

Why, LORD, do you stand far off?

Why do you hide yourself in times of trouble? (Psalm 10:1)

He began to be deeply distressed and troubled. "My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death." (Mark 14:33-34)

Sometimes we harbor an unexpressed suspicion that Jesus cannot handle all that goes on in our minds and hearts. We doubt that he can accept our hateful thoughts, cruel fantasies, and bizarre dreams. We wonder how he would deal with our primitive urges, our inflated illusions, and our exotic mental castles. The deep resistance to making ourselves so vulnerable, so naked, so unprotected is our implicit way of saying, "Jesus, I trust you, but there are limits." By refusing to share our fantasies, worries, and joys, we limit God's lordship over our life and make clear that there are parts of us that we do not wish to submit to a divine conversation. It seems that the Master had something more in mind when he said, "Trust in me" (John 14.1b).

(Brennan Manning, *Ruthless Trust*)

2) How \_\_\_\_\_ Are \_\_\_\_\_ ... About Your \_\_\_\_\_?

John 21:1-23

No other relationship shapes who we are more than our family. Most of what we think, feel, say, and do is in response to the home we grew up in. On the conscious level, we either buy into or reject the lessons learned from our family. And on an unconscious level, through a kind of osmosis, we absorb ways of thinking, feeling, and being. (Les & Leslie Parrott, *Relationships*)

January 19/20, 2019

Michael Yearley

## Authenticity

### *The First Step*

---

## The Party

## Loving People

### *Doing Relationships A Whole New Way*

All passages, unless otherwise noted, are from the New International Version of the Bible.

You can download the free YouVersion Bible app that includes the NIV translation at your favorite app store.

## Authenticity

### The First Step

1) \_\_\_\_\_ ...

Is The \_\_\_\_\_.

If we want to grow in our authenticity, the first step is to learn how to be radically honest with ourselves, God, and some trusted others ... with our deepest thoughts, feelings, and motives—especially the darkest ones.  
(Michael Yearley)

It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners. (Mark 2:17)

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.  
(1 John 1:9)

2) \_\_\_\_\_ ... Isn't \_\_\_\_\_.

If, while we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life!  
(Romans 5:10)

Going beneath the surface of our lives can feel as if we are walking on a tightrope fifty feet about the ground without a safety net below. The Gospel is like the safety net. It alone gives us the foundation to take the risk of stepping out onto the tightrope in order to explore our inner depths. The Gospel says you are more sinful and flawed than you ever dared to believe, yet you are more accepted and loved than you ever dared hope because Jesus lived and died in your place.  
(Peter Scazzero, *The Emotionally Healthy Church*)

3) \_\_\_\_\_ ... Is \_\_\_\_\_.

Friendship is born at that moment when one person says to another: "What! You too? I thought I was the only one." ... What draws people to be friends is that they see the same truth. They share it. (C.S. Lewis)

Without doing the work of becoming aware of your feelings and actions, along with their impact on others, it is scarcely possible to enter into the life experiences of other people. How can you enter someone else's world when you have not entered into your own?  
(Peter Scazzero, *The Emotionally Healthy Church*)

## Authenticity

### Two Key Questions

1) How \_\_\_\_\_ Are \_\_\_\_\_ ... With Your Deepest \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_?  
Jeremiah 20:7/Job 7:16-21/2 Corinthians 1:8-9, 7:5-7

O LORD, you deceived me, and I was deceived. (Jeremiah 20:7)

I despise my life; I would not live forever.  
Let me alone; my days have no meaning.  
What is man that you make so much of him,  
that you give him so much attention,  
that you examine him every morning  
and test him every moment?  
Will you never look away from me,  
or let me alone even for an instant?  
If I have sinned, what have I done to you,  
O watcher of men?  
Why have you made me your target?  
Have I become a burden to you?  
Why do you not pardon my offenses  
and forgive my sins?  
For I will soon lie down in the dust;  
you will search for me, but I will be no more. (Job 7:16-21)