

***Fanning it into Flame***  
**Sunday, October 10, 2010**  
**They had been with Jesus**

**Mark 3:14-15**

*He appointed twelve-- designating them apostles-- that they might be with him and that he might send them out to preach and to have authority to drive out demons.* (NIV) (emphasis mine) Jesus was not using these men as a means to an end. He wanted to be in relationship with them. The closer they would be to him the greater impact he could have on their lives. Later in the Gospel of John Jesus tells them that he did not consider them servants, but friends.

**Exodus 34:28-29** tells of Moses spending forty days and nights with the Lord on Mount Sinai where he was given the Ten Commandments. It says, *“When Moses came down from Mount Sinai with the two tablets of the Testimony in his hands, he was not aware that his face was radiant because he had spoken with the LORD.”* Here we see a divine encounter that physically transformed Moses. His face was glowing. It freaked the people out so much that he would walk around with a veil to cover his face. This happened because he spent time with the Lord.

In **2 Corinthians 3:18** the Apostle Paul compares us to Moses telling us that we have something even more profound. Moses’ glory was fading while ours is on the increase. *“And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.”* (NIV)

Jesus taught in **Matthew 5:14-17** that the disciples were the light of the world and that light was to shine before men as they did good deeds to bring praise to our Father in Heaven. The Gospel of John adds perspective to this when Jesus reveals that he is the light of the world. When the one who is light comes into our lives by faith we receive his spirit. His life becomes our life. His attributes become ours. We pass from death to life because the one who is life is now living in us. *“In him was life and that life was the light of men.”*

In **Acts 4:1-37** the religious leaders were very upset because Peter and John had healed a man who was over 40 years old and were making a deep impact on the people as they preached the resurrection of Jesus and the message of salvation. They were arrested and the following day stood before Annas the high priest and others where Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, spoke out producing this response from these leaders: *“When they saw the courage of Peter and John and realized that they were unschooled, ordinary men, they were astonished and they took note that these men had been with Jesus.”*

The nature of Jesus will be reproduced in us as we spend time with him. It’s not just about going to church (and yet we are not to take that lightly; Hebrews 10:25). It’s about being with him. We will experience being transformed with an ever-increasing glory. That means it just keeps getting better and better. Have you been experiencing that or are things just status-quo, ho-hum, same ‘ole, same ‘ole. God wants us to be filled with his spirit and excited about the things he has in store for us. Be refreshed today and expect God to bring that divine illumination of his presence into your everyday lives... at home, on the job, out and about, at play. He wants to be part of everything we do: ***That we might be with him!***