



W.I.T.W.J.
What If They Were Jesus?

By Bonnie Terk

W.W.J.D. the acronym for, “What Would Jesus Do,” is a reminder to all of us to reach for the goal of perfection. I am human, therefore, I realize I will never attain that goal, but I also realize, striving for the goal will increase my chances of receiving God’s favor. The majority of the time, I thought I did a fairly decent job of applying the W.W.J.D concept to my thoughts and actions. At least that’s what I thought until just recently.

A statement I read by Bob Buess, in his book titled, Favor: The road to success rocked my thought process. The statement, “Treat others as though they were Jesus Christ”, caused me to re-evaluate how I viewed others. I read it several times and thought hard about whether or not I was applying this principle in my life. In this reverse view of W.W.J.D, I scrutinized every one of my relationships replacing each persons face with the face of Jesus and applied the acronym W.I.T.W.J. (What If They Were Jesus).

If my teenage daughter with the bedroom carpeted in dirty clothes were Jesus, how would I treat her differently? Would I use a different tone of voice? Would I be more patient? More loving? More understanding? Of course, if she were Jesus, she would be perfect and wouldn’t have a dirty room!

If my husband was Jesus, what would I do differently than I’ve been doing? Am I loving, honoring and cherishing him to the best of my ability? Am I serving him in the same manner I would serve Jesus Christ?

In Matthew 25:31-46, Jesus is clear about how we are to treat others. In verse 40 (NIV), he specifically says, “I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me”.

My relationships with each of my children, my co-workers, neighbors, friends and strangers all underwent interrogation. This self-examination was a humbling experience as I analyzed, scrutinized and questioned my thoughts, actions and heart. Through my interrogation process, I came to the following two conclusions; When we go to heaven we won’t take dirty bedrooms, wrinkled clothes, un-mowed grass, kitchen trash, dirty cars or undone chores, only our relationships. Secondly, God and I still have a lot of work to do in me!