

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld his glory as the the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth. - John 1:14 NKJV

When we read 'the Word became flesh' it shows us that the Word existed before it took on flesh ie. a physical human body. The Word was with God before and during the creation of the universe - John 1:1-3. **Jesus is the Word** that God sent to the world. **Words reveal what is in a person's heart.** People communicate with one another in various ways: letters, phone calls, internet, texting, pictures etc. However, the most effective way is in person, for one can see their expressions, hear their voice and observe their actions and attitudes. One of my younger friends Ryan first contacted a girl through a Christian internet dating site and she would later become his wife. However, before he made a commitment to her, he flew to California to meet her in person and spend time with her and then she flew east to meet his parents and friends. They were later married and now have two wonderful boys. He now knows his wife even better, because they have lived together for over 7 years. Going on dates with a person where each person is on their best behavior and appearance for a short time is not sufficient to know a person. It is best that they see each other during stressful situations in order to better understand their true nature, for marriage is a refining process in the life of each partner.

God spoke to his people throughout the Bible in various ways: through creation, commandments, dreams, miracles, messengers, prophecies, angels etc. and still does today at times. He speaks to us of course through the written Bible, however the most personal and powerful way He has spoken to us is through His eternal Son, Jesus Christ. - Hebrews 1:1-2. **Jesus said that if we had seen Him, we had seen the Father.** - John 14:9. The Bible accounts of Jesus' life reveal a superb character in all sorts of daily life experiences and even some very stressful and challenging ones. Jesus walked in the light with honesty, transparency and humility, which are important keys to any relationship, including with God. - 1 John 1:1-7, 2:8-11

Almost every religion and philosophy have principles to live by which can be helpful in this life, but mankind did not just need guidance to live on this earth. They needed a way to get back in relationship with God, for He is the one who created them and sought to be with them for all eternity. Sinful mankind could not dwell with a pure and holy God, for in **computer terminology, mankind's operating system was corrupted** with a **virus** when Adam sinned in the garden. It would take another man to eliminate the **sin virus** and **to reprogram and reboot the whole system back to righteousness** - Romans 5:17-19. Jesus became that man when he entered the earth via virgin birth, lived a sinless life and died as a perfect sacrificial lamb for the sins of all of mankind. In order to participate in Jesus' victorious resurrection life, one must **download His presence via the Holy Spirit.** The rest of a Christian's life, the Lord will continue to **delete** various things from their life and renew their mind based on His work on the Cross where He took out the **trash**. Sin was paid for and defeated, but we cannot live at the cross, for without the resurrection of Jesus and His ascension to the throne, we have no **power** or **authority**. We learn much about Jesus as we read the 4 gospel accounts. He displayed the nature of God, but He also showed us how to live as perfect humanity in the power of the Holy Spirit. The apostle John wrote '**and we beheld His glory**'. God wants us to also see Jesus as John saw Him as He is now, in all **His glory and majesty**. - Revelation 1:13-18. The apostle Paul knew this:

So from now on **we regard no one from a worldly point of view, though we once regarded Christ in this way**, we do so no longer. Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation, the old has gone, the new has come! - 2 Corinthians 5:16-17 NIV

God wants us to **live on the glory side of the cross** where we see Jesus as He is now! We should not ignore sin or the moral code that God has given us, but we should **fix our eyes on Jesus**, who is the author and perfecter of our faith and who we are in Him! We see this exemplified in the Christmas story, where Mary magnified the Lord and later the wise men came with gifts to worship the newborn king. We know so much more about Jesus than they did, so should be even more full of worship and generous in giving our life to Him. **Let us be more Son conscious rather than sin and self conscious.**

