

# FOREVER HOME - Part 6

## The Hall Closet

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Part of Forever Home

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*Jesus: ...If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him.*

—John 14:23 (ESV)

**Jesus \_\_\_ what we see, \_\_\_ what we hear, and \_\_\_ what we are feeling.**

**Even when we do commit our lives to Christ, we often continue to discover either things we never let him \_\_\_ in our lives, or, over time, things we've gradually taken \_\_\_**

**into our lives, sometimes unintentionally.**

**We may have fooled ourselves that because we've \_\_\_\_ things out of sight in the closet, it's no longer an issue, but Jesus knows better.**

**Jesus wants to help us \_\_\_\_ that closet.**

*Jesus: ...There is nothing concealed that will not be disclosed, or hidden that will not be made known.*

—Matthew 10:26 (NIV)

*There is a way that appears to be right, but in the end it leads to death.*

—Proverbs 14:12 (NIV11)

*When I refused to confess my sin, my body wasted away, and I groaned all day long.*

—Psalms 32:3 (NLT)

**If we're seeking Jesus and listening to him, he will show us the \_\_\_\_ these things in our closet continue to wreak in our lives, but *also*, what he can do with them.**

*Jesus: ...I came so they can have real and eternal life, more and better life than they ever dreamed of.*

—John 10:10 (Message)

*"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."*

—Jeremiah 29:11 (NIV11)

*O LORD, you have examined my heart and know everything about me. You know when I sit down or stand up. You know my thoughts even when I'm far away. You see me when I travel and when I rest at home. You know everything I do. You know what I am going to say even before I say it, LORD. You go before me and follow me. You place your hand of blessing on my head. Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, too great for me to understand!*

—Psalms 139:1-6 (NLT)

**The question isn't *whether* God knows what's in our closet, but whether *we realize that* He knows and \_\_\_ Him in.**

*Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. Point out anything in me that offends you, and lead me along the path of everlasting life.*

—Psalms 139:23-24 (NLT)

**This process goes so much better when we \_\_\_ ourselves, admit wrong and even seek insight and help into what more may be there.**

**The things we've put in each of our closets are things that are \_\_\_ for us to deal with, that cause us pain or embarrassment or guilt or shame.**

*When Jesus came to Simon Peter, Peter said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" Jesus replied, "You don't understand now what I am doing, but someday you will." "No," Peter protested, "you will never ever wash my feet!" Jesus replied, "Unless I wash you, you won't belong to me."*

—John 13:6-8 (NLT)

**Just as Jesus has helped us clean up so much in our lives, he still won't be satisfied until he has it \_\_\_\_.**

**The Christian life is one of complete \_\_\_ to Jesus.**

**Two levels of surrender in our "closets":**

1. **Surrender the \_\_\_ of the closet.**
2. **Surrender the \_\_\_ of cleaning it out to Jesus.**

**In a practical sense, it means I have to \_\_\_ what's in my "closet" and that it's beyond *me* to clean out on my own.**

*People who conceal their sins will not prosper, but if they confess and turn from them, they will receive mercy.*

—Proverbs 28:13 (NLT)

**As we confess, it's not a guarantee everything's going to now go perfectly, but we are promised "\_\_\_" and even "times of refreshment."**

*Apostle Peter: Now repent of your sins and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped away. Then times of refreshment will come from the presence of the Lord...*

—Acts 3:19-20 (NLT)

**What Jesus tells us is to focus on him and follow him, and God will \_\_\_ our steps.**

*Jesus: ...If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me.*

—Mark 8:34 (ESV)

**We humbly follow Jesus and trust that in his own way, in his own timing, he will clear our path and \_\_\_ whatever is there in our closet.**

*I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.*

—Galatians 2:20 (ESV)

**Next Week's New Series: Finding Hope Today**