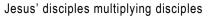
what he's doing. Trust him!

Today I invite you to remove any veneer that the Spirit has made know to you this morning. Tear it down and throw it in the garbage where it belongs, and invite the Spirit to reveal the real you Father has created and is growing to maturity. Let's not exist under fear, having the devil rob us of life. the fullness of life which comes when we walk and talk openly and freely with our heavenly Dad. through our brother Jesus.

Your heavenly Dad knows what he's doing. In Jesus he invites you to trust him, because you know his love for you. You know his

## Christ Church Lutheran

Worship Times - 9.00am & 10.45am Pastor: Tim 0427326553



passionate desire is to might live life up have your true nature close and personal as his child to flow with God as our from deep within you heavenly Dad. Thank finding expression in you that in you that is all you say and do. the truth. and our What fullness of life mistakes don't make we discover, when us who we are, but our lives are a living, Jesus life, death and breathing expression resurrection do. Lead of our true nature as us by the Spirit to like Father's children. free and true to who whom he loves and we are in you. Father delights in. we praise you because you know what you are doing.

Let us pray. Jesus we invite you to We trust you. Amen. send the Spirit to expose the devil's lies which would hold us in slavery and fear. Expose those lies and replace them with the truth: the truth that you have given your life for us so that we

30 July 2017 GOD KNOWS WHAT HE IS DOING

## Romans 8:26-39

This verse caught my of his Son." (Rom. attention: "God knew 8:30 MP) what he was doing

from the verv

8:29 Message

comforting.

beginning." (Rom.

reassuring, great to

'God knew what he

was doing'. What a

life I live isn't some

meaningless mess.

some random

doing.

happenings. God

knows what he's

That thought; God

what God is doing:

outset to shape the

lives of those who

love him along the

knows what he's

to trust him.

read that phrase;

What does the life of God's Son: Jesus. look like?

Paraphrase) I found it It is a life that flows from a relationship of want. But did you love, of trust, of Paul reminded his beautiful phrase. This readers of this earlier; a long way off being "So you have not received a spirit that I'm not simply part of makes you fearful slaves. Instead, you when he adopted you as his own children. Now we call him. 'Abba. Father." (Rom. 9:15 doing, is an invitation New Living Translation)

Then Paul spells out I'm glad God didn't decide to simply "He decided from the control us but that he Jesus isn't forced to has sought to love us. God could have used fear to get us to do same lines as the life what he wants. Fear

can work well at getting people to do what you want. The fear of a speeding fine gets me to obev the speed limit. Fear can get people to obey and do what you notice the word affection with Father. 'slave'. You become. 'fearful slaves', that's a loved child.

In Jesus, God has adopted us as his received God's Spirit, children, that we now call him 'Dad'. What a wonderful relationship is sought to be described by this term. An intimate relationship. A relationship which flows from love and respect. A relationship of trust. obey his Father under threat of punishment. Jesus obeys his Father because he



trusts him, because there's nothing he'd rather be doing than sharing life intimately within him. with his Dad.

I love knowing that God's goal isn't simply to get me to obey: to do as I'm told. Laws can tell you what to do, and they can tell you the consequences that will follow if you don't obey. This external force can make you behave. But it doesn't have the power to shape your soul.

Jesus comes to shape your soul; the very core of your being. Jesus' life is a living breathing intimate relationship with his Father. He's not a slave. He's not frightened. He walks with his Father in intimate conversation; doing and saying what he sees his Father doing and saying. You could say Jesus is a chip off the old block. plastered on some

His nature reflects his nice veneer: we're family character; it flows from deep

What a wonderful way to live: not fearful. but having your very character find expression as it flows into your life, from deep within vou.

Jesus comes to shape vour soul

What a precious gift we have in Jesus: we are re-created. Jesus breathes new life into our souls. Jesus breathes the Spirit into our souls. Now in Jesus we are able to mature and grow like him, being a chip off the old block. Our rather than be nature, in Jesus, reflects our family character; it flows from deep within us.

In Jesus we haven't

real. In Jesus we don't just act nice to be known as nice: we live real. We live true to who we are. because, in Jesus, we know who we are. Jesus has breathed his breath of life into us: we have the Spirit.

If we were faking it, people could separate us from God's love. They could remove the nice veneer and expose me as a - fraud. That's if all I'd done was build a nice veneer and had nothing change within me.

Adam and Eve tried the veneer approach; they sewed fig leaves together rather than be exposed. They jumped in the bushes exposed. How well did all that hiding and pretending work?

Jesus invites us to trust him, to trust that his sacrificial death

has opened the way open, transparent, God as our Dad. Jesus invites us into a For in Jesus, our real. honest relationship. Fear doesn't shape us.

In Jesus the fear of being exposed is the reality is, you are Father's child. chosen and marked by his love, the delight of his life.

to put up false veneers of niceness. but to tear them down. In Jesus we have the wonderful opportunity to tear down those lies which rob us of the fullness of life. We tear them down so that we can rejoice in mistakes have me the reality of who we are in Jesus.

That's why Paul can say; "now there is no condemnation for those who belong to

Christ Jesus." (Rom. into a healthy, loving, 8:1 NLT) In Jesus we myself and the more are free to admit our safe relationship with mistakes without the fear of condemnation. the more God mistakes don't define be feared, because I us. Jesus does.

In Jesus your mistakes, are just that, mistakes. They removed, for in Jesus are part of the veneer because I'm lead to

> You heavenly Dad knows what he's doing. Trust him!

In Jesus the aim isn't that obscures the real he's doing; he's vou, so we can admit to them and tear them the rubbish that down, with the wonderful hope of discovering our true nature, of growing and maturing as Father's child. Outside of Jesus my

putting up more and more veneers to hide behind, to give the impression that I am a nice person, that I am worth knowing. But the more I hide,

the more I lose distant God seems to be. The more I hide becomes someone to don't want to be exposed. My fears turn God into someone I don't want to come close to believe the lie that he will destroy me.

But that's not God's plan at all. - He knows what seeking to remove all inhibits you from becoming your true self. His plan is to 'restore you to the original and intended shape of our lives.' (Rom. 8:29/30 MP) That shape is to be a chip off the old bloke: to be made in our Dad's image.

So today I invite you to rejoice, your heavenly Dad knows