

One Friday night (in 2006) God began to expose how we sometimes see children. He began to not only expose my heart, but to expose His.

This was a season when I r-e-a-l-l-y struggled with why I felt God had entrusted me with the responsibility of raising three children alone, their Daddy was in heaven, and I didn't feel able to handle the weighty task for which I felt very ill-equipped.

This could certainly reflect how we deal with all of our Father's children... However, in this setting, it was very clear to me, that God was talking to me about how we have simply not treated properly the (physically young) children He has placed in our care, with the responsibility of raising them to serve and to bring glory to Him.

God was speaking to me personally; there is no doubt about that. But it was not limited to me only. He was also speaking about how we collectively treat children. There were no spectacular visions; but simply clarity of the voice of God admonishing.

As the soaking music began to play, it was just a background against which God began to speak into my spirit.....what took place lasted most of the soaking session, which was several hours.

February 04, 2006

I want you to think about it, to listen, to really listen; listen to how you talk to my children; listen to how you talk about them; observe how you treat them.

Do they feel special? Do they feel loved? Do they think you care? Do you (actually, genuinely, really care)?

Check out how you view my Precious Ones: (Shut up. Be quiet. Children should be seen and not heard. You make me angry. Please just leave me alone. Get out of my way. What is wrong with you? What do you know? Don't be so stupid! And the list goes on....)

When you look at a child, please remember, it is not where they are at, so much as just how special they are to Me, Who they are to Me. No matter what is going on in their life;

no matter what challenges you are faced with - they are Mine; they are special to Me. And for that reason alone (though there should be more), but for that reason alone, they should also be very special to you.

Be careful how you speak to them. Be careful how you speak about them. Check your feelings. Watch your attitude. They are so very, very special to Me. And if

you touch them wrongfully; if you hurt them, or neglect them, if you undermine them, if you don't appreciate them - you are doing the same to Me. You are breaking My heart. You are stirring up My anger - And I will deal with you.

Don't you understand that what you do to these, my children, dependent on and vulnerable to you - Don't you understand that what you do to them, how you treat them, your thoughts toward them - in the same manner you are treating Me?

Do you really want to see into your Father's eyes? Look deep into the eyes of a child. And you will find Me there.

Do you really want to touch your Father's face? Softly stroke the cheeks of a child's as they tenderly look up into your face. And you will find Me there.

Do you really want to feel the comfort of holding your Father's hand? Hold the hand of a little child and feel the wonder! You will find me there.

You are so busy, so intently, searching for me. I am embodied in the life of a child. Look. Look again. Look some more... See Me there. You have pushed aside the little one in which I dwell. Can't you see? You have pushed me aside. I am clothed in the child's skin, tucked into their heart. Bring them back into your fold and you will delight in the child, but you will also delight even more when you find Me in the child.

I can be found in the uncluttered life of a child. I can be found in their faith. I hold the little ones close to My bosom; sheltered in My arms. When you fail to nurture them; When you fail to take the time for them, you are coming to me with stains - stains that will only be washed away through repentance; washed away through seeking their forgiveness; washed away as you return to My ways.

As a mother comforts her child, SO I WILL COMFORT YOU!!! And how do you do that???? Examine yourself!! How you comfort that child matters to me; Likewise, in the same manner I will comfort you.

Can you make the decision now, to dedicate your life to them, in love, with a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience? Can you commit yourself to picking them up when they fall, encouraging them to run? Can you walk with them on the journey, teaching, helping, admonishing? Can you be united with those little ones in the strong bond of love?

Can you find the song in your heart as you, in fact, minister to me as you minister to them?

Can you find that place in your heart, without murmuring, without complaining, without feeling it is a waste of time, to have such love and concern for My

children that you would be willing to pour out your life, to live the laid-down life, as if it were a sacrifice to Me, in order to deepen their faith, and to make their lives what they should be in Me?

It might seem to you like I am asking a lot. But don't you yet see how important this mission is? This mission to raise up these young ones whom I have called? Whom, in fact, I have already equipped for the work of My Kingdom? Can you not yet see how important this calling is?

Children are so trusting, so confident in Me. If you would but FOLLOW their leading in this, you would find them LEADING you into My presence; leading you to a place where you will both learn how to be developed and drawn; a place where you will both grow; a place of peace and life like you have never known.

Look at Me through a child's eyes and you will see so much more. Look at a child through My eyes and you will still see so much more.

They have so much to offer. Don't push them aside. Don't treat them as 'just kids'. They belong to Me. They too have a mission. They too have a calling. They too have an anointing. Allow them the freedom to express what I want to express through them. Allow Me room to speak to you through them. Allow Me to minister to you through them. I hear their prayers and I answer them. I am moved by their faith in Me. You too can be moved by it.

They are a part of My body; they are not outside of it. They are called and equipped by me. How are you treating them?