

Where is Jesus in Your Life?

Introduction

When you study your Bible knowing that the Lord is with you, you will be amazed at how God's Word comes alive. That is how I read the Word. I don't study it just to prepare for segments of My Thoughts or to preach on Sunday, when necessary. I come to the Word to drink of the living waters from Jesus.

At these times, I feel Jesus is by my side, teaching me, and speaking to my heart, and I can tell you that we have the best conversations during these times and I always come away from such times feeling refreshed and energized.

Exodus 15:25 says, **"So he cried out to the Lord, and that Lord showed him a tree. When he cast it into the waters, the waters were made sweet. There He made a statute and an ordinance for them, and there He tested them,"**

Spending Time with Jesus

Reading His Word has become a great personal time of intimacy between Jesus and me. I get completely lost and absorbed in His presence until I lose track of time. I can't tell you the number of times when I had looked up at my clock after digging into His Word and realized that it was either time to go work out, get ready for my secular job, or do some work around the home.

Do you know what it's like when you are enjoying a steaming cup of coffee or bowling with friends that you love, and you are having so much fun, laughing, and sharing, that time just seems to disappear? Well, you can enjoy Jesus' presence in the same way!

Once you are conscious that Jesus is with you, reading the Bible no longer feels like a chore or duty. You won't catch yourself watching the clock and feeling as though an eternity has passed even though only five minutes have lapsed!

That is what a chore feels like—as if time is standing still and you can't wait to get it over with. Bible study divorced from His presence is a dead work, but when it is like catching up with your best friend, there never seems to be enough time!

Feel Jesus' Presence in your Life

To see the Lord in the midst of everything that you do and learn to bring Him into the picture. He makes everything beautiful in your life. When you look at your past, the scars of yesterday may still be throbbing in your memories.

Perhaps you were sexually abused as a child or you were emotionally hurt by someone you trusted. As you look back now, you may still feel angry, frustrated, and disappointed all at the same time, and the hurt still pierces your heart.

In the midst of your pain, I want to challenge you to start involving Jesus. See the Lord holding you, gently healing your wounds. Jesus is right there restoring you, putting courage into your heart, and taking away all the sense of shame and guilt. Restoring you to the person you really are in Christ Jesus. No condemnation in Jesus only reconciliation, redemption, restoration, forgiveness, healing, love, joy, and peace.

Look to the Future, Forget the Past

Beloved, He wants you to know that your past will not determine the future that He has for you. Once you involve the Lord and put Him into your bitter waters, He will turn the bitterness into sweetness.

That is what the Lord did for the children of Israel. When they came to a place called Marah, they could not drink its waters because they were bitter. Moses cried out to the Lord and the Lord showed him a tree, which Moses cast into the waters. When he did that, the Bible says that “the waters were made sweet.”

Conclusion

Why did the foul-tasting, undrinkable waters become refreshing and sweet? The answer lies in the tree that was cast in. The tree is a picture of the cross on which our Lord Jesus hung, bearing every broken heart and every sting of betrayal.

When you bring Jesus into your situation, He can cause every bitter experience to become sweet! Talk to Him and allow His presence to restore you to wholeness today! Amen!

I am Dale Van De Bogart and I approve of this message!

If you are reading this and never accepted Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior, what are you waiting for? Click on [FREE GIFT](#) at the top of any page and make Jesus the Lord of your life **TODAY!** Remember, read your Bible daily, it's good food!