

to grow you into all that he has given his life to be a reality in your life.

If you're comparing yourself with others, invite Jesus to show you why. Invite Jesus to focus your attention on him, for it is his DNA that now pulsates through you. Focus on Jesus that you might more and more live his supernatural love, naturally, because in him, it's you!

This week invite Jesus to show where you are condemning others, and then invite him to reveal why? What is it about yourself you don't like? What is it that you fear? What is it that you don't know about Jesus and his love for you that has you a slave to other people.

This week invite Jesus to send the Spirit to grow you to ever greater maturity that you might be enjoying living in the freedom he gives; living true to who you are in him, no matter the circumstance, no matter what anyone else is doing, for your life is found in Jesus. Invite Jesus to fill your heart with the Spirit so the DNA he has birthed in you grows, and flourishes, and you find yourself enjoy life living as Dad does.

Christ Church Lutheran

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



Jesus' disciples multiplying disciples

24 February 2019

FROM THE EARTH—FROM HEAVEN

1 Corinthians 15:48,49

What came to your mind when you heard this read: "The First Man (that's Adam) was made out of earth, and people since then are earthy; the Second Man (that's Jesus) was made out of heaven, and people now can be heavenly." (1 Cor. 15:48,49)?

This says to me that Jesus has made a quantum change, and not just done a bit of panel beating. Jesus has made a change at the core; you can now be made out of heaven!

To read that as meaning you'll be this nice, gentle, fluffy person totally missing the mark. So much of what I hear people say about heaven totally misses the mark. There aren't angels sitting on

clouds playing harps. It's not this gentle, peaceful, serene, mystical place. Rub all those notions out of your brain.

When Adam was made God used the dirt of the ground to form a body into which he breathed life. Adam and Eve rejected God in favour of their own logic. They lost their core, their identity, their reason for being, their value. That's what I think God meant when he said they would die; it is way, way, more than simply stop breathing.

What is God to do? When the engine in your car dies, what do you do; just some panel beating?

What is God to do?

Jesus has come to breathe his breath of life into us, so that we might be made in his image, so that we might be made of the same stuff.

Jesus comes to make a quantum difference. Jesus has come to recreate us in his image, and Jesus is the very image of God. In Jesus we see God, personally.

Jesus doesn't come with some positive thinking program, or present us with a new ethical standard for us all to live up to.

When the engine in your car dies you don't simply re-do the upholstery. It'll be nice to sit in, but it won't get you to where you want to be. It'll be comfortable, maybe even have a great

sound system, but it won't get you to where you want to be.

Where does Jesus want you to be?

Somehow I don't think Jesus' goal is that you are some nice, inoffensive person who never rocks the boat. Is that how you would describe Jesus?

If you think that's Jesus, maybe you don't know him that well. I'd invite you to ask him to reveal more of his personality to you.

Where does Jesus want you to be? What does Jesus want you to be?

I don't think Jesus wants you to be nice and cuddly and totally inoffensive. I'm sure he doesn't want you to be aggressive and pushing, disregarding everyone around you.

Why does Jesus say; "love your enemies! Do good to those who hate you. Bless those who curse you. Pray for those who hurt you." (Luke 6:27,28)

Here's Jesus, why, to these actions; "Love your enemies! Do good to them. Lend to them without

What does Jesus want you to be?

expecting to be repaid... and you'll truly be acting as children of the Most High, for he is kind to those who are unthankful and wicked. You must be compassionate, as your Father is compassionate." (Luk e 6:35,36)

Did you hear what Jesus is saying? It's not some new moral code, or some old moral code. Jesus wants you to live true to who he has re-created you to be.

Jesus hasn't come to give you more will-power, he's come to give you a new core, a new heart, a new identity, a new reason for getting up in the morning, a new relationship to live in.

Jesus; through his death and resurrection, has birthed you to be part of himself. At the core of who we are, in Jesus, is God, our heavenly Father. So we can now seek to live true

to who we are, for in Jesus, you are Father's child. In Jesus you do carry his DNA; so just like Dad you can show compassion for no other reason than that's who you are.

Don't do it to win approval. Don't do it to gain acceptance. Don't do it because you're comparing yourself; so you can gloat how compassionate you are.

This time Dad didn't use dirt to create his children; rather he chose to re-create us through his very own son; Jesus. Now we can act for no other reason than that is who we are. We do what our Dad does because in Jesus we share the same DNA.

That doesn't mean you're god! That would be to totally miss the mark. Just as thinking because you love your enemy, do good to those who hate you, and bless those who curse you in anyway shape or form alters the core of who you are.

Without Jesus changing the core of who you are, I can guarantee that by doing this actions you'll just become proud, maybe even arrogant. You might even catch yourself thinking; 'Why can't people be like me!' 'After all I did, they should too'.

I think this is what lies at the heart of Jesus saying; "Do not judge other." (Luke 6:37) Jesus isn't saying don't make judgements; that totally misses the point. Unfortunately I hear lots of people saying you can't judge others, don't condemn others, as if

Father's child. In Jesus you do carry his DNA.

this is some wonderful moral stance. Which of course leads them to judge and condemn those who they have labelled as judging and condemning. Does anyone see a major flaw here?

Jesus is reminding us to simply live true to who we are in him. I don't live true to who I am in Jesus by focusing on you. All that does is lead me to make judgements about you, about myself, and in the

process I lose who I am. How would you go about living true to who you are in Jesus? Would you do it by focusing on me, or by focusing on Jesus? Would you do it with will-power or by inviting Jesus to send the Holy Spirit to give you what you need to live true to who you are in him?

I've notice that when someone is doing something that will harm them; like sticking their finger in a light socket, it's good to make a judgement, and say; 'Don't do it'. That would be a loving thing to do; much better than watching them light up!

Today Jesus is inviting you to live life in his fullness; becoming all that he has dreamed possible. So I invite you to spend time with Jesus and invite him to send the Spirit