

Life-People or Death-People

When you are with others, you know which ones produce 'life' in you and those who produce 'death'. By that I don't mean that the 'life' imparters make you feel 'warm & fuzzy' or appreciated. That's the soul crying out.

Jesus brought life to people, including sinners, and it wasn't because he was what we know today as an evangelist. No! Out of him flowed LIFE and the people of Israel and Judah wanted it. Not everyone was prepared to pay the price for the Kingdom life he offered them,¹ but there was something about him that they were drawn to.

The religious leaders didn't have this life, but he had it. What was it? Jesus lived the Kingdom life, the life of the Trinity as exemplified in the movie and book, “The Shack”. The Kingdom life when it's lived like it's meant to be lived – as a shadow of the Trinity's life – radiates vitality that meets the standard of life that we were created to display. Humans were created in God's image and his likeness. Not only were we endowed with a level of deity², and put in rulership of the planet, we also had the ability to fully represent God to the natural realm.

This ability is a spiritual ability that flows out through our physical being which the religious, legalists and non-sons don't possess. Jesus had it and we can have it. We just have to let him change us so we can.

“The Shack” allegorises this. It tells a story of a broken, hurting, bitter, twisted man who was confronted with this God-life (known to us as the Kingdom life). His interaction with the Trinity impacted him so much that he surrendered, and through being with them, was changed from the inside out.

What impacted him to allow these changes to be made within his person? The love of each member of the Trinity towards him which came through what they spoke to him. No signs and wonders. Just love and speech.

These are the 2 components we need to master as sons. We will not really be efficient in bringing others into the Kingdom until we do.

The God-speech is that which comes from our spirit and touches their spirit. Of course, this speech must originate from Holy Spirit, otherwise it comes from our soul or our mind. Jesus told us about this type of speech: “My words, they are spirit and they are life”³. ('Words' here is *rhema* in the Greek)

This is why it is imperative that we learn to only speak what the Spirit gives us. It's difficult to do that, because we've decided what we say all of our lives – we regard it as one of our rights. But, we will not impact others with God-life until we stop doing it our way. The example of our prototype (Jesus) is there.⁴ We just have to 'grow up', surrender to him, and do it.

Quoting Bible verse won't do it. Jesus didn't demonstrate Bible-speak. Speaking out of religion, legalism, hurt or criticism doesn't release God-life – it imparts 'death' to others. That's the reality of the concept of 'There were two trees in the garden’.

The flip-side of God-life is our responsibility also. We must hear with our spirit if we are to be impacted fully by this spiritual life-giving 'food'. This is the *rhema* that Holy Spirit constantly brings to us. However, we can't ingest it unless we 'eat' it with our spirit. To do that we have to constantly listen with our spirit. This is why I say, “Keep your spiritual antennae up”.

Don't wait for the 'once in a blue moon' *rhema* that jumps out at you from the Bible. Keep listening with

1 – Luke 14:26-33; John 6:60

2 – “God-likeness” (canberraforerunners.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/03/CHALLENGE-god-likeness.pdf)

“God-likeness Revisited” (canberraforerunners.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/03/CHALLENGE-god-likeness-revisited.pdf)

3 – John 6:63

4 – John 8:28, 38; 12:49-50; 14:10

your spirit while you're awake and you will receive *rhema* on and off all day long. These will feed you⁵ – feed your spirit – which the Bible cannot do. We were made to connect with God and feed our spirit off him, not read a sacred book containing a minuscule record of his words.

The Spirit speaks to you through any source. If you are hungry for *rhema*, he will use the natural realm, secular things and even a bitter non-believer to be the trigger to provide you with spiritual 'food'.

Explore it. Try it. Life in the Kingdom is exciting when it's a Spirit-life, not just a theology or a system of works.

NOTE: Once you've tasted Spirit-food you don't want to go back to mind-food. Really, Spirit-words (*rhema*) are life to our spirit because they 'feed' our spirit.

Truly, enjoying each member of the Trinity and allowing them to enjoy you is a life full of satisfaction.

The love shown in “The Shack” is *agapē*. Check out my teaching on this topic in these separate documents.⁶

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5 – “What’s Your Spiritual Food” (canberraforerunners.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/03/Whats-Your-Spiritual-Food.pdf)

6 – “Agapē Love” (25-5-2017) [canberraforerunners.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/03/Agape-Love.pdf]

“2-Way Agapē” (25-5-2017) [canberraforerunners.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/03/2-Way-Agape.pdf]