

How many of you enjoy music? Most everybody does; and people usually have a particular group or singer that is their favorite. If this is the case, then it can be very exciting for them to go and see that group perform in a live concert. There is a sense of electricity to be so close to someone that you admire.

Someone who has never been to such a concert might wonder, isn't this a waste? For less than the price of a ticket you can buy an album and listen to the music over and over again in the privacy and comfort of your own home! You can listen to exactly the songs that you want to, at the highest musical quality possible. You wouldn't have the hassle of finding a parking spot, the bathroom, and you wouldn't have to sit in uncomfortable seats. So why go to a live performance?

Maybe the answer is in the word 'live'. There is something so special about seeing a musical artist in action. There is the presence of the personality that helps you experience more deeply the fact that it is live and not Memorex.

There is a lesson to be learned here which can be applied to our spiritual lives. We call ourselves Christians, which means that we follow Christ. This 'following' should be similar to the way 'groupies' follow a musical group that they think is great. We don't really picture the average Christian in this way. But if we could really feel the presence and the personality of Christ in our lives, just think what a difference it would make in our lives! We would want to be near Him every moment that we could, and we would always have a certain excitement in our lives.

Christianity means much more than knowing about Jesus; it means knowing Jesus, personally. We have to really get in contact with, or plug into the vitality of Christ. How can we really get to know Christ? Well, we can study him, we can pray to him, and we can try to act like him. And the more we follow him, the closer we get to him, the more excited we get about him.

Let's all try to think of Christ as a living being that we can have a personal relationship with. We can be friends with him.