

Becoming Like Jesus

We are all on a journey that is intertwined with the story of who God wants us to become. Our journey is not just about reaching a destination; it is also about the process of engaging with the Lord in our daily lives. With the Lord, we know that life flows from heaven to earth! Rising above worldly events and personal dilemmas. Heavenly power of truth and faith support and assist us in any obstacles. In becoming like Jesus, there are areas of life that God is constantly seeking to address in us.

We should adapt to heaven and its spiritual principles, such as the law of love, the law of liberty, and the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus. This includes overcoming the darkness within me and breaking free from the constraints of human laws and conventions to embrace the wholeness of heaven on earth.

What does the Bible teach us about this? In Romans Chapter 6, Paul stated that we were joined with Christ Jesus in baptism. This means that we died and were buried with Christ through baptism. Just as Christ was resurrected from the dead by the glorious power of the Father, our deep nature has been forever changed. Consequently, we are fully prepared to live glorious new lives. However, this grace requires our response.

Speaking once more, our former identity of old man filled with struggles and pain, is now and forever deprived of its power. For we were co-crucified with him to dismantle the stronghold of sin within us, so that we would not continue to live one moment longer submitted to the power of darkness.

We don't need to beg God for victory over sin. It's a refusal to comprehend that we've already died to sin. Our joyful task is to believe the good news, not to seek to crucify ourselves. Sin isn't suppressed by the cross; it's eliminated. Jesus didn't just die for you; he died as you. (Romans)

When Jesus buried your old man, he raised him from the dead, leaving him behind. This was the end of the story. Forever. You died in Jesus, and a new version of you was raised from the dead through the Holy Spirit's glorious work. You became a new creation. Now, Jesus commands us to walk upon this water of heaven. Our story with Jesus allows us to rest in the truth of our purchased freedom.

You might think, "Emm... I still feel and see in myself that sin claims me." I know, I know! But it's powerless. You're no longer a slave of sin in Jesus. Your old self died on the cross with

Jesus. You just need to be aware, see them, and choose peace and joy. Now you have the power to choose the peace of mind, wisdom, and love that sits next to you. Rest in it. Rest in Jesus.

So our scripture today says, **(Col 3:1-2) “If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth.”** We have new identity, new man in us. This verse is a direct command to cultivate the new man in us, a heavenly mindset.

The best place to begin is in the realm of thoughts. How do they function? You might believe that your thoughts are unique and that you’re an individualistic thinker. However, it’s surprising how often your thoughts are unconsciously influenced by what you’ve been listening to and experiencing in the world. This thought system can be likened to built-in software that needs to be replaced with a new system of thinking, based on the word of God. The primal power of fear, anger, greed, jealousy, and hatred was stripped of its strength by the cross. Your old ideas, feelings, and impulses, thoughts influenced by the world, need to be sorted out and aligned with the word of God. This is an absolute necessity, and it’s doable and enjoyable. The Holy Spirit assists and empowers you throughout this process, walking alongside you! If you sort out the negative thoughts, your inner world won’t be consumed by misery.

Here is the story the little Prince a novella written and illustrated by French writer and aviator Antoine de Saint-Exupéry.



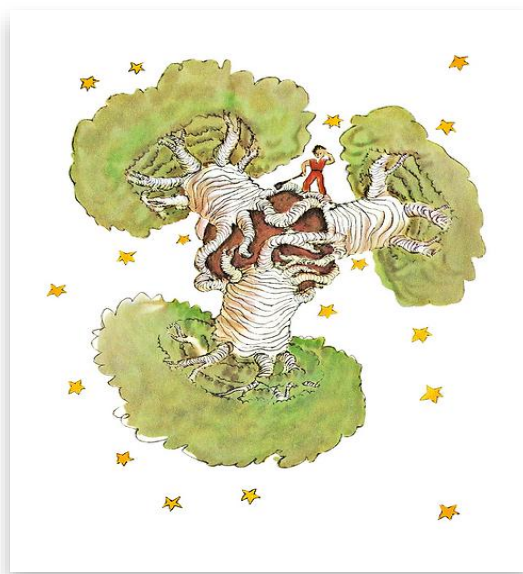
The little prince says in the story; “There were good plants and bad plants. The good plants came from good seeds and the bad plants from bad seeds that came from the universe. But the seeds are invisible. They sleep in the secrecy of the ground until one of them decides to wake up. Then it stretches and begins to sprout, quite timidly at first, a charming, harmless little twig reaching toward the sun. **If it’s a radish seed, or a rose bush seed, you can let it sprout all it likes. But if it’s the seed of a bad plant, you must pull the plant up right away, as soon as you can recognize it.**”

As it happens, there were terrible seeds on the little prince's planet... baobab seeds. The Prince continues, "It's a question of discipline. When you've finished washing and dressing each morning, you must tend your planet. You must be sure you pull up the baobabs regularly, as soon as you can tell them apart from the rosebushes, which they closely resemble when they're very young. It is very tedious work, but very easy."

In the same way, we must pay attention to what is growing on our planet—we must be attentive to every thought of our inner world. Instead of merely thinking what you think, you also sort out the subtle bad thoughts, bad emotions that are not aligned with Spirit of Jesus.

At the beginning, you might have problem differentiating the good seeds from the weeds. But if you immediately pull out the weeds, then they won't harm your inner life. **As you work, you may find that your weeds most often have to do with thoughts that seek to harm the goodness and grace found in your inner heart.** If you leave them alone, it will take root deeply and grow speedily. Such thoughts become like a volcano and can erupt and destroy your whole inner life. What seed do you watch from your planet?

As you embark on the journey to eradicate Baobab seeds from your planet, one thing becomes abundantly clear: you lack self-awareness. When the weather is pleasant, the sun shines, birds sing, and you feel like you are in God! However, when you're sick and in pain, you barely notice it. Is that true? **You need a shower of the Holy Spirit every morning. Let your heart be at peace and your eyes see through the lens of the Holy Spirit. Ask God for the profound knowledge of Him, eyes filled with light, and the wisdom to understand your true self clearly, the spirit of revelation and wisdom** (Ephesians 1:17-18). The peace and tranquility in the Spirit will enable you to perceive situations more clearly and confidently.



When the Holy Spirit reveals the baobab seeds, you must immediately root them out mercilessly because they grow rapidly and deeply, eventually destroying your planet. Give God time, the Spirit of wisdom and revelation works within you and as you, then you have a solid foundation. The Spirit is already within you, so, be in union with the Lord.

We often say that various forms of addiction (alcoholism, and drugs, porn, etc.) are dangerous. But everyone is also addicted to thoughts and ways toward a certain direction. To understand the true state of mind, our heart needs to be enlightened by the Spirit. God desires to reveal what is going on. When we are too busy, we cannot receive what God speaks.

When your new being is energized by the HS, you gain the power to remove deadly things from your planet. This is because the new being within you can now perceive what is heavenly, albeit not very clearly.

As you become more spiritually minded, seeking heavenly things, you will make constant necessary adjustments. By turning away from your natural mind, you can protect your planet from the Baobab seeds. You become stronger day by day, guided by God's grace upon grace.

God is not sin-conscious in your life because you are covered by Jesus Christ. You are in Christ, and God is fully focused on Christ within you. God is focused on the new you and the true you in Christ. In Christ, you share the same privileges as Jesus, including his grace, love, power, capacity, mindset, and language. To access these privileges, you must consistently choose them. Sink deep into the stillness of Jesus' peace, who is the prince of peace.

Heaven is powerfully connected to you and in you. God protects you through the angels wherever you go. God's light and love shine on you every step you take throughout the day.

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If the truth has not set you free, you must find the lie that binds you.

What is your current blockage to really knowing and walking with God?

When was last time you felt My presence?

What is your personal testimony of the good news?