

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 – August 2, 2020

“Praise be to the name of God for ever and ever; wisdom and power are his. He changes times and seasons; he deposes kings and raises up others. He gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to the discerning.” Daniel 2:20-21 (NIV)

“We’re ALL in this TOGETHER.” Change can make you, me and anyone uncomfortable and uncertain about the future. If we ignore change however, we lose our opportunity to influence the process. If we embrace change, we treat it as a friend who wants to help, instead of a foe who wants to hurt us. The reality of change requires a Spirit-led response, not a naive dismissal. Change can manage us, or we can manage change. In the same way, we learn to adjust to our body’s potentially ongoing issues, so we grow in how to make the best of life’s ever evolving events.

Daniel experienced the radical transition of moving into a new country with its unique culture and demands of godlike loyalty to its king. Daniel was a person of prayer and principle; thus he would not worship anyone but his one and only Sovereign King, the Lord God Almighty. He did not cower under the pressure to compromise his deeply held convictions. He managed change by rejecting expectations of political and religious expediency. Conversely, he challenged the status quo by offering dietary options that yielded better outcomes. Managing change requires courage.

“I eagerly expect and hope that I will in no way be ashamed, but will have sufficient courage so that now as always Christ will be exalted in my body, whether by life or by death.” (Philippians 1:20)

What change do you face that requires great faith? You may feel your body has betrayed you. Ask the Lord for wisdom in how to leverage these new physical limitations for His purposes. Work associates may have transferred or been terminated. You are left carrying the load of their job responsibilities. By God’s grace be a team player. Do your best and trust the Lord with the rest. Be a problem solver, not a chronic complainer. Perhaps a relationship has gone rogue and you feel alone. Use this season of singleness as an opportunity for solitude with your Savior.

Managing change takes a magnitude of wisdom and discernment from your Heavenly Father.

Almighty God is unchanging. He is a rock of reassurance and stability. Just as the weather can be sunny one day and cloudy another, so life has its dramatic occurrences. Therefore, we are wise to let life’s drama draw us closer to Christ. Our dependable Jesus wants us to go deeper with Him. He is especially near when we face the pressure to compromise our beliefs for the accommodation of an unjust authority. Prayerfully, we manage change so it doesn’t manage us.

“Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.” (Hebrews 13:8)

“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 change do you need to stop resisting and begin embracing? Ask God to give you the faith and wisdom to trust Him during this time of change and uncertainty.

Prayer of reflection you might pray this week: “Oh Lord, thank You for going before me and for being with me through the changes in my life. I know that You will never leave me nor forsake me therefore I will be fearless when life begins to take unexpected turns or uncertain paths. Thank You for being the rock that I can lean on; the rock that never crumbles so that I may walk firmly in change. I pray against any fears that prevent me from embracing change because I know that You have commanded me to be strong and courageous. I will not be afraid; I will not be discouraged, for You, my God, will be with me as I experience the various transitions of life. This is my prayer in the matchless, wonderful and compassionate name of Jesus, Amen!”

Yours in Christ, Pastor King