
Who is God?

The idea of a God who is intimately acquainted with every person on the planet is one that is unfathomable to some people. There are so many beliefs about who God is and what His role is in our lives, that for some, it may seem radical to accept any truth about God. Some believe God is a vague concept, a universal "power" that has no name or face.

There are those who subscribe to the belief that God does not personally interact with or speak to men and women and still others who claim there is no God at all. What do you believe, and how were those beliefs formed? I want to challenge you to open your mind to the truth that there is a God and that He cares about you.

Because of evil, death, destruction, and constant mayhem in the world, many tend to question the possibility that there could actually be a loving God who cares about them. Questions like, "Why would a loving God let innocent people die?" and "If there really is a God, why is there so much evil in the world?" plague the minds of people from all walks of life.

Not to mention, erroneous religious beliefs which say God places sickness and disease upon people to teach them a lesson, and that He is waiting to punish us for every wrong thing we do. All these perspectives, with no positive balance or understanding, create a pretty dismal picture of God. If I had never been exposed to other information about God, I probably would be skeptical myself!

I have said in previous teachings that you cannot go any further than your initial point of faith. In other words, you cannot accept something you do not believe to be true. Therefore, it is required that you open your mind to the possibility of truth, before you can fully accept it. I want you to open your mind to the truth that God does exist and that He loves you unconditionally.

I use the Bible as my frame of reference, because I have seen results from it. But even if you are not familiar with what the Scriptures have to say about God, you can look to the grandeur of nature and the precise, intricacy of creation to know, without a doubt, that God exists (Rom. 1:20). Though He is invisible, the beautiful things He has created are evident for all to see and consider.

Does God have a form? To understand this, we have to recognize that God is a person, a spiritual being. You and I were made in His image and likeness (Gen. 1:26, 27), which means that He is not formless, or a vague "something" out there in the universe. No, God is a spirit who has a form, like that of man. I like to use the illustration of Heaven being His "home base," while Earth is where His agenda, plans, and purposes for mankind are carried out. By believing in God and accepting Him into our hearts, we become connected to Him in a personal way, and He begins to lead and guide us on a more intimate level.

For those wondering if God has a purpose for their lives, this is another point you can get excited about! There is a specific plan for your life, and you have a unique purpose. In fact, God thinks about you every day—good thoughts that are too marvelous for your mind to comprehend. He is not a mean, harsh taskmaster who is waiting to strike you down when you mess up. In fact, God is love, and He will forgive anyone, for anything, at any time, if they can believe it. Can you believe it? It is true. When you start to become God-conscious, you will find yourself being led toward all that is good and loving. This is God's nature.

To those who ask the question, "How can there be a loving God with so much evil in the world?" My answer is simply that God has given every human being something very powerful—the free will to make decisions. If He had not given us the ability to make our own choices, He would be a dictator lording over us.

However, because we have the right to choose between good and evil, love and selfishness, fear and faith, we set the course and atmosphere in our lives and in the world around us. The good news is that God tells us what to choose: life and love. Those who deviate from the right path open the door for the negative things we see taking place in the world today. The choices people make and the negative consequences that follow are not God's fault; He is always prompting us to choose what is right.

I encourage you to consider some of these concepts and ask God for more insight into exactly who He is. When you begin to seek the truth, you will find it. Or then again, perhaps it will find you.

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