

“IT’S A NIGHTMARE OUT THERE”

April 1, 2009

J. Kevin Butcher

1. *It’s a nightmare out there.*
John 10:10 Ephesians 6:12
2. *The radical, willing-to-die, one life at a time love of Jesus is the only answer.*
John 13:34-35 Matthew 8:1-3:10
3. *Two big reasons why we struggle to live this out:*
 - a. *We don’t understand how much the Father loves us as beloved sons. Mark 1:9-11*
 - b. *So we stay too attached to this life to be willing to give our lives away. Hebrews 11:13-16*

QUOTE:

- “It must have been wonderful to spend time with Christ, with Somebody who liked you, loved you, believed in you, and sought a closeness foreign to skin-bound man. A person would feel significant in His presence. After all, those who knew Christ personally went on to accomplish amazing feats, proving unwavering devotion. It must have been thrilling to look into the eyes of God and have Him look back and communicate that human beings, down to the individual, are of immense worth and beauty and worthy of intimacy with each other and the Godhead. Such an understanding fueled a lifetime of joy and emotional health among the disciples that neither crowds of people jeering insults, nor prison, nor torture, nor exclusion could undo.
- They were faithful to the end, even to their own deaths. People don’t go out and get tortured and arrested for somebody who doesn’t love them. If somebody loves us, we will do all kinds of things in their name, for them, because of them. [Their love] will make us who we are.”

-- Donald Miller

DISCUSSION

Discussion:

- Do you see...and feel...the pain of the human beings around you? if not...why not?
- Do you see any hope for healing the pain? Where does the radical love of Jesus fit in for you? Do you really think it is possible to bring the Kingdom of God to earth...one life at a time?
- What are you afraid of losing that makes the thought of “sacrifice and death” for others so hard? How would your life toward others change...if you knew you were the Father’s deeply beloved son?
- What action steps will you take to grow your courage and strength – so you can help “deliver those who are drawn toward death?”

NOTE

Check out KokomoHUDDLE.org for previous messages and outlines.