



**Melbourne**  
C h u r c h o f C h r i s t  
*Where You Are Part of God's Family*  
**October 2, 2011**

**The Good and Beautiful God: What Does It Mean?**

*Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God—this is your spiritual act of worship. Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will. (Romans 12:1-2)*

Our study in The Good and Beautiful God centers on falling in love with the God that Jesus knows. We have taken some false narratives (stories) that people hold to be true that Jesus shows to be false. For instance, some of us have believed that God is an angry judge. If we do well, we will be blessed; if we sin, we will be punished. But Jesus' narrative is that God is good and that all of his actions flow out of his goodness. So our past nine weeks have centered on the true narratives about God, that he is good, trustworthy, generous, holy, self-sacrificing and that he transforms us to be like him.

This week Cindy asked me an important question related to our study. She asked, "How does the soul training exercise for each lesson fit with the lesson?" She added, "There sometimes seems to be a disconnect between the study for the week and the soul training exercise."

Let me answer by first defining soul training. Soul training means "creating the conditions that set you up for an encounter with God to strengthen your soul in the places where you need it the most." My aim (and I may have missed the target by not being clear—an ever present danger in teaching) was that each week as we learned Jesus' view of God and what he is really like, we would also take some time to experience practices (soul training exercises) that would help us to meet God to strengthen us in the places where we need it the most. For instance, we discovered in our study that God, as our *Abba* Father, is trustworthy. We examined Jesus' prayer example in Matthew 6 and saw that he revealed the Father to be one who is present, who is pure, who is powerful, who provides, who pardons, and who protects. Our soul training exercise for that week "counting your blessings" was designed to connect us to God through thanksgiving for all he provides. Showing thanks to God strengthens that part of our soul that lives in a place of ingratitude and privilege.

To conclude, I want to remind you about the four components of transformation. First, we must change the false stories about God in our minds and adopt the true stories of Jesus. Second, we engage in soul training exercises to change how we live, to strengthen our souls. Third, we participate in community to allow the good influence of others to spur us on and encourage us. Fourth, we acknowledge and affirm the work of the Holy Spirit in all three of these activities to empower us, enlighten us, and to present our unspoken prayers to the Father.

—Steve Puckett



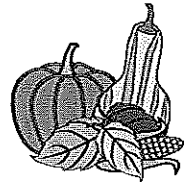
*We extend a kind welcome to all who are present.  
May your attendance at this worship service be a wonderful blessing.  
We invite you to inquire about our church's activities and ministries.*



### Melbourne Church Family Calendar/Area Events

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

- 10/2 **Worship at Indian River**, 2 p.m. with Julio Roman (speaking) and Melbourne Family Singers
- 10/4 **Ladies Bible Class**, 10:30 a.m. in the church office
- 10/4 **Men's 1st Tuesday Prayer Meeting**, 7 p.m. in the church office
- 10/5 **Wed. Night Schedule** - Pizza, salad, & dessert, 5:30 p.m. "Walking with God in the Desert" DVD for adults, and classes for kids and teens, 6:30 p.m. Nursery is also available.
- 10/9 **TORCH Trip Fundraiser Pancake Breakfast** - 8:30 a.m.
- 10/9 **Worship at Consulate**, 2 p.m. with Stephen Fennell (speaking) and Melbourne Family Singers
- 10/15 **Ladies Day at Florida Ave. C of C** - please indicate on your attendance card today if you plan to attend
- 10/23 **All-Church Fellowship (soup & sandwiches)**, 5:30 p.m.
- 10/30 **Worship at Consulate**, 2 p.m. with Don Hall (speaking) and Melbourne Family Singers
- 11/3-6 **16th Annual South FL Lectureship**, Palm Beach Lakes C of C, Palm Beach Gardens



## Ramblings From the Tilted Halo Society



### A Gift

*In everything you do, put God first, and he will direct you and crown your efforts with success.*  
*Proverbs 3:6 (TLB)*

Busy schedules, hectic lifestyles, have to make a living, no time, troubled marriages, troubled kids, troubled minds. Is something missing? Have you ever felt like something is missing? Have you ever felt you forgot something? Have you ever felt you could use a hand? Have you ever felt you were alone? Have you ever felt incomplete? This does not make for a very satisfying lifestyle. Some say, "if I could just get this job," "if I could just complete that task," "if I just had this amount of money," and well, you know the rest.

ment, he prayed. Jesus always went in prayer to our Father first.

Today I have a GIFT for you. We all like gifts. The first paragraph of this writing has many questions; the second paragraph has the answer to all the questions. My GIFT to you today and every day -- keep in mind "God is first today" -- the GIFT.

God Bless  
Ken Jones  
THS<><

What do you do first thing in the morning? Well, after that. Do you know what Jesus did first thing in the morning? Both Mark 1:35 and Luke 4:42 tell us first thing in the morning, even while it was still dark, Jesus went to a solitary place to pray. Before Jesus did anything else, he prayed. Before Jesus did anything throughout the New Testa-

*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.*

# Family News and Notes



## Shepherd's Corner

### Age and Aging

A minister went to visit an elderly couple who had just entered a nursing home. The wife had been losing touch with reality to a point that it really wasn't safe for them to remain in their house. But her concern was with her husband, who she thought was losing touch with reality.

Very early in the visit, the wife told the minister how her husband was going down fast. "If it continues," she said with a sigh, "I guess we'll just have to put him in a nursing home." In a compassionate tone, the husband said, "But honey, we are in a nursing home." She looked at the minister, winked, and said, "You see what I mean."

### Like Pharaoh or Job?

What can make the difference in how we face our everyday trials, even our little ones, is our attitude. We can have the attitude of the Pharaoh of Egypt, who, when confronted by Moses and the ten plagues from God, grumbled and griped, and became stubborn, causing more woes to come upon him.

Or we could have the attitude of Job, who, at the loss of all his possessions, even his own health, succumbed to the will of God and remained faithful. That type of commitment to Christ will give us eternal life, happiness and joy.

Remember: "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me" (Phil. 4:13). "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God" (Rom. 8:28).

*Tom Fennell*

*People don't care how much you know -- they just need to know how much you care.*

## Children's Ministry Announcements

10/2 Sun. AM - Nursery is provided during adult worship for infants and toddlers up to age 3. Preschool Children's Worship is available for preschool children age 3-5. Elementary children (K-5th grade) will go directly to the CW room after Bible classes. Our virtue this month is Creativity.

\* Please pick up your children promptly after services.

10/5 Wed. PM - Pizza served 5:30-6:15 p.m. Classes at 6:30 PM All children age 3 years-5th grade go to the Children's Worship Room (nursery is provided for younger children). Our theme this semester is Jesus of Nazareth.

9/25/2011

CW Contribution

\$25

(All CW contributions go to Called & Compelled Honduras Missions)

Attendance:

|  |    |
|--|----|
| Sunday School (Cradle roll-5th grade)            | 34 |
| Preschool Children's Worship                     | 12 |
| Elementary Children's Worship (in aud./4th Sun.) |    |
| Nursery  | 5  |

### Pre-School Worship & Nursery Assignments

Oct. 2, 2011

**Pre-Sch. Worship:** Holly Carothers/Holli Zander/Benjamin Heuser

**Nursery:** Cindy Puckett/Alleen Green

Oct. 9, 2011

**Pre-Sch. Worship:** Stacy Green/Lorraine Prieto/Alex Heuser

**Nursery:** Angie Brown/Julie Ulmer



## Food Pantry

*This past week, 119 families (345 individuals) were served with food through our food pantry!*

With the holiday season approaching, extra donations of non-perishable items, *especially CANNED MEATS or VEGETABLES, are needed at this time. Money donations are also welcome and appreciated.* (there is a basket and a collection box near the pillar on south side of foyer for your donations) Thank you to our dedicated staff of volunteers, and to all who continue to support our pantry in any way!

*The Melbourne Church of Christ Food Pantry is open to the community on Tuesdays from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., and is a non-discriminatory facility of The Emergency Food Assistance Program.*

**Melbourne Church of Christ**  
**810 Hollywood Blvd.**  
**West Melbourne, FL 32904**  
**(321) 723-8233**  
**www.melbournechurchofchrist.org**  
**office@melbournechurchofchrist.org**

**Order of Worship**  
**October 2, 2011**

**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 - see list below or contact Ken Jones)*  
*2nd Sun. TORCH Fundraiser*  
*Pancake Breakfast 10/9*  
*4th Sun. Fellowship 10/23*

**Tuesday**

*Ladies' Bible Class 10:30 a.m.*  
*In the church office*  
*Men's Prayer Meeting (1st Tues.) 7 p.m.*  
*In the church office*

**Wednesday**

*Pizza served 5:30-6:15 p.m.*  
*Classes for all ages 6:30 p.m.*

**\*\* Care Groups:**

*Don Nickens (795-4223); Calvin Potts (725-4679); Gary Canup (952-0558); Bob Eckelberry (984-3927); Walter Pierce (327-3684); Steve Puckett (432-9932);*

**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 9/25/11**

**Attendance**

6th Grade-Adult Bible Classes: 106  
 Children's Bible Classes: 34  
**Total Bible Classes: 140**  
 Auditorium Worship: 229  
 Children's Worship/Nursery: 17  
 (no elem. CW - 4th Sun.)  
**Total Worship Count: 246**

**Budget Items**

**Weekly Budget 7/1/11-6/30/12 \$ 9,784**  
 Contribution to Budget: \$ 7,641  
 Contribution to Special Items: \$ 660  
 YTD Over/Short: (\$ 7,445)

|                                       |                        |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Worship Leaders                       | Tyrone Carter          |
| <i>Thy Word</i>                       | 449                    |
| Welcome and Announcements             | Pat Seamon             |
| <i>Majesty</i>                        | 266                    |
| <i>I Exalt Thee</i>                   | 62                     |
| <i>Salvation Belongs to Our God</i>   | <i>Overhead Slides</i> |
| Shepherd's Prayer                     | Pat Seamon             |
| <i>What the Lord Has Done in Me</i>   | <i>Overhead Slides</i> |
| Lord's Supper / Offering              | Tom Fennell            |
| <i>Restore My Soul</i>                | 567                    |
| <i>Soldiers of Christ, Arise</i>      | 647                    |
| Scripture Reading <i>Exodus 3:1-4</i> | Harry Gayle            |
| "Strengthening Your Soul"             | Steve Puckett          |
| <i>Turn My Heart</i>                  | 803                    |
| Closing Prayer                        | Jeff Crowe             |
| <i>Sweet By and By</i>                | 878                    |

- + A/V Tech: Christa Pierce
- + Service at Life Care of Melbourne, 9:30 a.m.: David Bradley
- + Worship at Indian River, 2 p.m.: Julio Roman & Melbourne Family Singers

**Worship Coordinators**

**Ken Jones/Mel Green/Cletis Diehl**

**Servers:** Julio Roman (RS)  
 (Oct.) Robert Bettis (RM)  
 Gary Davis (C)  
 Tom Tate (LM)  
 Benjamin Heuser (LS)

**Ushers:** Tyler Neidlinger (RS)  
 (Oct.) Rob Ellison (RM)  
 Cletis Diehl (C)  
 Chris Nickens (LM)  
 Bill Pinch (LS)

Shepherd's Prayer (Oct.): Pat Seamon

**Serving Next Sunday, Oct. 9**

Song Leader: Josh McGough  
 Announcements: Pat Seamon  
 Shepherd's Prayer: Pat Seamon  
 Presiding: Mike Lovelace  
 Reading: Donny Canup  
 Message: Steve Puckett  
 Closing Prayer: Jessie Hewett

A/V Tech: Steve Lindsey

- + Service at Life Care of Melb., 9:30 a.m.: Tyrone Carter
- + Worship at Consulate 2 p.m.: Stephen Fennell and Melbourne Family Singers