

What's Really Different about Christianity?

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It's easy to think of God in terms of religion. Whereas in reality, a relationship based on religion is the very last thing He wants.

For those of you who have been fortunate enough in the past, to have done a Myres-Briggs Personality Inventory, you will remember that we all have two ways of taking in information.

Some of us prefer to rely on our senses. Whatever we can hear, smell, touch, taste or see, is fact and truth. The rest choose to rely on their intellect, considering theories, patterns and ideas as being more reliable than what we sense.

Of course, many of us fall somewhere in between the two, using either method as it suits us.

You will also remember that neither method is right or wrong. Neither is better or worse. They are just opposite. Furthermore, the world needs both. We would be in deep trouble if we all had the same preference.

Do you believe?

Curiosity is aroused, however, when I read how often Jesus asked people, "do you believe"? without stating what He was asking them to believe. Over the years, I have always assumed that He was referring to what He was about to do... heal someone, open the eyes of a blind person or make

a lame person walk.

However, His questions, as usual, were always much deeper than the obvious. He was really asking people if they believed in something far greater than what He was about to do – did they believe in The Kingdom?

And what is The Kingdom?

It's the Kingdom of the invisible, the unseen, the untouchable. He even told them straight out, "The Kingdom is not ushered in in a visible way. You won't hear it, you can't see it or touch it.

But it is also the Kingdom of infinity – infinite power, infinite love, infinite grace and infinite possibilities. It's really the world of the unimaginable made real.

It's not surprising that those who preferred to rely on their senses, struggled to believe in what they couldn't see. But don't be too quick to judge.

While those who prefer intuition and imagination find it easier to believe in the unseen world of the Kingdom, they also had a problem.

For the Kingdom of the invisible is actually embodied in a person – the God man Jesus Himself!

And when He was on earth, He was daily standing right in front of them, and people of both types, all failed to see Him for who He really is.

Nothing much has changed. Two thousand years later, we still have the same personality types. It's still a challenge for all of us. That's why, regardless of our type, Christianity is based on faith.

The good news is that God relates to us as we really are, not who we think we are.

Regardless of our different personality types, intimate and meaningful relationship with God is not only possible, but highly desirable, for both of us.

Aren't you glad about that...