LEARNING JESUS: Part 6

Jesus comes to us from the inside. He reaches us from within our experience, whatever it is. And the dispositions which open us to him belong to the poor, the immature, and the burdened. For they make no claims and have few defences.

It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me.
Galatians 2: 20

Jesus invites me to live with my ego differently. It is about shifting my centre of gravity from self to God. Rather than making something of myself - often in a spirit of deep anxiety - I notice and let go of all my attempts to hide my need, my limitations, my vulnerability and Jet Jesus inform and shape my everyday. I let Jesus be my way of being in the world. I let Jesus touch the places of fear, bitterness or resentment in me, finding room for his gentleness and mercy.

Let the one who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her.
John 8:7

The heart is the wellspring for all our actions, good or bad. So the more light we let in to our hearts the more we are free from prejudice and self interest. Seeing ourselves clearly means being free or distanced from our often hidden drives and passions, our addiction to privilege, control or achievement. It then means seeing more clearly the "other" without blame, resentment or judgement.

Put your sword back in its place, for all who take the sword will die by the sword.
Matthew 26:52

Particular instance; universal principle. But it's a principle and rule in which Christian history has searched for exceptions. But the principle is grounded in the nature of God, who never seeks to impose his will by force but rather always seeks the response of faith. "Justice can wait, mercy cannot wait!" (Mother Teresa of Calcutta)

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