

WHAT WAS JESUS REALLY LIKE?

John 1:29-36

Introduction: Each person has ideas of what Jesus must have been like when He was a baby, a child, a teenager, a young man and then his young adulthood. Did He have many friends to play with? Was He always good? Did He ever have a girl friend as a teenager? How good was He at being a carpenter? Was Jesus so different from anybody else?

I. WHAT WAS JESUS LIKE PHYSICALLY?

1. It has been said that:
 - He was young, athletic, beardless.
 - He was tall, well built, long hair parted in the middle, graceful curls, no spot or wrinkle on his face, beard matched his hair with bright eyes.
 - He was disfigured, ugly and even had leprosy.
 - He was tall, handsome, slender.
2. The Bible does not reveal very much about Jesus' actual looks. People have more or less described Him as they thought He must have looked. It just isn't known how He looked.

II. WHAT WAS JESUS' PERSONALITY LIKE?

1. The Bible does reveal that:
 - He liked weddings and all that went on there.
 - He nicknamed His followers, thus indicating a sense of humor.
 - He drew people like a magnet with some sitting for three days and nights without food, listening to him teach.
 - He was very sympathetic toward the poor and sick.
 - He became excited whenever His disciples showed signs of progress.
 - He had little, if no patience with religious "know-it-all" institutions.
 - He had infinite patience with just about all people, especially His disciples.
 - He did not hide his concerns or fears and often asked His disciples for help.
 - He loved to praise others (brag on them), give them credit ("*...it was your faith that healed you...:*" "*...the widow's mite..*" "*...the centurion's faith...*"
 - He quickly got to the point.
 - He was immediately accepted by those He met.
 - He was sensitive to women and children, who were usually looked down on by men.
 - He allowed Himself to be distracted by ANYBODY who came along.
 - He got angry at times with those in the Temple and with Peter.
 - He never had a "gotta do today" list.
 - He always kept Himself free for others.
 - He went to anybody's house for dinner who asked Him.
 - He had a diverse list of friends: wealthy religious leaders, Roman soldiers, tax collectors, prostitutes, leprosy victims, and so on.
 - He loved being with people.
 - He seemed to be at home just about anywhere He was.

III. WHAT DIFFERENT THINGS COULD JESUS DO?

1. He yelled at a storm at sea to stop - and it did.
2. He healed the lame, blind, sick and even cast out demons.
3. His healings fit no pattern as some were immediate, some delayed, some from a long distance, some required following His instructions.
4. Jesus healed spontaneously to the need.
5. Jesus never turned down a direct request for help.

IV. WHAT WAS JESUS' LIFESTYLE LIKE?

1. He had no permanent base of operations (no office).
2. He said that He didn't even have a home or any property.
3. He scraped up money to pay taxes, even had to borrow a coin to make a point.
4. He ate from the fields as He walked through them.
5. He received financial support from some people He had healed and other followers.
6. He was a Master teacher who asked questions and used stories that had heavenly meanings.
7. He enjoyed life wherever He happened to be.
8. He never backed down from an argument or conflict.

V. WHAT WERE JESUS' DISCIPLES LIKE?

1. They were a strange mixture of men: none were wealthy or educated or with leadership skills, just simple, ordinary working men.
2. They were not fast learners and often got into arguments among themselves.
3. They were chosen by Jesus to be His friends, not His servants.
4. They became Jesus' family and gave up everything for Him as He in turn gave up everything for them.

CONCLUSION:

1. Jesus surrounded Himself with ordinary people who usually misunderstood Him, failed Him most of the time and often acted like little children.
2. From such a rag-tag bunch Jesus founded His church that is still going today.
3. Perhaps, just perhaps, Jesus prefers working with unpromising recruits, those who don't already have all the answers?
4. Could it be that Jesus is looking for more people just like those disciples? People who need Him? People who are like little children? People who are slow to believe but are sincere afterwards?
5. Are there anymore like His disciples around today?