

‘Follower Of Jesus’ Is Not “We”

What impacted me recently was a person’s statement that they were seeing their connection with Jesus as “we”. This struck me – BOOM – as, “That’s the way it should be”. It’s like a light switched on to reality and I’d not been able to see clearly before then.

As I have an intimate relationship with him and I see him as my Beloved, that’s good. But, there’s more.

If I was to talk about my wife (Ruth) in the singular all the time, I’d be indicating that I’m not really connected with her at the level of ‘a couple’, of a team or being one. I indicate my union with her by the plural, “we”. That’s not because we’re married and we live together. That “we” comes from a level of oneness with her.

It’s normal, natural and feels absolutely right to think and refer to Ruth and myself as “we” because we’re inseparable as a unit. We live together, eat together, do things together, etc., and I see us as a unit.

What impacts me with this revelation is that I need to move forward in my relationship with Jesus, my King, in a similar way. He relates to me perfectly, but I’m not totally there. I’m there at a level (which is very good), but there’s more for me to move into. There’s very often more that a husband and wife could move into, but they don’t know what it is until they explore their relationship and go deeper. For example: There are some husbands who can’t live without their wives, and vice-versa. Some older couples even die within months of each other because of the bond between them. That’s different to a lot of other marriages these days.

I know I have to move myself into the place of “we” in my oneness with Jesus. This is a move in the right direction, to get ‘tighter’ with him in a deeper way. I’m now exploring that and allowing myself to be drawn further in. That’ll require me to exhibit less of ‘self’ and look more to him to reveal how I am to change in the way I relate to him.

Meditating on this idea, I’ve come to realise that being a ‘follower of Jesus’ isn’t oneness or relationship. I used to use that as an expression of my identity some years ago – not in recent times, though. However, that statement is religious, plain and simple. Jesus’ disciples followed him as the Messiah, which, as a rabbi, was the normal thing to do. He had to teach them and train them for life in the Kingdom when the New Covenant came into being. After his enthronement in Heaven as the cosmic King, he then lived inside them, so they moved to a relationship with him. They ceased being followers and disciples, and became lovers, friends, and sons. This is where we are – not back with Jesus the rabbi.

Oneness is exemplified in "we".

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(Readers will need to look up for themselves any scriptures alluded to in this document)