

How many people do we encounter every day who are living in the Spirit of Jesus Christ and calling us – challenging us – to do a little better, to make the right choices – choices that will impact your life, the life of your family and community, and maybe even life on this planet of ours.

Most of us encounter such people more often than we know, or have access to them, could surround ourselves with such spiritually inspiring people, at least in one or two of the circles we travel in. The choice is clear and the way forward is plain to see when we align ourselves to God's will and follow the Lord. Not that that's easy. It isn't. It takes faith.

You know, right now, what it is that would make a positive difference in your life, don't you? Where you are being called to make a meaningful contribution to society, how the troubling attitudes that you harbor nag at your conscience. The way forward from all of this is not a mystery! Or at least it's not unknown. Or at least it need not be unknown. The way forward from all of this is through Jesus Christ. By studying and applying what he taught, by giving as he gave, by loving as he loved, we can all make an incredibly positive difference in this world – any of us and each of us.

Jesus, fully God, fully human, is our pathway to a better life, our pathway to God, just as he was the pathway to God for the earliest disciples. As he told Nathanael, "You will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man," connecting heaven and earth through the Son of Man, through Jesus the Christ.

Today, Jesus still lives among us, calling us to stay true to his teachings, to put his values into practice in our families and communities, to shape our world around God's vision of reconciliation, compassion, and self-sacrifice for the greater good.

Search your heart this week for how the Lord is calling you to help bring God's vision into reality. Maybe it's as simple as treating someone as you would like to be treated. Perhaps it's a bit more involved – like channeling your time and energy in a new direction.

Next week, we will look at how Jesus calls us to step out in a new direction, and what it takes for us to follow. For now, let us all consider who or what is calling to us amid a world of doubt and deceit, a world of me-first and go-it-alone. What call do you hear the loudest – a call that comes from our earthly limitations and all the misguided ways we try to overcome them, or the call of the Lord, which takes our limitations and turns them to God's purpose and God's glory.

Next week we will look at how God does that – how God turns our limitations to his glory. Amen.