



*Living for the
Audience of One*

This book is presented to

To _____

By _____

Date _____

*Living for the
Audience of One*

Dr. Dominic F. Dixon

morelove.in
Integrity - Justice - Parity

Bangalore, INDIA

LIVING FOR THE AUDIENCE OF ONE

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This book is dedicated to:

The Audience of One

Ιησους Χριστός

And to those who lived for

The Audience of One

JESUS CHRIST

If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord. So, whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord.

Romans 14:8

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FOREWORD

Flawed. If there is one word that aptly describes the human race and human nature, this is it. Those of us who are given to introspection of even the remotest seriousness will attest to the truth of that statement, discovering as we do the numerous abrasions and inclusions in our psyches. Even those among us who shine with the brilliance of diamonds are like some of the stones: perfect to look at unless examined closely. Yet, perfection is what we are called to. “Be perfect,” Jesus said, “as your heavenly Father is perfect.” (Matthew 5:48) The question is: How does one attain perfection?

A good way to begin is by believing that it is, indeed, possible to attain it. After all, we were created in the very image and likeness of God, who is perfection personified. If we aren’t perfect today it is because the world has shaped us into what we have become; we need to be reshaped into what we were created to be. There are some who will insist that it isn’t possible to be like that anymore. It may very well not be possible for us to achieve perfection on our own strength; but what is impossible by human endeavour is certainly possible by the grace of God. (cf Luke 18:27)

A fine way to proceed is by drawing encouragement from men and women in the world who were severely flawed, but went on to lead exemplary lives. King David is one such person who immediately comes to mind. Anointed of God and admired by his people, he had a weakness for women that led to adultery and, eventually, to murder. Yet, once he was convicted of the errors of his ways, he radically changed himself and went on to lead a life that was immensely pleasing to God.

Yet another famous Biblical figure is St. Mary Magdalene. Possessed by seven demons who, presumably, made her do a whole lot of unholy things until they were cast out by Jesus, Mary of Magdala went on to become one of the most devoted disciples of Christ.

Other people closer to our own age also provide inspiration and hope. St Francis of Assisi was a street brawler and a part time soldier until his capture during a conflict between Assisi and Perugia, where he had a conversion of heart. When he was released he began to take his faith seriously, ending up as one of the most beloved saints of all time.

St Augustine was another severely delinquent person. Though raised as a good Catholic he fell away from the faith and lived a debauched, hedonistic life, wayward to the extreme, until a series of experiences triggered off drastic changes in his life. Today he is yet another bright star in the Christian firmament.

All these men and women provide inspiration and hope—and instruction. While the wise among us undoubtedly learn from their own mistakes, the wiser among us learn from the mistakes of others, and there is much to be learned from these people. By reading about the stories of their journey—very often painful—from sinner to saint, we can obtain valuable lessons for our own journey towards the same goal.

This book that you hold in your hand contains many such lessons. Dr. Dominic Dixon still has a long way to go to becoming a perfect saint, but he has made remarkable progress on his journey there thus far. It hasn't been an easy journey—it never is—but his courage and resilience in the face of difficulties is inspirational, and the insights that he has discovered along the way are profound.

He shares many of these experiences and insights in this book, which is a wonderful combination of personal testimony, Scriptural reference and human psychology. It will be a useful guide, not only for those eager to grow spiritually, but also to those who want to pursue the Call in public ministry.

And we would do well to continually remind ourselves, as we read it, that we should always play to an exclusive Audience, *The Audience of One*, who is the Holy One who calls us to perfection.

May the Spirit be with you!

Aneel Aranha

Author/Evangelist

Founder, Holy Spirit Interactive, Dubai

WHY?

“Above all the grace and the gifts that Christ gives to his beloved is that of overcoming self.” St. Francis of Assisi

Why this Book?

In preparation for this book, my Mentor and I agreed that I take time off from public Ministry to sit with the Lord for six months. These six months were the most intense trying and testing period of my entire evangelical life.

It took me seven years after accepting Christ and four years of doing Ministry to realise that I, just like most Christians are prevaricated or in flaw in living the character of a Christian, let alone the character of a Christian worker. Whilst having successful Ministries, we have very few successful Ministers. In introspecting myself and other Christians and Evangelists, I realised that if I write about the attributes and tenets of developing the character of Christ, I would help others not to make the mistakes that most Christians and servants of God had made - Thereby, living for the Audience of One.

The above mentioned stands true! I was redeemed by Jesus and started proclaiming Him almost immediately. I had done schools of Discipleship and other Christian training programs. I had travelled extensively. I have ministered to addicts, terrorists, criminals. I have been a National and International representative for the views of the Church, globally, while being an international author.

I, I and I and that's what I lived for – for this, audience of one - me. At the beginning of accepting Christ, the honeymoon period

was all so exciting and the glory of God filled the inner most recesses of my heart. It was all about Jesus. As the months went by, it went from eight hours of prayer a day to almost four and then two and sometimes not even one hour.

Ministry demanded excess times out doors and less time indoors. The time indoors was a time of rest but not resting in His presence.

There were times when there was no public Ministry, and I began to rest, becoming lazy. There were times of complacency, those were the times of temptations, those were the times of stumbles; ironically even falls – some exponential.

There were times of trials, tribulations and persecutions. Those were the times my inner broken self was revealed. Those hidden characteristic traits that came all through the twenty five years of not knowing Jesus as Lord, suddenly out of no where sprang to my defence each time sensitive areas of my life was touched. Sometimes, in seasons of great success of Ministry, bad fruit was produced at the end.

In times of preaching on holiness, I realised how unholy I was in the sight of the Lord. In times of preaching on repentance, I realised that I had not repented of secret sins. In times of leading people to the Truth, I realised I was walking with error – the human element.

Now after seven years, an author of two books on Psychology and Sociology, I realised that somewhere, somehow, I wasn't living for the "Audience of One". My psychology was not completely filled with the knowledge of Christ therefore not having the mind of Christ. Thanks to courageous men and women of God who dared to admonish, chastise and rebuke me when I was off track. It was at the pinnacle of my Ministry that I realised the life I was living was not that of the standards of Jesus but the conformity of the pattern of this world – perhaps, a double standard. A standard of Heaven and of the parallel world!

When I shared this issue of character with my friends, they were surprised and told me this ‘Dom, if you say that you don’t have the Character of Christ, then, where do we stand?’ my response was this ‘when I stand in front of our Holy God, I realise how unholy I am!’

Thanks be to God for His character, a God of restoration, cutting off every branch in me that bears no fruit and pruning in me every branch that does bear fruit, so that I will be even more fruitful.

I have spent tremendous amounts of time in fasting & prayer, talking to servants of Christ, lay Christians, reading and studying material that will help me dig into the lengths and depths of wisdom and knowledge to provide you, the reader with solid values and principles that would strengthen you. I have purposely swung from polarities in my writing from text book style prose to narrative style to complement the eyes of both, the novice and the intellect.

This book therefore, is to help those who have a desire to live for the Audience of One and who desire to live as a good Christian, within Biblical definition.

For those who have backslid in their Christian walk, this book will help you see your folly and will help you to walk again.

For the Christian who is persecuted for righteousness sake, this book will help you turn from a Victim to a Victor. Know that your reward awaits you.

For the servant of God who has fallen away or living a life of double standard, this book will help you see who you are in Christ and what you are in Christ and then it will tell you what you are supposed to be in Christ.

This book is from a Christian heart, to a Christian heart. A heart that desires the desire of the heart of God!

Love,

Dom