

How's That Workin' For Ya?

Anyone who has seen the show "Dr. Phil" can identify with that question. It's Dr. Phil's way of getting people to think differently about their current strategy in obtaining certain results. It's usually uttered by him in the middle of a great relational crisis (the worst kind of crisis!). Interestingly, I've noticed that Dr. Phil's "cure" for most problems is to advise the people in crisis to think and do exactly opposite of their current approach. Very interesting....

I believe this same dynamic is going on in Matt 5:1-12. By educating humanity as to how Adopted Life into the Trinity REALLY works, in his own way, Jesus is asking all of us, "How's that workin' for ya?" For instance, doesn't it seem more natural that kingdoms are inherited by war and force, rather than by "poor"-ness? And doesn't it seem more accurate to say that the dominating will inherit the earth rather than the meek? And yet, even though those ways at first SEEM right, what have they produced? War, force and domination haven't given us what we really want, and our ways of thinking and doing are not working for us! Jesus (preceding Dr. Phil in all kinds of ways), encourages us to think and do just the opposite of what seems right in order to experience what we are really after.

More pointedly, and fortunately for us, Jesus is telling us the way things REALLY ARE with us in his union with his Father, the Spirit, all of humanity and all of creation right now, which is the opposite of what most of us think! In your crises (and BEFORE your crisis), ask Jesus to help you see him for who he really is in his relationship to and with all things! For to see him for Who he really is means to see that IN HIM you've already got what you really want, including the way to participate with him and others so that you can actually BE who you are in him and be "Blessed" and "exceeding glad" (v.11-12!) both now and forever!

~ Tim Brassell