

When Philip says to Jesus, ***“Lord, let us see the Father and then we shall be satisfied,”*** Jesus replies, ***“Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know Me? To have seen Me is to have seen the Father; so how can you say, “Let us see the Father?” Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in Me.”***

This dramatic conversation between Philip and Jesus gets to the heart of the Gospel namely that God became incarnate in the person of Jesus Christ; that the mystery of the Godhead becomes visible in the person of Jesus Christ.

Everything we witness of Jesus’ life; His Words, His Teaching, His Silences, His Miracles, His Passion and Death, reveal to us the very nature of God. As Saint John says in the prologue of his Gospel: “No one has ever seen God; the only Son, who is in the bosom of the Father; He has made Him known.” (John 1:18)

In our human relationships we talk about the similarities that family members share with one another. One of my brothers, Peter, is so like my Father in his looks and his manners that when I see him I think that I am looking at my Dad. Sometimes we will say things like “Isn’t she just like her Mother”, or “Isn’t he just like his Father”. In saying this we see the likeness, the image of another, reflected in the person in front of us. In a more profound way Jesus is inviting us to see what the heart of God is like. The more we come to know and love Jesus, the more we see and understand what God is like.

Saint Paul in his letter to the Colossians writes of Jesus, “He is the image of the invisible God, the first-born of all creation....For in Him all the fulness of God was pleased to dwell, and through Him to reconcile to Himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by His blood on the cross.” (colossians1:19-20)

What difference should this make to us in our daily lives? It should help us to live with unbounded confidence in God the Father's care for us. Amid sadness and suffering He will always be a Father to us.

“But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a consecrated nation, a people set apart to sing the praises of God who called you out of darkness into His wonderful light.”