

What Does Your Mirror Reveal?

What we exude to the world has everything to do with what's going on within us. If you have joy, love, peace, and happiness on the inside, God has designed everything within the universe to respond to and reciprocate what you give it. You can never hide your true self because in relationships we attract the true reflection of who we are – inside and out. Take a look at the person that's in your life, what do you see?

Of course, if that person has some characteristics that we don't like, then we are more apt to deny that these qualities have anything to do with us, but in fact they do. The person we attract is a mirror for both our strengths and our weaknesses. They will mirror back to you exactly what you need to see about yourself.

Yes, relationships can shine a light on the things you need to change and address. Some of us are just plain too arrogant to accept that. We would rather think that the other person doesn't know how to adequately love us, or that they are not worthy of us. We would prefer to accept blame than to accept that we may not have demonstrated the love of Christ in a way that helps the situation rather than hurt it.

People come into our lives for a reason, and whatever the reason is, it presents both a challenge and an opportunity for us to leave footprints of Godliness in their hearts and minds.

We have to remember that God didn't give us just enough love to get by. We have the bountiful reality of His only begotten son abiding on the inside of us. We have an infinite reservoir of love from which to draw. We can never say that God's gift wasn't enough to pull us through. Whether or not we get through any relationship successfully is directly tied to the love of Christ we are willing to demonstrate.

If you are blessed to be in a healthy, secure and mature kind of love, then hats off to you because these are signs that real work is in progress. But always remember, whether you're in a healthy relationship or just coming out of a bad one, you have to be willing to look in the mirror honestly, without arrogance, prejudice, or shame; and be honest about your failure to live up to the standard of Christ. And yes, sometimes we have to seek the forgiveness of the other person involved before we can forgive ourselves, and we most definitely have to seek the Father's forgiveness.

Make sure the love you give reflects a God-kind of love, and when your internal radar is out of whack, be man or woman enough to admit it and address it. We're not perfect, and I'm not suggesting that we have to be in order to attract a quality person, but we

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certainly can't allow arrogance to rule our hearts. If you want optimum results, it will require you to pay attention to details like this.

The person who takes an interest in you may not possess all the characteristics you would like, but always be willing to seek the Lord about that. Also, think about who the person can become through the transformative power of God's love.

Most of us tend to reject change especially if it requires the discomfort of confronting our baggage, but you can't conquer what you refuse to confront. In order to reflect the image we desire we must be prepared and ready to make the necessary adjustments within. If you find it hard to swallow constructive criticism about yourself, then baggage will follow you from one relationship to the next. God desires much more than that for us.

Ephesians 1:18 NLT

18 I pray that your hearts will be flooded with light so that you can understand the wonderful future he has promised to those he called. I want you to realize what a rich and glorious inheritance he has given to his people.

Our hearts can be flooded with the glorious light of Christ; therefore, there shouldn't be anything lackluster about us. God's children shouldn't have dull and lifeless marriages or relationships, we have too much love inside for that. We all must learn to shower our mates with God's love, and when it feels like we're running out, the Father will re-energize us. Our focus must be on pleasing Him. When it is, nothing in this world should keep us from exemplifying true love and happiness, especially as joint-heirs of Christ.

For Christians, there is no guess work about what's at work on the inside of us. We should know how blessed we are, not only in relationships but in everything else as well. If you continue to attract the same type of man or woman, or make the same mistakes in your relationships, stop the blame game. Don't look at the other person...look within!●

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