

Title: “Into His Bosom”

Text: John 1:1-18

Proposition: After faith, the Lord matures us into the image of His Son and brings us into Himself by His Word developing in us.

Purpose: Bring us closer to the Father so we can be who He created us to be

Event: Pinecroft Baptist Church – Senior Pastor

Date: 12.24.2024

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

2 He was in the beginning with God.

3 All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made.

4 In Him was life, and the life was the light of men.

5 And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it.

6 There was a man sent from God, whose name was John.

7 This man came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all through him might believe.

8 He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light.

9 That was the true Light which gives light to every man coming into the world.

10 He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world did not know Him.

11 He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him.

12 But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name:

13 who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

14 And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

15 John bore witness of Him and cried out, saying, “This was He of whom I said, ‘He who comes after me is preferred before me, for He was before me.’”

16 And of His fullness we have all received, and grace for grace.

17 For the law was given through Moses, but grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

18 No one has seen God at any time. The only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared Him.

John 1:1-18 NKJV

I. Introduction – Into His Bosom, First By Faith

The Lord’s desire is for you to be like Jesus – in the bosom of the Father. In order to bring you to this closeness, the Lord gives you faith, as a child. You’re born with faith. You naturally have a wonder and a desire to see and find God, the unseeable Father that you yearn for, because your natural father isn’t good enough. He can’t satisfy your soul like the Father.

So, in order to become a child of God, He gives you a head start and the foundation for the relationship, when He gives you faith. However, faith is just the beginning. The Lord truly wants you to be “in Christ.” He wants you to be consumed by the Bridegroom. He wants you to yearn to be closer and closer. And He wants you to allow Him to come closer and closer.

Jesus made the first step by coming to us. But the way He developed gives us a roadmap for our relationship with the Father. Just as Jesus had a start on the earth, you have faith. And just as Jesus grew in view of His Father, you are called to grow. As Jesus grew, so must the Word of God grow inside of you. This is a mystery. Just as we can’t explain how Jesus was conceived in our natural mind, we can’t comprehend fully how we come to faith. It’s a work of the Holy Spirit in partnership with our invisible soul. Just like Jesus’ conception was a partnership between the Holy Spirit and Mary’s willingness to receive the Word of the Lord.

II. Receive the Word Of The Lord

Mary received the Word of the Lord from an angel. She heard God’s Word and she accepted it by faith. And the Bible says she said, “Let it be to me according to your word.” Her reception of the prophetic Word was the beginning. And then the Word began to grow inside of her. The Word she received was Jesus Himself. And it’s the same way with you. You must be willing to receive God’s Word to you day by day. And keep them in your heart. Allow the Word to grow in your life. That means you care for the Word. You foster a relationship with it.

I’m not just talking about Bible study. I’m talking about the prophetic Word of the Lord in your life. I’m talking about your ear to the Lord’s heart allowing Him to speak to you directly. What is the Word of the Lord you’re standing on and believing God for right now? If you live by the Word, you will grow just as the Lord grew on the earth.

Jesus' maturation is a prophetic sign of how the Lord wants to work in your life. He wants the Word to manifest in your life. He wants it to mature and develop until it becomes flesh or manifests the glory of God in your life. He wants the invisible Word inside of you to create a new you over time. You must live on the Word of the Lord spoken directly into your spirit.

“So He humbled you, allowed you to hunger, and fed you with manna which you did not know nor did your fathers know, that He might make you know that man shall not live by bread alone; but man lives by every word that proceeds from the mouth of the Lord.”

Deuteronomy 8:3 NKJV

God allows you to suffer hardships so that you will reach for Him. He wants to be allowed inside all of your life and all of your heart. The issues of life are connected to your heart. The Lord allows these issues so you will invite Him into your heart where he can heal you and teach you His ways and His grace that is sufficient. Through trials and hardships, He brings us to greater and greater surrender to His love and grace and presence. He truly wants to be the Lord and King of your life because that's where the love is.

III. Allow The Word To Conquer You

40 And the Child grew and became strong in spirit, filled with wisdom; and the grace of God was upon Him.
Luke 2:40 NKJV

⁵² And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men.
Luke 2:52 NKJV

God's desire is for you to become so in love with Him, that you become dependent on Him for everything. You're that close. And as that Word inside of you grows and develops and reveals His heart to you, you begin to change. You receive:

- Spiritual strength
- Spiritual wisdom
- Empowering grace
- Spiritual maturity
- Impact on people

We know Jesus had a phenomenal relationship with His Father. He showed at a tender age that He was in constant communication with the Father and only sought to please Him. In the scriptures we know it was the custom of Jesus to meet with His Father early in the morning and in the evening. And He would talk to Him throughout the day as He was constantly listening.

Jesus wants to do that in your life. As you receive the Word, let Jesus take a walk through your soul and take ownership there. Listen to how David describes it:

*139 O Lord, You have searched me and known me.
 2 You know my sitting down and my rising up;
 You understand my thought afar off.
 3 You comprehend my path and my lying down,
 And are acquainted with all my ways.
 4 For there is not a word on my tongue,
 But behold, O Lord, You know it altogether.
 5 You have hedged me behind and before,
 And laid Your hand upon me.
 6 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;
 It is high, I cannot attain it.
 7 Where can I go from Your Spirit?
 Or where can I flee from Your presence?
 8 If I ascend into heaven, You are there;
 If I make my bed in hell, behold, You are there.*
Psalm 139:1-8 NKJV

David was a man after God’s own heart, because He pursued God’s heart AND he surrendered to the Lord in his heart. He realized he couldn’t escape God anyway, so why not allow the Lord to take over and search him. That word for “search” in Hebrew also means “explore.” Jesus wants to be invited to explore your heart in order to be acquainted with you. He wants to be intimately

involved. It's not just about knowledge. When the Lord "knows" you, it means you're allowing Him to be your Bridegroom, your lover. The lover of your soul. The word "know" there is also the same term used when the Bible says, "Adam knew Eve." There is a personal and vulnerable intimacy the Lord desires with you, and as David writes, "such knowledge is too wonderful" for us to understand.

IV. Stay In His Bosom

The Bible says in our anchor passage that Jesus is in the "bosom of the Father." This is the ultimate relationship. Interconnectivity. Oneness. Unity. Conjoined. The two becoming one. This is where the Lord wants your life to be. You're so in love with Jesus, that you're inseparable and constantly in union together. There truly is no separation.

We sometimes hear about the "veil being torn" in the temple. This is the imagery in scripture that prophetically describes how there is no restriction now between you and the Father because of Jesus. You have the ultimate invitation into the SECRET PLACE. You are invited to live in the Holy of Holies. This is the "bosom of the Father."

The goal of the Lord has always been for you to be close to Him like a Bride to a Bridegroom. Just like a bride wears a veil until she is officially married, you are veiled to the Lord until you give your heart to Him. Once you come into the faith, the veil comes off, and you are invited into this lifelong development of oneness with Jesus. And the ultimate experience is the bedchamber or the place of intimacy. There's nothing hidden and you're not holding back. You're giving everything to Him. This is how life can be with Jesus as you allow Him into your heart and soul more and more and His love washes away all fear.

John put his head on the bosom of Jesus. This is an image of that kind of courageous love for the Lord. You don't care what others think. David has the same testimony. The Bible records that he built a tabernacle or a resting place for the Lord. He built the "tabernacle of David" in order to meet with the Lord. That's how devoted to God he was. And when they were bringing the Ark of the Covenant into Jerusalem, David danced so hard that his wife was offended. Your devotion and reckless love toward Jesus is going to offend some people, even some closest to you. But you must not let that dissuade you. What Jesus is doing in your life is going to make a transformation happen that some people will not recognize. You will not be the same, because you're not meant to be.

You are meant to be His – 100% with no competition.

V. Conclusion – Life Is Only Found In His Bosom

The bosom of the Father is the only safe place for you. It is the Ark. It is the secret place. Just like Noah and his family found safety in the Ark, you are invited to take your life and come into the bosom of the Father.

14 "Make yourself an ark of gopherwood; make rooms in the ark, and cover it inside and outside with pitch.

15 And this is how you shall make it: The length of the ark shall be three hundred cubits, its width fifty cubits, and its height thirty cubits.

16 You shall make a window for the ark, and you shall finish it to a cubit from above; and set the door of the ark in its side. You shall make it with lower, second, and third decks.

17 And behold, I Myself am bringing floodwaters on the earth, to destroy from under heaven all flesh in which is the breath of life; everything that is on the earth shall die.

18 But I will establish My covenant with you; and you shall go into the ark—you, your sons, your wife, and your sons' wives with you."

Genesis 6:14-18 NKJV

Enter into the Holy of Holies daily and throughout the day. Go into His heart and hear His Word. Let that Word work inside of you and bring you into His bosom. Let the Word become flesh and manifest God's love in your life.