



Stew Pot: August

Stew On This...

Water slides are better than sprinklers. Seriously. If you put the two side-by-side and had a panel of experts (I suggest 10 year olds) judge which was better, water slides would win – hands down.

Water slides are better than sprinklers just like milkshakes are better than goat cheese and sneakers are better than high heels (trust me –the panel would TOTALLY agree). AND – Jesus is better than Moses.

Jesus is better than Moses?!?!? Hold up! Where did *that* come from? (Hebrews, actually. Chapter 3. Check it out.)

Yup. Jesus is the KING! He’s called a champion (Hebrews 12:2), a Lord (Acts 10:36), the rock (1 Cor. 10:4).

That’s not to say Moses wasn’t awesome. He was. But we don’t remember his birthday every year. We don’t write songs about him (well, excluding “Pharaoh, Pharaoh”). And we don’t fill our sanctuary with lilies for him in the spring. Awesome as he was - face it: Moses was no Jesus.

Nope, Jesus is one of a kind. Oh, sure, He might seem just like you and me. I mean He, too, swam in the ocean, got splinters in His fingers, and loved just chilling with His friends. But He also healed the sick (Matthew 14:34-36), changed water into wine (John 2:1-11), and raised the dead back to life (John 11). To Life! Can you do that?

Now, maybe “better than Moses” isn’t really the right thing to say. I don’t think Jesus would say He was “better than” anyone. In fact, Jesus used some really strange words to describe Himself. (check out the book of John...)

“Bread of life” “The Gate” “Light of the world” “Good shepherd” “True vine”

Weird, right? I mean, who calls themselves “The Gate”?

Jesus did. And with a purpose. It is written in John 10:9 “Yes, I am the gate. Those who come in through me will be saved. They will come and go freely and will find good pastures.”

There was a purpose to Jesus’s words. To everything He did, actually. Which leads me to wonder... what about me? Is there really a **purpose to everything I do**? Are my words, my actions, my thoughts, rooted in something bigger than me? Are they used to **help or hurt**? Are they **selfish or for others**? Are they **to teach or to judge**? What’s their purpose? Is it **for the better or for the worse**?

John 3:30 says “He must increase, but I must decrease”. I think this is the perfect prayer some days so that my life’s purpose is not just something *I* choose, but is better. So that where He might lead me, I might follow. So that **all I do with all I have – all the time** is the absolute best it can be for the Lord God, Almighty. My rock.

- The Stewardship Team