

Theme for 2020

I AM WHAT ‘YOU’ SEE!

‘LORD, Open My Eyes, Help Me Believe, I Am What YOU See.’

“Your eyes are windows into your body. If you open your eyes wide in wonder and belief, your body fills up with light... Oh yes, you shaped me first inside, then out; you formed me in my mother’s womb. I thank you, High God—you’re breathtaking! Body and soul, I am marvelously made! I worship in adoration—what a creation! You know me inside and out, you know every bone in my body; You know exactly how I was made, bit by bit, how I was sculpted from nothing into something. Like an open book, you watched me grow from conception to birth; all the stages of my life were spread out before you. The days of my life all prepared before I’d even lived one day. Your thoughts—how rare, how beautiful! God, I’ll never comprehend them! I couldn’t even begin to count them—any more than I could count the sand of the sea. Oh, let me rise in the morning and live always with you.”

Matthew 6:22 (MSG); Psalm 139:13-18 (MSG)



This Week’s Thought – June 14, 2020

“Know what his Word says and means. Steer clear of foolish discussions that lead people into the sin of anger with each other.” 2 Timothy 15(b)-16 Living Bible (TLB)

“We’re ALL in this TOGETHER.” A mentor of mine once said, “Two people swapping ignorance is a waste of time.” I would add, not only a waste of time, but runs the risk of railing at one another in an angry exchange. To what end? So, each one feels like he/she won the debate, when in reality truth was held hostage and ignorance dug a relational divide as pride fed a feeling of mental superiority. Instead, we are instructed to know the Word of God, which when absorbed in the heart and understood in the mind, brings its own humility of spirit and freedom in truth that defends itself. Ongoing learning replaces ignorance with insight. Patience replaces anger. Humble love feels no need to argue.

Paul, the seasoned mentor, is reminding Timothy of the need to never stop learning. If he ceases to learn he will be stuck with an understanding inferior to what’s needed to comprehend God’s will for his life. To know the Word is to know **the Word—Jesus Christ**. Intimacy with our Savior goes deeper the more we understand the words of our Savior. The progression of a disciple of Christ is: to know His Word is to love Him, and to love Him is to obey Him.

Ignorance promotes disobedience, learning leads to loving obedience. Ignorance ignites anger, knowing brings peace.

“Oh, Timothy, don’t fail to do these things that God entrusted to you. Keep out of foolish arguments with those who boast of their “knowledge” and thus prove their lack of it. Some of these people have missed the most important thing in life—they don’t know God. May God’s mercy be upon you.” (1 Timothy 6:20-21)

Has unintended ignorance caused a relational rift? Maybe you didn’t have all the data for a decision you made, and now you need to go back and ask forgiveness—you jumped to an inaccurate conclusion, without first gathering all the facts. Or has another’s ignorance falsely accused you of something that is not true? At the very least forgive him or her and move on. Perhaps you need to speak face to face and clarify the circumstances with gentleness and humility. Ignorance is not a reason to remain in an unhealthy situation when truth leads to freedom.

Most of all, learn of the Lord’s ways. Each day delight in learning God’s word found in His word, the Bible. Feed your faith with the truth of Scripture so you have the spiritual stamina and wisdom to resist exhausting trials and temptations—and to recognize and call out the enemy’s lies. Read and discuss the Word of God with other friends hungry to learn and humble to be changed by the Word. Learning is less academic and more application. When you are transformed by truth you become more like Jesus. Reject ignorance and receive understanding.

“My child listen to what I say, and treasure my commands. Tune your ears to wisdom, and concentrate on understanding. Cry out for insight, and ask for understanding.” (Proverbs 2:1-3)

“I am who You say I am! I am God’s workmanship, created in Christ unto good works. (Ephesians 2:10) I am an ambassador for Christ (2 Corinthians 5:20). I am part of a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a purchased people (1 Peter 2:9). I am greatly loved by God (Ephesians 2:4; Colossians 3:12). I AM WHAT ‘YOU’SEE!”

Application: What area of my life needs to grow and learn through the truth of Scripture? Pray and ask God to plant and nurture His Word in your heart so you are transformed by truth.

Prayer of reflection you might pray this week: “Lord, thank You for the people You have divinely placed in my life who speak holy truth, love and words of wisdom. Give me a heart of discernment to know when You are using someone to speak instruction into my heart and my circumstances, and give me the strength and courage to follow through with that advice, even when it’s hard. Fill me with peace in knowing that even if I take a wrong turn, Your purpose will prevail. This is my prayer in the matchless, wonderful and compassionate name of Jesus, Amen!”

Yours in Christ, Pastor King