



*If you could spend one day with someone - living or dead - who would you choose to hang out with?"*

This question was one I read in a Twins-Orioles program back in April when Becca and I went to a ball game in Baltimore. It was in an article where the Orioles PR people made an attempt to give fans some insights into the lives of the players. I was surprised to see George Washington's name pop up more than once. I was also pleased to see that at least one Oriole player (first baseman Chris Davis) chose Jesus as the person he'd most like to spend a day chatting with. (Just a coincidence that Davis is the guy who is leading the league in home runs???)

It's fun to find out who ball players would like to spend a day with, but it doesn't take too long before you make the jump and start to ponder the question on a personal level. At the end of this article I'm going to give you instructions on where you can leave your answer. But since this is "Questions for Pastor" I will first give you my answers.

I must say that I really couldn't narrow my answer to just one person.

On a personal level the name that popped into my mind first was that of my dad Albert. How many times in the past dozen years since dad went to be with Jesus haven't I wished that dad was here to share a ballgame with or work on the car or paint a house with?! I'd like to spend a day with my dad, just because he was the best dad a guy could ever have.

But then I thought, "The person I really should spend a day with is my mom." I'd spend a day with my dad ... for my sake. But, I really should spend a day with my mom... for her sake. I'd like to spend a day with mom to tell her how much I appreciated all the things she did as 'mom.' (And to apologize for being a jerk to her so many of those times she was just being 'mom.')

Then I moved on to the 'professional level' and thought about who I'd like to spend a day with. Being a writer, the first name that popped into my head was C.S. Lewis. I'd love to pick his brain about how he makes the Christian faith so easy to understand in his writings. He seems to have more insights and profound statements about Jesus than anyone I've read.

And, of course, like Chris Davis, I'd like to spend a day with Jesus. Having been a pastor for close to twenty years, I feel like I know Jesus a little better than maybe the average person on the street (or the ballpark). But I have one question for Him the answer to which would likely fill up a whole day: "What have we got wrong?" i.e. What have we misunderstood, misinterpreted or just flat-out messed up?

There are lots of things I know we have right. Like the fact that Jesus is God-in-the-flesh. The fact that sorrow over sin and faith in Him is required to receive the ticket to eternity He purchased with His blood on the cross. The fact that all who do trust in Jesus will rise from our graves to live and spend that eternity in His visible presence. (And many, many more things). But I also know it would be quite arrogant and misguided to assume that a sinful human being has understood God - His will, what He likes, what He is like, His plans - perfectly.

In fact, one of the things that strikes me about Jesus' dealings with people in the gospels is that He is constantly 'taking to task' religious folks (like the Pharisees) who pridefully think they've got it all right. Jesus seems much more patient with folks who humbly admit that they don't have it all right - but who come to Him to find what is.

So, how about you? Who would you like to spend a day with - and why?

Take some time right now to head over to our website [www.livingwordlutheran.net](http://www.livingwordlutheran.net) click on the "Blog" and type in your comments in response to the blog entry with this question. It's a great way for us to get to know each other on a deeper level.

Thanks for asking,  
Pastor David

**Send your questions to [pastor@livingwordlutheran.net](mailto:pastor@livingwordlutheran.net)**