

## Children of the Rift

One day, a very young child asked me “Why can’t we see God? Is it because He’s so ugly?” Hmmm. They do give you pause, don’t they?

I tried to explain it in the best way I knew how...in this case, by comparing God to the sun. I told the child that God was so bright and so beautiful that it might hurt us to look at Him directly...just as it would hurt our eyes to look directly at the sun. (The rest of the discussion was totally lost on the child as she quickly headed toward the window to test out this statement and I, just as quickly, headed her in another direction.)

It was a good question, though. One that deserved a better answer than I could give.

“So, Abba, why CAN’T I see you?!” And this is the answer I got from the best Teacher I know:

*“Remember the story of the Garden of Eden? When the serpent asked Adam and Eve if they wanted the knowledge of good from evil, the serpent was asking them if they wanted to see a particular boundary...or, more explicitly, a separation of two disparate things. It was not the same as separating Night and Day...darkness and*

*light...because both of these are infinite. But, by wanting the knowledge of good and evil, whether or not mankind knew it, they wanted to be aware of a 'rift.' You see, good is infinite, but evil is not.*

*Before Adam and Eve ate of the fruit, they could see themselves and others as they really were...infinite. Little children still see things this way. They don't judge right from wrong. They simply observe. They SEE. That's why they're able to 'take in' so much at such an early age. Adam and Eve were little children, too. And until they ate of the fruit that they were told not to eat, they hadn't judged anyone or anything. They saw. And one of the things that they could easily see was God. Infinity can see infinity. But, by becoming creatures of a boundary, they had hidden their infinite selves inside this boundary. In fact, they had tried to hide themselves from God. But God found them, anyway.*

*When you look at people, what do you see? Their souls? Or the color of their hair? Their skin? Or, perhaps, even the clothes that they wear?*

When Adam and Eve wanted to know boundaries, they got what they asked for. They saw...the skin that surrounded each of them. They no longer saw what was *INSIDE* that skin (that is, their infinite souls). What had once been visible was now seen to be covered...and they proceeded to try and cover the 'cover.' But they saw incorrectly. They had put their 'skins' on, as it were...the separations...and they quickly tried to cover up what they had done.

That was why, after the resurrection [of the Christ], no one seemed to recognize Jesus. For the whole time that He was here, in the flesh, the Disciples had learned to recognize what Jesus looked like...on the outside. But, it's what's inside that counts!

In the beginning was the Word...(something that comes from the inside of a being)...and the Word was made flesh (that is, it was given form). But, after the resurrection, Jesus came back without any of the limitations (any of the boundaries) that mankind imposes; and, sure enough, the Disciples didn't recognize Him. By this time, they had learned to recognize the flesh, but not the essence; they had learned

*the form, but not the Word, that which was on the inside and that truly described Him.”*

Some more food for thought and another pearl for me to remember.