

Once upon a time in a land far, far away lived a boy named Mikey.

Mikey was a very well behaved young lad (as long as his sugar intake was monitored). His mama loved him very much and wanted to protect him from the evils of the world. Mikey also had older sisters who were very protective of him and sometimes threatened those who could possibly pose harm to Mikey. But little did they know, deep down in his heart Mikey was a superhero. Well, he really wasn't a super hero, but he did love SpiderMan and for a while believed that he had special "web" powers in his hands. Often he would use these powers in times of trouble (like a spanking, for example). Another great love that little Mikey had was his dog Tootie. He loved Tootie and they played together everyday. One afternoon while Mikey was eating 'nilla wafers he heard a knock at the door. With Tootie close behind, they answered the door and to their surprise was a little girl standing before them looking for HER dog! Unbeknownst to little Mikey, his parents had decided to give Tootie a new home. Mikey was heartbroken and almost never recovered from the loss.

Mikey grew into a very handsome, happy young man. But the pain of losing Tootie never left him. So around the age of 17 he began to search for someone to take away that pain. He searched high and low, practically the whole land of Memphis....but little did he know that the love of his life, the person that would help him to love again was all the way in a place called Mississippi. By the time Mikey's 18<sup>th</sup> birthday arrived he had almost completely given up hope! He feared that he would never find someone to love, someone that his parents wouldn't take away from him. Mikey's heart had truly been broken.

Just as Mikey was about to lose heart, he saw her. She was a vision, the most beautiful girl that he had ever seen. And in an instant all the pain of his past melted (along with his heart). He knew from the moment that he saw her that she was the one for him and he would stop at nothing to win her love. Laney was her name and she had just moved from a far off land. But how would this work? He was a true Memphian and she was definitely a Dixie Darlin' from Mississippi. It must have been fate because no state line could keep these two from falling madly in love.

As time went on and on and on and on.....(approximately 5 ½ years) they couple grew more and more in love. Even through the hard times they always came out loving each other more and more. And FINALLY the day came when Mikey asked Laney to be his wife. She was so excited.....but there was one tiny detail that put a damper on her excitement. You see Laney had a

secret that she had been keeping from Mikey and she knew now that she had to tell him, but didn't know how.

As their wedding day approached Laney still had not confided in Mikey about her big secret, but she knew it was time. So she sat him down and gently said these words, "Mikey, I love you very much but I have to be honest with you. I am....". She couldn't get it out, she was so afraid of would her confession meant for their relationship. "What is it?" ,Mikey asked. "Come on Laney, you can tell me anything". "Okay", she paused and took a deep breath and blurted out, "I AM A PRINCESS!" At first Mikey was shocked. He couldn't believe it. But things things started to add up. She was very bossy and demanding and she did always have to have her way. And every time they went somewhere it took her hours to get ready! It all made sense now – of course she was a princess! But what did this mean for their relationship and their upcoming marriage? Didn't a princess have to marry a prince? All of a sudden the pain of losing Tootie came rushing back. He would not lose Laney because of this. Mikey needed some time to think.

After many days and nights of wondering what he would do, finally Mikey showed up on Laney's door step. Looking very happy he announced, "Laney, I am a prince". She could hardly believe her ears. "I can't believe it", she exclaimed! "How did you find out", she asked. "Well", Mikey said, "I have been studying and searching for my identity and I found it – right here in the Bible. My Father in heaven is the King of Kings. And His Son is Jesus and the Bible says that I am joint heirs with Jesus Christ – so I must be a prince!" And from that day on Prince Mikey and Princess Laney spent all of their time telling all the people about God's Word and how they could be a prince and a princess too!

.....And they lived happily ever after.

**THE END**