

The man groove for feelings and emotions



...For I'm trained in the secret of overcoming all things, whether in fullness or in hunger. And I find that the strength of Christ's explosive power infuses me to conquer every difficulty.—Paul. Philippians 4:12-13 [The Passion Translation].

I have found an all too common trait in my encounters with men of all different interests, backgrounds, and persuasions. The rhythms of its undertow traits look much different on the outside than it does at the soul level of men. The outward facade projects an image of a man that can play with anybody yet on an inward level it never enters the fields where Jesus plays.

In our communicate with our Bro-Pal's we share the same grunts and tones in the common language of man speak, but all too often the base interests and pursuits of our buddies differ greatly to that of our friend Jesus. So infrequent are the relational aspects of our link to one who is supposedly the greatest person of interest on our friends list that Jesus is reduced to just another number on our account list and we have unchecked the follow button. When asked about what Jesus has been throwing out there lately... We come up looking like a deer in headlights! Jesus as an integral part of our community becomes foreign and Un-relational at best! So... I want to pose a question and challenge to you.

Are you man enough to feel like Jesus?

To become like Jesus we need to first understand him and then take the initiative to befriend him along with all of his emotions, characteristics, and reactions. It's important to appreciate that Jesus was a feeler who experienced and expressed deep and vivid emotions about many things in life. Too often the cultural picture painted around the nature of Jesus is docile at best. That is because people particularly in our woke culture, who have a feeling trait, or "feelers", are typically aware of not only their own emotions but the emotions of others around them, too. They are protective of those they value, which affects endeavors they conduct both personally and professionally, even communally. A deeper look into the feeling and emotions of Jesus that are recorded in scripture reveal that Jesus lived a wildly passionate, loving, and robust, lifestyle as a man. Furthermore, his feelings and emotions were healthy in that they were governed by the Holy Spirit, and His intimacy with the Father, which produced a thriving lifestyle for us to see.

Central to the Wild on the Path's practices are a shared rhythm of life to cultivate intimacy with Jesus, emotional authenticity, relational health, and increased fruitfulness in ministry.

"CHRIST THE ANSWER"

"The knowledge that can save the world is already ours. It is the way of Jesus Christ, what He is, what He teaches, and how He transforms people. When we join our thoughts to Him we are in an immense river pressing through every race and every nation."

Frank Laubach, Prayer: The Mightiest Force in the World (1946)

"JESUS' GREATEST TEACHING"

Taken from the book... Jesus, The Sermon on the Mount (1st Century) Bill Gaultiere, Jesus' Greatest Teaching (2016)

"Blessed are you in any difficult situation for the Kingdom of the Heavens is available to you... "Don't judge others and try to fix them with your insights. That's like feeding hungry dogs with Bible verses or expecting pigs to dine on pearls! They're likely to stomp over the things they can't digest and take a bite out of your leg! Instead, simply ask people to change, respecting their free will, and eventually you'll receive what you ask."

Finally, allow me to pose another question about what can potentially embed itself in the rhythms of our identity and masculinity. I call it **unnecessary striving!**

Are you **Striving** to become something you already are? Or, are you comfortable in the Rhythm of “IN CHRIST”?

Colossians 3:1-17. Christ's resurrection is your resurrection too. This is why we are to yearn for all that is above, for that's where Christ sits enthroned at the place of all power, honor, and authority! Yes, feast on all the treasures of the heavenly realm and fill your thoughts with heavenly realities, and not with the distractions of the natural realm. Your crucifixion with Christ has severed the tie to this life, and now your true life is hidden away in God in Christ. And as Christ himself is seen for who he really is, who you really are will also be revealed, for you are now one with him in his glory! (Another way to say this is... “Jesus is the new me!”)

New Creation Life.

Live as one who has died to every form of sexual sin and impurity. Live as one who has died to the desires for forbidden things, including the desire for wealth, which is the essence of idol worship. When you live in these vices you ignite the anger of God against these acts of disobedience.

*That's how you once behaved, characterized by your evil deeds. But now it's time to eliminate them from your lives once and for all! - Anger, fits of rage, all forms of hatred, cursing, filthy speech, and lying. Lay aside your old Adam-self with its **masquerade and disguise.***

*For you have acquired new creation life which is **continually being renewed** into the likeness of the One who created you; giving you the **full revelation of God.** " In this new creation life, your nationality makes no difference, nor your ethnicity, education, nor economic status- they matter nothing. For **it is Christ that means everything** as he lives in every one of us!*

Love One Another

You are always and dearly loved by God! So robe yourself with virtues of God, since you have been divinely chosen to be holy. Be merciful as you endeavor to understand others, and be compassionate, showing kindness toward all. Be gentle and humble, unoffendable in your patience with others. Tolerate the weaknesses of those in the family of faith, forgiving one another in the same way you have been graciously forgiven by Jesus Christ. If you find fault with someone, release this same gift of forgiveness to them.

For love is supreme and must flow through each of these virtues. Love becomes the mark of true maturity.

Let your heart be always guided by the peace of the Anointed One, who called you to peace as part of his one body. And always be thankful.

Let the word of Christ live in you richly, flooding you with all wisdom. Apply the Scriptures as you teach and instruct one another with the Psalms, and with festive praises," and with prophetic songs given to you spontaneously by the Spirit, so sing to God with all your hearts!

Let every activity of your lives and every word that comes from your lips be drenched with the beauty of our Lord Jesus, the Anointed One. And bring your constant praise to God the Father because of what Christ has done for you!

Compound bows and that dang fishing boat motor! Things that get easier after we initiate them and things we have to crank (a lot!) on to start. Not pulling on one will get you nothing and not pulling on the other will get you nowhere! The same is true of initiating "IN CHRIST."

"Acting now from the resources of our new 'life from above,' we can devote our lives to the service of others." Dallas Willard

Application: Have tribal conversation with Jesus as you pray through this passage about the things that the Lord is speaking to you.