

A TIME OF REFLECTION

[Pastor Gene Henderson edited by Pastor Pier]

What is your name?

Does it matter? Shakespeare has Juliet say: "*What's in a name? A rose by any other name would smell as sweet.*"

Juliet is in love with Romeo, but she's a Capulet and he is a Montague. Their families have been feuding for generations and she doesn't get it. Why should language – something as simple as a name – craft reality? *Shouldn't love define reality?* After all, *what's in a name?*

Poor Juliet. Romeo loves her, too, but their love is not to be. A few days later they are both dead – all because of their names. Four hundred years later we remember their tragic story as that of "*star-crossed*" lovers.

So, yeah, *names matter*. And even if that bothers you – which it often does – something inside us sighs because we understand. We don't like it, but we understand.

What is it that we understand? *Names carry heritage*. Our name connects us to our family, to our clan, to our "*tribe*." It isn't as if we demean any other family or any other tribe. Most of us would like to think we don't do that, but there's an undeniable tie that binds us to our family, to our heritage, to our name. Names identify us, sometimes even define us... which sounds strange even as we know it's true. We don't have time or space to dive any deeper into that whole connection, but here's another perspective on names. We are... *Christian*. Philippians 2:9-11 (NLT):

Therefore, God elevated him to the place of highest honor and gave him the Name above all other names, that at the Name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue declare that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Welcome!

February 5th, 2023



"The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I have come so they can have life. I want them to have it in the fullest possible way."

SERVICES

Sunday Morning Worship: 10:30 AM

Unity in Prayer: 6:00 – 7:00 PM

Youth in the basement

Wednesday – Bible Study: 7:00 PM; & Kid's Club

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Wednesday Bible Study – John 17. Come as we learn how Jesus prays for His own.

Kid's Club & Youth in the basement, learning about the Lord.

Valentine's Dinner – Friday February 10th @ 7:00 PM. Please read the bulletin insert and if you have any question, please see Raúl Rosario. We encourage all to plan to attend.

Flagging Practice – these will begin anew on February 15th at 6 PM prior to Bible study. March 1st will be cancelled. Please see Debbie for any questions.

Women's Group will be meeting February 17th, Friday evening at 6:00 PM here at the church. We welcome all ladies and hope you plan to attend.

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