

Jesus with Skin On

The story is told of a small boy who was terrified of thunderstorms at night. For those who are parents, you are most likely familiar with such a concern among children.

Whenever the lightning and thunder would begin, he would invariably end up at his parents' bedside, saying, "I'm scared."

On one particular night, his father told him, "You don't need to be afraid of the storm; Jesus is there with you."

"I know He is," the boy replied, "but I need a Jesus with skin on."

Out of the mouths of babes, right?

The phrase, "Jesus with skin on," is not found in the New Testament, but Dr. David Jeremiah, senior pastor of Shadow Mountain Community Church in El Cajon, California, says it definitely expresses a biblical reality: Christ living His life through the heart and hands of the Christian.

"A Christian, to put it in a child's terms, is the Holy Spirit with skin on," Dr. Jeremiah wrote in his book *Turning Points*. "Isn't that what Paul said in Galatians 2:20: 'It is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me'? We ought to ask ourselves, 'Who do people see when they look at me?' If they see love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control, then they're seeing Jesus through the Holy Spirit in us (Galatians 5:22-23)."

And then Dr. Jeremiah adds: "Just as a dirty window conceals what's on the inside, so an unclean life keeps Jesus from being seen in us." That's something for each of us to ponder.

Life Care and Century Park people do recognize the calling they have – being the heart and hands of Christ as they serve those He entrusted to us.



And I have been told by some residents as I visit in our centers that they see Jesus in the work of those who care for them. That is an awesome tribute!

– Beecher Hunter