

So Jesus explained, "I tell you the truth, the Son can do nothing by himself. He does only what he sees the Father doing. Whatever the Father does, the Son also does.

John 5:19

I don't speak on my own authority. The Father who sent me has commanded me what to say and how to say it.

John 12:49

Is that what the Father is saying? Is This what the Father Is Doing?

I have always found it interesting that Jesus was only capable of saying what the Father commanded him to say and only capable of doing what he saw the Father doing. Everything he said was straight from the heart of the Father. Everything he did was in line with the heart of the Father.

As I pursue the heart of the Father for my family, my neighbors, my co-workers, my city, and on I become keenly aware of when what I'm saying isn't what the Father is saying or what I'm doing is not what the Father is doing. When I respond to my wife and/or kids I find myself asking, "Is that how Jesus would have responded?" When I disagree with someone on social media I have to ask, "Is what I'm about to post what I hear the Father saying?"

In this day and age, it is so easy to express our opinion, to disagree, and assume that if we don't agree then we must divide. Division absolutely is the enemy of our soul's desire for the Body of Christ. If the enemy can cause division in the body of Christ then we will never be able to be the light, the city that we have been called to be (Matthew 5:14-16). We will never "draw all men" to Jesus we actually will push them away from him.

What if we ONLY said what we heard the Father saying? I think this is possible but I do believe that it requires humility and an awareness of the Fruit of the Spirit growing in our lives. Think about it, if, as believers, the Spirit of God is in us (I Corinthians 3:16) then we have the Fruit of the Spirit in us. We have love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control in us. I have found myself considering if what I am about to say or what I have said aligns with the Fruit of the Spirit. Does my comment sound like love? Does my action look like kindness? Am I bringing joy to my business interactions? Am I exhibiting patience as I drive to church? Am I gentle in my response to those who I perceive as being disrespectful to me? These responses are all exactly what the Father is saying and/or doing.

As we desire to become more like Jesus in our interactions it is important for us to remember that in every action we take we are representing our Father. In every word that we speak, we are representing our Father. I am finding that if I truly want to appropriately represent Jesus in bringing the Kingdom of Heaven to Earth it starts with asking the question: Is that what the Father is saying? Is this what the Father is doing?