



Melbourne

Church of Christ

Where You Are Part of God's Family

September 25, 2011

Distractions Vs. What Is Better

As Jesus and his disciples were on their way, he came to a village where a woman named Martha opened her home to him. She had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet listening to what he said. But Martha was distracted by all the preparations that had to be made. She came to him and asked, "Lord, don't you care that my sister has left me to do the work by myself? Tell her to help me!"

"Martha, Martha," the Lord answered, "you are worried and upset about many things, but only one thing is needed. Mary has chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her." (Luke 10:38-42)

How many times in an average day would you say you are distracted? Have you ever considered that your main focus in your life might be considered a distraction to God? We live in a day of over commitment, busyness, and preoccupation. But God's way is more like a crockpot than a microwave. God's way is deliberate and often slow by human standards. But God is growing oaks, not briars or thorn bushes.

As humans, though, we are obsessed with productivity, speed, and efficiency. As we speed and produce, contentment escapes us. The pace of Jesus' life is quite striking. Even though he is pressed on every side with demands from people and the needs of the hurting, he is very deliberate about the way he lives. While people are always wanting something from him, he knows that God has a purpose for his life that makes his pace more deliberate.

Why are we so much like Martha and so little like Mary? How did we become such a distracted culture? Why do we always feel a sense of urgency about those things that in view of eternity are so unimportant? Jim Smith says, "One day we wake up and realize that the things most important to us—time with God and our family, our emotional and physical health—were sacrificed on the altar of achievement (or the success of our church). And we have nothing to show for such an amazing sacrifice."

My Dad used to say, "Just when you need to be in a hurry, you can't afford to." Those things that are really important to us cannot be rushed—like loving, thinking, praying, and enjoying life. Those that are closest to us know how we feel about them when we spend time with them. You can't rush a relationship and expect it to be healthy.

So, what can we do to overcome our distracted, hurried way of living? We must seek the way of Mary. The world tries to turn us all into Martha, but what we need is to listen to Jesus. When Jesus is in your house (heart), you don't allow any distraction to keep you from him. You sit at his feet and absorb all you can.

—Steve Puckett



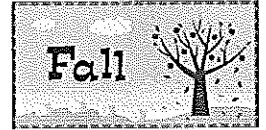
*The author of Psalm 13 wrote: "I will sing to the Lord, because He has dealt bountifully with me" (v. 6, NRSV).
We welcome you as we, too, sing to the Lord because of His goodness to us.*



Melbourne Church Family Calendar/Area Events

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

- 9/25 *Please note: All-Church Fellowship has been cancelled for September*
- 9/27 Ladies Bible Class, 10:30 a.m. in the church office
- 9/28 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.
- 10/9 TORCH Trip Fundraiser Pancake Breakfast - 8:30 a.m.
- 10/15 Ladies Day at Florida Ave. C of C (*please indicate on attendance card today if you plan to attend*)
- 11/3-6 16th Annual South FL Lectureship, Palm Beach Lakes C of C, Palm Beach Gardens



Ramblings From the Tilted Halo Society

A New Day

This is the day the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. Psalm 118:24 (NIV)

I have always loved this verse. It gives me visions of flowers, mountains, streams, babbling brooks and the sun shining on my face. Okay, I don't always have those visions. Sometimes I wake up grumpy, I don't feel the verse, and I feel grumpy. My wife says "good morning." I say "good morning" and mutter, "yeah, yeah, yeah." Sometimes I wake up late and I rush around with my head racing like the Daytona 500 track – full of fast, noisy cars, thinking of the next three things I have to do. Oh yeah, when I was drinking, I never had these scenic visions until I was quite lit up and may have said with slurred speech, "woo-hoo." But the next morning I wasn't rejoicing, I can tell you that; sheesh, I had a headache.

Today is a new day. I get to choose how I will start my day. Now I begin with prayer, meditation, passing a thought on to a friend or my family. There is a smile and a hug for my wife as I wish her a good day. I let the Lord know I am ready and available for duty. I like to start the day with a cup of coffee while reading devotionals that relate to the grace and love of God. Then I reflect on what is said and let it spread through my mind and heart.

I know my day will be spent with God at my side. It is my choice to let him into my mind, heart and ac-

tions. You know, my day goes a whole lot better when I do that. After all, this is His day. I can rejoice or not. Rejoicing is fun. You should have seen me when the Red Sox won the World Series in 2004, and again 2007. Woo-hoo! What a party in my head and on my lips after those events. I was doing the wave alone, sitting and watching the games on my couch.

I choose today to have God with me, to rejoice in His day. I choose to remember that if God is for us, who can be against us. He will be with me throughout the day and night. He will meet all my needs. I have complete assurance of his love, grace, and mercy. I will be able to meet all my human challenges because He is with me. No need will go unmet while God is in charge, and that isn't changing. So today I choose to rejoice, today I choose God.

God Bless
Ken Jones
THS<><

*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

Forgotten?

A pious man who reached the age of 105 suddenly stopped going to church. Alarmed by the aged man's absence after so many years of faithful attendance, the minister visited the old member. "How come after all these years we don't see you at services?" "I'll tell you, pastor, when I reached 105 I figured God must have forgotten about me, and I don't want to remind him."

Thankfulness

When Matthew Henry was robbed, that very night he prayed: "I thank thee, first, because I was never robbed before; second, because although they took my purse, they did not take my life; third, because although they took my all, it was not much; and fourth, because it was I who was robbed, and not I who robbed."

Doctrine and Interpretation

A New York enthusiast had a good collection of paintings, one of them being the *Leaning Tower of Pisa*, which hung over his desk. For a long time, he noticed that it persisted in hanging crooked despite the fact that he straightened it every morning. At last he asked the housekeeper if she was responsible for its lopsided position each morning that he came to the office. "Why, yes," she said, "I have to hang it crooked to make the tower hang straight."

Does that sound strange? That is exactly how a lot of people read the Bible. Many people twist the word of God in order to justify their own opinions or actions or doctrines, to make them all appear right. Let us not twist the Scripture to suit our own fancy. Let us be sure to hang the picture right!

Tom Fennell

Children's Ministry Announcements

9/25 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 worship with their families in the auditorium today (4th Sun.) Our virtue this month is Knowledge
* Please pick up your children promptly after services.

9/28 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.

9/18/2011

CW Contribution \$62
(All CW contributions go to Called & Compelled Honduras Missions)

Attendance:

Sunday School (Cradle roll-5th grade)	36
Preschool Children's Worship	12
Elementary Children's Worship	33
Nursery	10

Pre-School Worship & Nursery Assignments

Sept. 25, 2011

Pre-Sch. Worship: Mary Tomlinson/Keirsten Hoffman/Laurel C.

Nursery: Bonnie Seamon/Sophye Wimpee

Oct. 2, 2011

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

Nursery: Cindy Puckett/Aileen Green



Food Pantry

This past week, 135 families (403 individuals) were served with food through our food pantry!

With the holiday season approaching, 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

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)
 No 4th Sun. Fellowship in Sept.
 2nd Sun. TORCH fundraiser pancake breakfasts will resume in Oct.

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 9/18/11

Attendance

6th Grade-Adult Bible Classes: 88
 (incomplete count)
 Children's Bible Classes: 36
 Total Bible Classes: 207
 Auditorium Worship: 55
 Children's Worship/Nursery: 262
 Total Worship Count:

Budget Items

Weekly Budget 7/1/11-6/30/12 \$ 9,784
 Contribution to Budget: \$ 9,842
 Contribution to Special Items: \$ 767
 YTD Over/Short: (\$ 5,302)

September 25 Praise Service
You Are One in Whom Christ Dwells!

Worship Leaders	Tyrone Carter/Josh McGough/Walter Pierce
<i>We Shall Assemble</i>	718
<i>He Gave Me a Song</i>	608
Colossians 1:24-29	Pat Seamon
"You Are One in Whom Christ Dwells" Introduction	Pat Seamon
Prayer	Keith Davidson
<i>A New Creature</i>	619
Romans 6:1-10	Jesse Parks
<i>In Moments Like These</i>	239
Romans 8:1-2, 35-39	Rob Ellison
Prayer	Tom Fennell
<i>Worthy, You are Worthy</i>	232
Lord's Supper Prayer	Don Nickens
Offering Prayer	Don Nickens
<i>Nobody Fills My Heart Like Jesus</i>	602
Ephesians 3:14-21 (New Living Translation)	Tyler Neidlinger
"You Are One in Whom Christ Dwells"	Don Hall
<i>In My Life, Lord, Be Glorified</i>	309
Announcements/Closing Prayer	Pat Seamon

+ A/V Tech: Lindsey Tate
 + Service at Life Care of Melbourne, 9:30 a.m.: Calvin Potts

Worship Coordinators

Ken Jones/Mel Green/Cletis Diehl

Servers: Taylor Neidlinger (RS)
 (Sept.) Eulice Curington (RM)
 Chip Carothers (C)
 Jorge Lara (LM)
 Alex Heuser (LS)

Ushers: Keefe Roman (RS)
 (Sept..) Dave Stover (RM)
 John Hounschell (C)
 Hedison Mui (LM)
 Andrew Zima (LS)

Shepherd's Prayer (Sept.): Calvin Potts

Serving Next Sunday, Oct. 2

Song Leader: Tyrone Carter
 Announcements: Pat Seamon
 Shepherd's Prayer: Pat Seamon
 Presiding: Tom Fennell
 Reading: Harry Gayle
 Message: Steve Puckett
 Closing Prayer: Jeff Crowe

A/V Tech: Christa Pierce

+ Service at Life Care of Melb., 9:30 a.m.: David Bradley
 + Worship at Indian River 2 p.m.: (speaker TBA) and Melbourne Family Singers