



Imagine That

Hello my friends. I hope you are doing well in your pursuit of knowing Jesus more intimately. I pray that this article provides not only insight on pressing into the mind and heart of God, but I pray as well that you are encouraged by the expressions of love Jesus shows towards us that I will mention in this article.

The desire of Jesus is to be able to co-labor with His bride. He is perfect in every way and has no need for our help in doing anything. He can preach better than us, write better than us, sing better than us, play instruments better than us, compose songs better than us, evangelize, prophecy, and over-all run a church a million times greater than we could ever do on our best day. And yet, He still desires to co-labor with us. Which makes it so much more meaningful to want to work with us when He doesn't need us. God wants to co-labor with man. Not "use" man. God can use anyone or anything. He even used a donkey once. But He will only co-labor with a bride. Being used by God isn't bad. But it is just the fruit of slave-ship which is the beginning stage for a Christian. While being used by God is a fruit of slave-ship. Co-laboring with Him is a fruit of a healthy marriage. He doesn't need you to have answers because chances are yours and mine are not good anyway. He just needs you to say YES in your heart to Him. After the yes comes a softening of the heart to make you more pliable to His purposes.

The softer and more humble your heart is, the easier it is to receive revelation from God. In the beginning of time when God created the earth, the Spirit of God was moving on the waters ready to hear the Word (Jesus) and form the earth to the pleasure of the Father. Water also came out of Christ's side at Calvary. I'd like to suggest to you that as the Spirit moved on those waters in Genesis, the water poured out of Christ's side fell out on us and the Spirit is moving on that water to, hearing the Word, to form us to the image that pleases the Father. Both He saw and said was "good". In Jeremiah 18, God calls us the clay and He is the potter. As

the Potter, He must keep us constantly moist and moving or we'll become hardened and won't be able to be molded. To continually be molded, we must continually hear His voice. One of the most common ways we should hear Him is "The Mind Of Christ."

According to I Corinthians 2:16, we have been given the mind of Christ. This is one of the most amazing concepts ever mentioned in the Bible. This is the very same mind that literally created EVERYTHING. From the largest galaxy to the most microscopic cell that holds everything together. His brain came up with these amazing things, and the Father decided to give us this mind. I'd like to suggest that your reality is solely contingent on the imagination of Christ. Whatever the limitations of His mind are, (which He has no limitations) is the limitations of our reality. In other words, whatever His infinite mind can come up with (with very few exceptions, such as anything that challenges His supremacy) can be your reality, and you've been given this mind. According to Psalms 147:5 His understanding is infinite. He gave us a blank check to know His thoughts and heart. It is religion that puts up barriers of how much we can learn about Him. He never intended there to be barriers. Just look at Eden. God says in Isaiah 55:9 that His thoughts are higher than our thoughts. Although there are things we as finite creature can't grasp on a level an infinite God can, I believe that this verse is also talking about something else. God and man are never on the same page. He wants His glory to fill the earth and we just want it in a building. He's got such bigger plans than ours but we're so often contempt with small things that are just a slight step above Old Testament thinking and promises. God decided to remedy this issue by giving us Christ's mind. He wants there to be an extremely small difference between our thoughts and His.

Jacob has a dream in Genesis 28, and in this dream he sees a ladder stretching up to heaven. He also sees angels ascending and descending the ladder. In John 1:51, Jesus refers to Himself in a very similar matter. The mind of Christ is Jacob's ladder in by which we ascend to learn the Higher Ways of God. This is also a depiction of the angels pressing in to hear that is mentioned in 1st Peter 1:12. They press in because in all of their splendor and power, angels don't know what it is like to refer to God as both a Husband, and a Daddy. This is how we are one with Him. Jesus was so one with the Father that He felt His every emotion. They were sad at the same time, happy at the same time, and etc. His mind is in us so we are MOVED by the Father's

EMOTIONS, EMPOWERED by His WORDS, and BROUGHT TO HIGHER PLACES by His MIND. It is the Mind of Christ that shows us How God feels about us....

It is just depressing to minister to a God that you don't know is wild about you. Hiedi Baker said something once that I thought was profound. I don't recall the exact words but my mind translated it to this conclusion. "You can't possibly offer yourself as a living sacrifice to God if you don't know that He delights in who you are." You can offer yourself to God if you think you're a wretch that he "puts up with." This thinking has infected the church. Christians think that they are wretches God tolerates just long enough to visit us for a few hours on Sunday. He actually likes you more than you think He does. He loves every little silly thing in your personality, every goofy side of you. Where do you think your goofy personality came from? He really is a very fun God. Here's my "interpretation" of John 3:16: *For the Father was so overwhelmingly consumed with passionate jealousy, He sent His Perfect and Blameless Son Jesus to the earth to be brutally tortured for our sins. He did this so He could open up the biggest adoption agency ever, to adopt countless children into His own home.* That's the New Aaron Standard Bible or NASB version. (Joking of course).

In fact Jesus loved you so much here is what He did. You were hungry, and He gave you His flesh to eat. You were thirsty, and He gave you His blood to drink. You were a stranger, and He adopted you into His family. You were naked in shame and sin, and He clothed you in a multi-colored coat of grace, dipped in His own blood. You were sick, and He bore your diseases and infirmities. You were in prison, and with His own body, He permanently paid for your bail. He was crowned with thorns, so you could be crowned with sweet-loving kindness. His blood was poured out, so you could be filled with the fullness of His Spirit. Which by the way, you have. When you got saved, He didn't give you $\frac{3}{4}$ of His Spirit. He gave you all of Him. It is why He expects us to return the favor. He was torn apart, so that we could be united as one body. He was thirsty, so that we would never thirst again. He was abandoned and rejected, so we would be welcomed and accepted. He hung on a tree naked and exposed, so we could be hidden in the shadow of His wings. He drank the cup of wrath, so we could drink the cup of consolation. (Comfort- Jer 16:7) He was a man of sorrow, so He could be the joy of our hearts. We were made for His good pleasure and joy, but He was pierced and tortured to be ours. For

the joy set before Him, He endured the cross. You were the force that empowered Jesus to suffer on your behalf. Before you were even alive, you empowered Him to suffer so He could come into your heart and empower you to crucify yourself for His Name's sake as He did for the sake of your soul. This is what a healthy marriage looks like. This is a small portion of how God feels about you.

I pray that this both encouraged you and gave you insight about the mind of Christ. Hearing God is how we co-labor and eventually co-rule with Him. This is not for SOME people. It is for EVERYONE! God is longing to share His heart with you in the secret place. Your past hasn't disqualified you. God wanted to give Adam the very best bride possible, so He gave him Eve. God wanted to do the same for His Son Jesus, so He gave Him you. Will you take the time to listen? Will you shut out all other voices including yours? Will you let His thoughts so strongly dictate your life that there's almost no difference between your thoughts and His? He stands at your door knocking... and if you can imagine... your one thought away from Jesus... and your destiny...

Be Blessed Richly In Christ

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