the summer

Tuesday

Ladies' Bible Class Tues. 10:30 a.m.
(lunch on 1st Tues. of month)
Men's Prayer Meeting 1st Tues. 7 p.m.

Wednesday

Bible classes all ages 7 p.m.
VBS, all ages June 22-July 27
(dinner 5 p.m., kids VBS 6-8 p.m.,
Adult VBS 6:30-7:45 p.m.)

Serving as Elders:

Gary Canup, Tom Fennell, Don Hall,
Mike Lovelace, Don Nickens,
Calvin Potts, and Pat Seamon

Serving On Staff:

Tom Fennell, Pastoral Care
Linda Hounschell, Financial Secretary
Ken Jones, Involve. Min./Counseling
Debby Nickens, Children's Minister
Walter Pierce, Youth Minister
Steve Puckett, Senior Minister
Cheri Tate, Secretary

Family Record 7/3/11

Attendance

6th Grade-Adult Bible Classes: 99
 Children's Bible Classes: 50
Total Bible Classes: 149
 Auditorium Worship 204
 Children's Worship/Nursery: 47
Total Worship Count: 251

Budget Items

Target Weekly Budget 7/1/11-6/30/12 \$ 9,698
 Contribution to Budget: \$ 7,628
 Contribution to Special Items: \$ 556
 YTD Over/Short: (\$2,070)

Order of Worship
July 10, 2011

Worship Song Leader	Tyrone Carter
<i>Holy, Holy, Holy</i>	47
Welcome & Announcements	Pat Seamon
<i>Lord, I Want to Love You More</i>	274
<i>Step By Step</i>	15
<i>We Shall Assemble</i>	718
Prayer	Bill Pinch
<i>Before the Throne of God Above</i>	<i>Overhead Slides</i>
Communion/Offering	Robert Bettis
<i>Come to the Table</i>	<i>Overhead Slides</i>
<i>The Love of God</i>	122
Scripture Reading 2 Samuel 9:3-8	Stephen Fennell
"My Name is Mephibosheth"	Ken Jones
'Grace Greater Than Our Sin	111
Shepherd's Prayer	Don Hall
<i>No Tears in Heaven</i>	882

- + A/V Tech: Steve Lindsey
- + Service at Life Care of Melbourne, 9:30 a.m.: Tyrone Carter
- + Service at Consulate, 2:00 p.m.: Nick Kurtz & Melbourne Singers

Worship Coordinators

Ken Jones/Mel Green/Cletis Diehl

Servers: Nick Kurtz (RS)
 (July) John Gibson (RM)
 Glen Wirsch (C)
 Ron Whelpley (LM)
 Jessie Hewett (LS)

Ushers: Desmond Hewett (RS)
 (July) Dale Knowles (RM)
 Harry Gayle (C)
 Gary Davis (LM)
 Taylor Neidlinger (LS)

Shepherd's Prayer (July): Don Hall

Serving Next Sunday, July 17

Song Leader: Walter Pierce
 Opening Prayer: Keefe Roman
 Announcements: Pat Seamon
 Presiding: Keith Davidson
 Reading: Doug Hoffman
 Message: Steve Puckett

A/V Tech: Rich Mason

Shepherd's Prayer: Don Hall

- + Service at Life Care of Melb., 9:30 a.m.: Ken Jones