

is always; 'I'm keen to get to know you'. It's his passion. There's nothing he wants more.

Why do it with friends? Because if you're like me, you'll only see a small part of the picture; others' help me see more and more of Jesus, plus unlike Jesus I can get distracted and give up a bit to easily at times.

If you want to include me, I'd love to be involved with you in discovering the living breathing wonderful person we know as Jesus.

A second option, would be to be involved in the '40 Days of Love' series which looks at; The Relationship Principles of Jesus. You could do this as a couple, or, join or form a group. Discovering Jesus through his relationship principles is something I'm looking forward to next year.

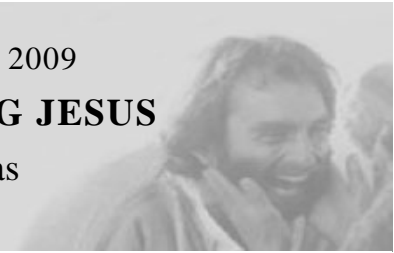
A third and final option would be to let Dominic Steele lead you through; 'Introducing God'. You could do this at home with a friend or two, watching the DVD and then discussing what Jesus has revealed. The resource is available at the office, or call me and I'll come around and have a chat and a coffee.

I think I've introduced Jesus a little. He's certainly keen to build on this relationship and for you to get to know each other better. The balls in your court; Jesus is keen.

24 December 2009

## INTRODUCING JESUS

### Christmas



Today I'd like to introduce you to my friend, Jesus, seeing it's his birthday we're celebrating. How can I describe him to you, like all people he's got a variety of attributes.

The first thing that strikes me about my brother Jesus is his passion for life. If you asked me I'd say he's got a big heart. He loves life, he loves people, he's passionate about everything he does.

Would you say intense? No, Jesus is one well balanced individual. But he certainly isn't half-hearted about what he does; especially when it comes to the people he loves. Jesus holds nothing back. He always makes me feel special. After spending time with him I end up feeling good about

myself, really optimistic about life, and glad he wants to hang-out with his little brother.

Jesus certainly is bit of a risk taker. He's done some wild things in his life, going where angels fear to tread. He certainly isn't afraid to risk acting on what he believes in; come hell or high water.

Which reminds me; Jesus is one courageous person. He's put his life on the line and fought for me, gone into battle for you. What amazing courage he has, but he never uses his amazing strength to intimidate, and bully. He'd rather us his strength so that I benefit, so that we're served with what we need. Jesus' courage and strength always leave me feeling secure,

knowing with him I'm always safe.

One of the great things about Jesus is he never quits on you. No matter how hard, or how stupid I get, Jesus never quits on me. I can risk my life on that fact. Jesus just doesn't know how to quit. He is loyalty personified.

People labelled him, insulted him, ridiculed him for wanting to associate with me, and with you, but he'd rather be vilified than quit and deny me or you. I believe that is one of his greatest character traits. I think loyalty is one of those essentials for any healthy friendship. And it certainly is a core character trait of Jesus.

Jesus' loyalty is never in question. Actually that's one of his pet

## Christ Church Lutheran

Worship Times - 9.00am & 10.45am

Pastor: Tim 0427326553

Edmund 0429041957



Reaching Out with the Love of Jesus that All my Know, Worship & Grow in Christ

hates; disloyalty. If you want to tick him off, just be disloyal and start flirting with others, siding with them, looking to get a better deal from them. Come to think of it I don't know if it ticks Jesus off as much as it hurts him. Maybe he shouldn't love so passionately, then rejection wouldn't hurt so much. But then that would be selling out, and Jesus just doesn't know how to quit on those he is loyal to, on those he loves. As I said at the start, Jesus' loves wholeheartedly. That's simply who he is.

He's also clever, but never humiliates you when you make a mistake. I don't think Jesus has ever said to me; 'I told you so'. Cause I've often thought others knew a bit more than Jesus, so I acted on their advice, I did what they were doing. It often looked like real fun, or at least

the least painful alternative, but without exception Jesus was always right.

But he never rubbed my nose in it. He graciously would bend down and pick me up, give me a hug, remind me of his love for his little brother and then together we'd try again.

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### Jesus is passionate about getting to know you.

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Did I mention that Jesus is totally loyal and never knows when to quit on a person.

That's one thing I like about Jesus is that he's not just very intellectual, he knows how to put things into down-to-earth action. He's definitely not an intellectual snob.

To mention it there is no puffed-up, self-righteous pride in Jesus at all. You won't find any arrogance in the

way he treats other people, or in the way he carries himself.

That can't be easy when you're the only one right All the Time!!!

Jesus is just so secure in his own identity he doesn't have to use you to feel good about

himself, rather he always leaves me feeling good about myself; even though I'm not right half the time.

Actually half the time would be nice.

It's great to sit down and reflect on life with Jesus, enjoying the football together, discussing the highs and lows of life. I know that's one of the things he really enjoys. Jesus certainly is a person's person. He could spend his whole day just hang'n-out with people. He just loves being with people. I think he thrives on being with people, sharing his life with them.

I do to, but sometimes I get too busy and so I don't spend as much time with him or others as I could. Interestingly Jesus is never too busy to have a coffee and a chat. Actually I think he prefers a nice cool glass of water, then again you might have to check with him on that. Maybe his favourite drink is a good red. I'm sure he'd like to share one with you over a long enjoyable meal; with plenty of laughter and conversation.

I love the way Jesus doesn't just give me the answer but helps me think and grow through a situation. I love the way he tells stories to get me thinking and doesn't treat me like some dumpy he's just telling what to do. But he involves himself, and gets along side of me and quite often I'm sure that involves a lot of patience. Sometimes I can be a slow learner,

or just plain stubborn, thinking I know The way. Jesus certainly is one gentle giant with enough patience to fill the universe.

I certainly am glad Jesus chose me as his brother, I love sharing life together, knowing I'm special to him and our Dad, loved equally

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### Jesus wants to spend this year with you.

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by them. God only knows why, and with such passion and devotion.

One last thing about Jesus; this coming year he wants to get to know you and build a stronger, deeper, more intimate relationship with you. I reckon he wants to invest himself 100% in getting close to you this year, so if you're interested here's a couple of ways to take up his offer, cause the last thing Jesus

wants is for your life to be boring; he loves to live life full-on.

So if you're interested in getting to know Jesus' better here's a couple of offers. Obviously this isn't exhaustive.

Offer one pick up the bible, not as a book, but as a letter of introduction to Jesus, and with at least two friends read through the Gospels; that's the first four parts of the New Testament which tell of Jesus' life on earth. Weekly read and discuss what you discover about Jesus. But always begin by inviting Jesus to make himself known to you, so you'll have the right attitude – this is not an intellectual exercise, you'll just end up bored, this is about build a relationship with a living breathing person, whose birthday we're celebrating. Also when you ask you know that Jesus answer