

Face to Face

FaceTime With The Father

Presence versus Face

You can be in someone's presence yet never really communicate with them.

God's is not just interested in you being in His presence but His real joy is in being face to face with you.

Until we look into someone's eyes and see their face we are not truly engaging in a heart to heart transfer.

““O my dove, in the clefts of the rock, In the secret places of the cliff, Let me see your face, Let me hear your voice; For your voice is sweet, And your face is lovely.””

Song of Solomon 2:14 NKJV

“You have ravished my heart, My sister, my spouse; You have ravished my heart With one look of your eyes, With one link of your necklace.”

Song of Solomon 4:9 NKJV

Eternal FaceTime

The very beginning reveals the heart of the Father. It was there that He commanded "Light Be!"

“For it is the God who commanded light to shine out of darkness, who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.” II Corinthians 4:6 NKJV

Here He is speaking to us through the face of Jesus Christ the head of the body of whom we are connected to.

"In the very beginning God was already there. And before his face was his Living Expression. And this "Living Expression" was with God, yet fully God. They were together - face to face, in the very beginning. And through his creative inspiration this "Living Expression" made all things, for nothing has existence apart from him! Life came into being because of him, for his life is the light of all humanity. And this "Living Expression" is the light that bursts through gloom- the Light that darkness could not diminish! John 1:1-5 TPT

The Eyes Are the Window to the Soul

"The eyes are the window to your soul" William Shakespeare

““The lamp of the body is the eye. If therefore your eye is good, your whole body will be full of light.” Matthew 6:22 NKJV

“His head and hair were white like wool, as white as snow, and His eyes like a flame of fire;” Revelation 1:14 NKJV

“Behold, the eye of the LORD is on those who fear Him, On those who hope in His mercy,” Psalms 33:18 NKJV

“For the eyes of the LORD are on the righteous, And His ears are open to their prayers; But the face of the LORD is against those who do evil.”” I Peter 3:12 NKJV

Gaze into the eyes of Jesus and you will experience the love of the Father. Passion fire explodes in your heart and revelation knowledge is birthed in your soul!

" May the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ be eulogized, the One who conferred benefactions upon us in the sphere of every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ, even as He selected us out for himself in Him before the foundations of the universe were laid, to be holy

ones and without blemish before His searching, penetrating gaze. Ephesians 1:3 Wuest

In the beginning He knew you, He saw you, He speaks and hears the word about you and He commands you to be, " Light be!" As imitators we are to know Him, see Him, hear Him and be Him.

Knowing Him is not the same as being Him. To be Him you must see Him. To see Him you must believe that He Is and then you must partake of Him.

Paul's Face to Face Encounter

“Now it happened, as I journeyed and came near Damascus at about noon, suddenly a great light from heaven shone around me. And I fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to me, ‘Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me?’” Acts 22:6-7

The first reaction to the glorious presence of the Lord is to fall down. We don't want to make eye contact with Him. Yet notice what Jesus says to Paul next.

“But rise and stand on your feet; for I have appeared to you for this purpose, to make you a minister and a witness both of the things which you have seen and of the things which I will yet reveal to you.” Acts 26:16 NKJV

He tells Paul to rise and stand. Why? So He can look directly into Paul's eyes and Paul into His. He is about to impart to Paul his purpose and God's plan for his life and it requires full attention and focus on Jesus. A transfer is taking place from the mind of Christ to the mind of Paul and the eyes are the key.

Paul is part of a bigger plan that starts with looking into the very face of Jesus. Words have limitations in conveying a message to the receiver but the part that cannot be expressed in words is expressed in the eyes of Jesus.

“But rise and stand on your feet; for I have appeared to you for this purpose, to make you a minister and a witness both of the things which you have seen and of the things which I will yet reveal to you. I will deliver you from the Jewish people, as well as from the Gentiles, to whom I now send you, to open their eyes, in order to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who are sanctified by faith in Me.”

Acts 26:16-18 NKJV

Face to Face With Jesus

Being effective includes FaceTime with Jesus, the Word.

“After these things the Lord appointed seventy others also, and sent them two by two before His face into every city and place where He Himself was about to go. Luke 10:1 NKJV

Notice that those selected to do the work of the Lord went before His face first. Also they went out two by two. This is significant in that Jesus has impressed His image on us. How does this make a difference? When you look into the face and eyes of your spouse or your fellow brother or sister, you are looking at Jesus. We can then encourage and strengthen one another.

“that which we have seen and heard we declare to you, that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ. If we say that we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.” I John 1:3, 6-7 NKJV

“Two are better than one, Because they have a good reward for their labor. For if they fall, one will lift up his companion. But woe to him who is alone when he falls, For he has no one to help him up. Though one may be overpowered by another, two can withstand him. And a threefold cord is not quickly broken.” Ecclesiastes 4:9-10, 12 NKJV

Paul knew this truth and longed to see the faces of other believers. It even grieved him when he was not able to see them. There is such a deep love that God desires for us to develop as Christians.

“But we, brethren, having been taken away from you for a short time in presence, not in heart, endeavored more eagerly to see your face with great desire.” I Thessalonians 2:17 NKJV

“For I want you to know what a great conflict I have for you and those in Laodicea, and for as many as have not seen my face in the flesh, that their hearts may be encouraged, being knit together in love, and attaining to all riches of the full assurance of understanding, to the knowledge of the mystery of God, both of the Father and of Christ, in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.” Colossians 2:1-3 NKJV

Wake up each day with the intent to have FaceTime with Jesus, the Way, the Truth and the Life.

“And me? I plan on looking you full in the face. When I get up, I’ll see your full stature and live heaven on earth.” Psalm 17:15 MSG

“Glory in His holy name; Let the hearts of those rejoice who seek the LORD! Seek the LORD and His strength; Seek His face evermore!” Psalms 105:3-4 NKJV

The Maze of Religion

God does not want to put us in a maze but He wants to amaze us because He is a amazing God!

Religion ensnares people and prevents them from seeing God. There is the pretense of knowing Him but no true relationship is there. It is a maze that leads us to confined spaces and takes us nowhere.

““Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs which indeed appear beautiful outwardly, but inside are full of dead men’s bones and all uncleanness.” Matthew 23:27 NKJV

Let's look at what the prophet Ezekiel tells us about religions traps.

“He stretched out the form of a hand, and took me by a lock of my hair; and the Spirit lifted me up between earth and heaven, and brought me in visions of God to Jerusalem, to the door of the north gate of the inner court, where the seat of the image of jealousy was, which provokes to jealousy.

Then He said to me, “Son of man, lift your eyes now toward the north.” So I lifted my eyes toward the north, and there, north of the altar gate, was this image of jealousy in the entrance. Then He said to me, “Son of man, dig into the wall”; and when I dug into the wall, there was a door. And He said to me, “Go in, and see the wicked abominations which they are doing there.” So I went in and saw, and there—every sort of creeping thing, abominable beasts, and all the idols of the house of Israel, portrayed all around on the walls. And there stood before them seventy men of the elders of the house of Israel, and in their midst stood Jaazaniah the son of Shaphan. Each man had a censer in his hand, and a thick cloud of incense went up. Then He said to me, “Son of man, have you seen what the elders of the house of Israel do in the dark, every man in the room of his idols? For they say, ‘The LORD does not see us, the LORD has forsaken the land.’” Ezekiel 8:3, 5, 8-12 NKJV

“Then He said to me, “The iniquity of the house of Israel and Judah is exceedingly great, and the land is full of bloodshed, and the city full of perversity; for they say, ‘The LORD has forsaken the land, and the LORD does not see!’ And as for Me also, My eye will neither spare, nor will I have pity, but I will recompense their deeds on their own head.” Ezekiel 9:9-10 NKJV

“Then He said to me, “Have you seen this, O son of man? Turn again, you will see greater abominations than these.” So He brought me into the inner court of the LORD’s house; and there, at the door of the temple of the LORD, between the porch and the altar, were about twenty-five men with their backs toward the temple of the LORD and their faces toward the east, and they were worshiping the sun toward the east.” Ezekiel 8:15-16 NKJV

The Temple with the Holy of Holies was to the west so these men had their back ends to the Lord. They worshipped the sun to the east. Instead of worshipping the supernatural glorious creator they bowed to the natural instead. They chose that which was every changing (time) over He who never changes. They chose to believe the seen over faith for the unseen.

“So shall they fear The name of the LORD from the west, And His glory from the rising of the sun; When the enemy comes in like a flood, The Spirit of the LORD will lift up a standard against him.” Isaiah 59:19 NKJV

Trapped in repetitive cycle of time and space is grasping for the wind and produces no good fruit. Cease from your toil and labor and choose the gift of God. Dwell in Him and He will dwell in you.

God Is Love

Praise God that He is love! The good shepherds love leads us out of the mess of men's traditions and guides us to life everlasting. Look into the eyes of love and be set free.

“Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. He who does not love does not know God, for God is love.” I John 4:7-8 NKJV

““Are you tired? Worn out? Burned out on religion? Come to me. Get away with me and you’ll recover your life. I’ll show you how to take a real rest. Walk with me and work with me—watch how I do it. Learn the unforced rhythms of grace. I won’t lay anything heavy or ill-fitting on you. Keep”

company with me and you'll learn to live freely and lightly.” Matthew 11:28-30 MSG

“Stand fast therefore in the liberty by which Christ has made us free, and do not be entangled again with a yoke of bondage.

For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision avails anything, but faith working through love.” Galatians 5:1, 6 NKJV

“But he who looks into the perfect law of liberty and continues in it, and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work, this one will be blessed in what he does. If anyone among you thinks he is religious, and does not bridle his tongue but deceives his own heart, this one’s religion is useless. Pure and undefiled religion before God and the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their trouble, and to keep oneself unspotted from the world.” James 1:25-27 NKJV

“He is the sole expression of the glory of God [the Light-being, the out-raying or radiance of the divine], and He is the perfect imprint and very image of [God's] nature, upholding and maintaining and guiding and propelling the universe by His mighty word of power.” Hebrews 1:3 AMP

“how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him.” Acts 10:38 NKJV