

Reflection Wednesday Week 15 2022

Jesus identified himself so closely with the Father that he was inspired, motivated, encouraged and reassured by his presence. If we want to know God, as Jesus did, we need to know Jesus because God is like Jesus. John writes, *“No one has ever seen God. The only Son, who is the same as God and is at the Father's side, he has made him known.”* (John 1:18). If you want to know what God is like, simply look at Jesus, who is the revelation of God to us.

In the Upper Room, Philip asks Jesus, *“Lord, show us the Father and that will be enough for us”* (John 14:8). Jesus replied: *“Don't you know Me, Philip, even after I have been among you such a long time? Anyone who has seen Me has seen the Father”* (John 14:9). In other words, the Father is Christ-like. As Paul explains, *“The Son is the image of the invisible God”* (Colossians 1:15). God Himself is invisible, but the visible revelation and portrayal of God is seen in Christ. It is not that Christ is like God but that God is like Christ. So, in reality we come to know God by knowing Jesus, not the other way around. This is why we do not preach God but Christ. By introducing people to Christ, they are able to come to know the Father through him. Jesus says, *“I am the Way and the Truth and the Life. No one comes to the Father except through Me”* (John 14:6). We can know the Father by coming to know his Son, Jesus, because the God we know is a Christ-like God.

- Doctor, doctor, will I be able to play the violin after the operation?
Doctor: “Yes, of course.” “Great! I never could play the violin before!”
- Warning! Donuts will make your clothes shrink!