Let Jesus Come In — 2

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Be imitators of God, therefore, as dearly beloved children and live a life of love, just as Christ loved us and gave Himself up for us (Ephesians 5:1, 2 NIV).

“There have been dry theories presented and precious souls are starving for the bread of life. This is not the preaching that is required or that the God of heaven will accept, for it is Christless. The divine picture of Christ must be kept before the people. . . .

“He is to be lifted up before men. When this is kept before the people, creature merit sinks into insignificance. The more the eye looks upon Him, the more abhorrent will sin appear. By beholding, man can but admire and become more attracted to Him, more charmed, and more desirous to be like Jesus until he assimilates to His image and has the mind of Christ. Like Enoch He walks with God. His mind is full of thoughts of Jesus. He is His best Friend.

“Study Christ. Study His character, feature by feature. He is our Pattern that we are required to copy in our lives and our characters, else we fail to represent Jesus, but present to the world a spurious copy. Do not imitate any man, for men are defective in habits, in speech, in manners, in character.

“I present before you the Man Christ Jesus. You must individually know Him as your Saviour before you can study Him as your pattern and your example. . . .

“All who claim to be followers of Christ are under obligation to walk in His footsteps, to be imbued with His Spirit, and thus to present to the world Jesus Christ, who came to our world to represent the Father. . . .

“Holding up Christ as our only source of strength, presenting His matchless love in having the guilt of the sins of men charged to His account and His own righteousness imputed to man, in no case does away with the law or detracts from its dignity. Rather, it places it where the correct light shines upon and glorifies it.

“...The law is complete and full in the great plan of salvation, only as it is presented in the light shining from the crucified and risen Saviour” (MS 24, 1888).

To hear Ellen White talk, you’d think we couldn’t get enough of Jesus. That’s true. He is the one thing in the world that you can be intemperate in desiring.

George R. Knight is a retired professor of Church History at the Adventist Theological Seminary at Andrews University. This article is from his book, Lest We Forget, a daily devotional, published by the Review and Herald Publishing Association, page 275, printed by permission.