

"The Word as Personal Light" (Part 2) John 1:4-12,18

Christian revelation is the personal self-disclosure of God that sheds light on all of life. Regardless of our circumstances, there are inner-stances we can take that put us in the best position possible to receive revelation from God. Let's consider a few of them.

- A WILLINGNESS TO BE HONEST AND REAL WITH EVERY FACET OF OUR LIVES

Acts 5:1-10 warns us rather clearly that pretense may be the deadliest sin in the church. Refuse to be honest and real and watch things begin to die - especially our capacity to see and hear God. It is not usually a sinful choice that brings darkness in to our lives. It is our refusal to agree with the light - to repent and to confess - that causes the light to go out. Resist being honest with God, with ourselves, with others and watch things grow dim. Agree with God, be real with others, drop our rationalizations and we go right on walking in the light.

- A WILLINGNESS TO WORSHIP GOD IN THE "ALL THINGS" OF LIFE

Worship is a faithful consciousness of God as our source, our supply, and our goal in the "all things" of daily living (Ro 11:36; Ps 119:91). Worship pulls us out of self-conscious, self-centered thinking and makes us conscious of our Sovereign, Loving, Redeeming God. It centers us in Him and His purposes. As we praise and thank Him in and for all things (Eph 5:20; I Thess 5:18; Heb 13:15) we stay turned and tuned to the spirit of God from who all the blessings of revelation flow. Daring to "see" God in the "all things" sacramentalizes all of life and the very events we find ourselves in become the means of God conveying His Light of Life to us. Worshipping God in everything awakens us (Eph 5:14) to the eternal realities of any given moment so, hopefully, we do not have to say like Jacob, "Surely the Lord was in this place and I did not know it." (Gen 28:16)

- A WILLINGNESS TO BE FOR OTHERS

At times the lights do not come on because we seek revelation for self-serving purposes (Ja 4:3). We want to use God for our own pleasure, not be used by Him for His pleasure. Revelation is for lovers, not students (Jo 14:21). Never forget: This is a love affair with God! We must love the Revealer over the revelation. We must remember the sacramental nature of our personalities and learn to listen, not for our own sakes alone, but also for the sake of others. Lovers are safe with revelation - they will not use it for themselves or against others. They will put it in the service of others and their edification. They are willing to become what they actually are - expressions of light for the world's sake.



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GREETINGS

On June 6, Ella and I will thank God for 30 years of marriage. His grace has been sufficient for us at every junction, every turn in the road, every unpleasant crash, every pleasant day together. His Love in us for each other has never ebbed or wavered. He is enough!

As I said to you last month, *OIC* is no one man show, no one family endeavor, no one town support team - it is all of you, Christ in all of you sharing Life with all of us. Nevertheless, those of you who know Ella realize *OIC* would not look anything like it does were it not for her. For one, you wouldn't be reading this right now! Secondly, she loves you enough to have let me roam around the country for the past 20+ years sharing with you the truth of the gospel. (I'm not sure I love you enough to have let her done that!)

Many of you have never met her. Yet, like Paul, I will say that, more often than not, the unseen parts are the most important parts of any organism or organization. So your prayers of thanks, petitions for energy and strength, intercessions for wisdom and endurance in her behalf are greatly needed and appreciated!

One In Christ, Inc.
13820 NW 172nd Avenue
Alachua, Florida 32615

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



CALENDAR



JUNE

2 FCA @UF
6,20 CCF
8 Alachua Study
10-13 Waldorf, MD (301-751-4408)
19 Jacksonville, FL (904-739-9873)
26,27 Family Church, Gainesville, FL
29 Ocala Study

JULY

16-17 Lehigh Acres, FL (239-369-5555)
23-25 Knoxville, TN (865-690-8012)

SEPTEMBER

24-26 Binghamton, NY (607-625-4612)

OCTOBER

7-9 Baton Rouge, LA (225-769-8844)

♥ PRAISE & PRAYER †

- ♥ 30 years of marriage
- ♥ Our God of "all things"
- † Our church leaders to walk in the Light of Life
- † A willingness to be honest and real with God and others

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