

Status Quo, We Hate It, We Love It

Definition: status quo

The existing state of affairs, especially regarding social or political issues. Most of us do not like status quo. It is a negative term. We want change. What are the areas of status quo in your life that you desire to change?

Truth:

We want real life. We want good honest, open relationships with those who are closest to us. We want to be able to love people, really love people. But we find that our status quo, the "existing state of affairs" is far from where we want to be, how we want to live. **But to change the status quo is difficult. It takes great courage and is costly.**

Text: Mark 6:1-6a

Did they not want healing and blessing and LIFE? Of course, yet they "refused to believe". And in refusing to believe they chose to remain in their Nazareth...

Why did they refuse to believe?

Maybe they believed that "nothing good could come from Nazareth".

Maybe they saw this home boy success as an indictment on themselves?

If Jesus had "made it" why had they not?

Maybe they had gotten used to living in their own "stink" in their own "mess".

Here are four signs you may be living with dysfunction:

- 1) You're always having to give up something.
- 2) You, or others, keep talking about the same problems over and over again.
- 3) Somebody in your life refuses to take responsibility.
- 4) Somebody is overstepping your boundaries and you're not doing anything to stop it.

Do any of these strike home to you? Do any ring true?

Don't immediately dismiss them! That is what the Nazarenes did!

It takes great courage to be non-defensive.

Real Life is found through Courageous Faith in Jesus which leads to continual transformation.

Response:

Take the Green Card and write:

One area of my life that needs changing.

Jesus, I give you permission to change me. I will not bury this, I will not ignore this, I will follow you into doing something about it.