

The Mindset of Jesus:

Praying with “the Mind of Christ”

I Corinthians 2:16

Jesus knew that the “kingdom of heaven is at hand.” Matthew 4:17

"The kingdom of God is within you." Luke 17:21

"I can of mine own self do nothing." John 5:30

Jesus submitted to God's will. "I seek not mine own will, but the will of the Father which hath sent me." John 5:30

"Not my will, but thine, be done." Luke 22:42

Jesus always looked for receptive hearts to share his message with, whether they were Pharisees, social and religious outcasts, or even foreigners, whom Jews were not even supposed to talk to. John 3:1-12; John 4:5-42; Matthew 8:5-13

He "loved righteousness, and hated iniquity." Hebrews 1:9

He rebuked evil and especially hypocrisy. Matthew 23:13

He was merciful to sinners. John 8:1-11

He didn't take the bait of critics and naysayers. Luke 6:1-5

He was silent in the face of evil's attempts to destroy him. He didn't react or try to defend himself. Matthew 27:12

He knew God always heard his prayers. John 11: 41, 42

He knew his relationship to the Father. John 10:30

He was "moved with compassion" when he saw the multitudes as sheep without a shepherd. Mark 6:34

He acted with divine authority and power instead of his own personal abilities. “For I have not spoken of myself.” John 12:49

He only said what God told him to: "the Father which sent me, he gave me a commandment, what I should say, and what I should speak." John 12:49

He did not leave his followers without help when he was no longer with them. "But the Comforter, *which is* the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you." John 14:26

He practiced what he preached. Luke 23:34

He got up early to pray, and sometimes prayed all night. Mark 1:35; Luke 6:12

He looked beyond the outward appearance of things all the way back to the original innocence and purity of man. He was not intimidated when someone was diseased, sinning, or even dead. John 9:3; John 11

He saw the big picture and looked way down the future. He prayed not just for his immediate disciples but for all who would ever believe on him through their preaching. John 17:20

He rarely answered a direct question. He listened for the question behind the question. Matthew 22:15-21

He spoke in parables and metaphors so people could begin to understand what he was really trying to say to them. Matthew 13:3-9

He walked the extra mile with his listeners and disciples and was patient with them. Matthew, Chapters 5-7

It's not that he dumbed-down his message, but he broke the Bread of Truth into bite sized pieces so people could accept it, chew on, and digest it.

He knew the Scriptures, preached, and taught them.

AND he loved little children, "for of such is the kingdom of heaven." Matthew 9:14

Take the ideas here and use them as you pray and interact with others. You have the mind of Christ. Use it.

*Blessings,
James Early
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