

Melbourne Church of Christ

"A family of believers seeking to grow spiritually while sharing Jesus and serving others."

A Compassionate God
by Joshua Pettigrew

In the Bible, we are first introduced to the prophet Jonah in 2 Kings 14:25. "He [King of Israel Jeroboam II] was the one who restored the boundaries of Israel from Lebo Hamath to the Dead Sea, in accordance with the word of the Lord, the God of Israel, spoken through his servant Jonah son of Amittai, the prophet from Gath Hopher." Here we see him proclaiming the word of the Lord. The Lord desired to save Israel from their suffering in spite of their evil (2 Kings 14:26,27). In this account, we find no evidence of Jonah being unwilling or hesitant at all to do as God wished.

In the Book of Jonah, the Lord has a different job for His prophet. He commands Jonah to go and tell the Assyrian people in their capital of Ninevah to repent or be destroyed (Jonah 1:1,2). Instead, Jonah boards a ship going in the opposite direction. Famously he is tossed overboard and swallowed by a great fish provided by the Lord (Jonah 1:3-17). Jonah prays to God and, after three days, is spat out upon the land (Jonah 2). He does what God wants, and Ninevah repents (Jonah 3).

Why did Jonah not want to do what God wanted in this instance? Because Jonah knew that God was a "gracious and compassionate God, slow to anger and abounding in love, a God who relents from sending calamity" (Jonah 4:2). Jonah didn't want God to forgive the people of Ninevah. He wanted God to destroy them, because the Assyrians were wicked. They were undeserving of mercy because of the crimes they had committed against Israel. They had it coming, and Jonah was unwilling to participate in their salvation.

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Dates to Remember

★ Ladies meet the 4th Monday of every month @ 6 p.m. bring a finger food
Men meet the 4th Sunday of every month for breakfast @ 8 a.m.

Sermons and bulletins available @
Melbournechurchofchrist.com

Sunday Bible Class 9:15 a.m.
Sunday Worship 10:15 a.m.
Wednesday Evening 6:00 p.m.



Melbourne Church of Christ
A Place to Belong

Elders

Danny Brightwell
291-3439

Shelby Qualls
346-5255

Deacons

Bryan Phillips 373-0546
David Brightwell 307-5714

Alan Love 243-4608
Joe Cooper 291-4653

Minister

Ryan Lloyd
368-7886
Melbourne CoC
Box 267
Melbourne, AR 72556

Family News

- Courtney Ann Minick's grandparents, David & Shirley Minick, lost their home to a fire.
- * Communion is gluten-free and travel communion is available.

OPENING PRAYER Anthony Weston

CLOSING PRAYER Danny Runion



ALAN LOVE

Continued...

The remainder of Jonah chapter four consists of God attempting to get Jonah to see people through His eyes: "...should I not have concern for the great city of Nineveh, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand people who cannot tell their right hand from their left—and also many animals?" (Jonah 4:11).

The book ends without us finding out if Jonah learned the lesson, but we have an opportunity to avoid the mistake that Jonah made. Do we see all people as people to be saved as God does? Do we see them as people He gave His only Son for? Do we see some of them as unworthy of saving?



Prayer List

Military: Derek Love, A.J. Talkington

Officers: Steve & Sherry Davidson, Josh Morehead, Jamie Irvin, Tyler Webb, Caeden Wolfe, Blake Johnson

Health: Ted Kidd	Richard Gunter	Donnie Vest	Joanna Smith
Joe Guiltner	Dan Clark	Wilma Cooper	Wayne Crosby
Tracy Thomas	Brooke Pritchard	Troy Gaston	James Nicholson
Bill Roland	Hayden Phillips	Donny Smith	Joanne Weston
Bill Wiseman	Debbie Nicholson	Helen King	Phil Haagenson
Mary Kosmitis	Dorothy Teague	Jim Fowler	Shirley Lewis
Diane Owens	Ivy Jo Slade	Jeff Young	Lynn Hicks
Justin Teague	Charlotte Cooper	Cecilia Broughton	Sue Campbell
Arlene Davidson	Chip & Regina Master		Deborah Halcom
Ted & Sanyia Austin	J.B. & Wanda Dill		Margaret Downing

Nursing Home: Debbie Hoskinds, Emma Jean Cooper

January Birthdays

Emma Marie Cooper 3 rd	Randy Zook 5 th	Julie Teague 10 th
Kimbery Hoskinds 12 th	Melissa Lamb 14 th	Kiley Webb 14 th
Arlene Davidson 15 th	Luke Vest 17 th	Mary Kosmitis 17 th
Charles Everett 19 th	Ken Bone 20 th	Wayne Crosby 20 th
Emma Jean Cooper 22 nd	Iris Beebe 22 nd	David Hoskinds 23 rd
Rhetha Lamb 24 th	Jeanette Everett 24 th	Trey Lamb 25 th
Daylee Brightwell 25 th	Zori Brightwell 25 th	Kyler McLaughlin 25 th
Eastyn Teegarden 25 th	Joe Paul Smith 28 th	Adam Hoskinds 31 st
Joe Ingram 31 st		

January Anniversaries

John & Marilyn Smith 18th

Randy & Diane Zook 21st

Romans 4:2-5, "If Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does the Scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness." Now to the one who works, his wage is not credited as a favor, but as what is due. But to the one who does not work, but believes in Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is credited as righteousness."