

Does God Love Me?

God loves you, and He loves you with a love that you don't even know anything about, because there is no human love comparable to divine love.

God loves you. He wants to forgive you. He wants to have fellowship with you.

It doesn't make any difference how far you tried to run from God. He loves you. His eye is on you. He sees you.

God created us in his image, and you as a person are important to God.

God created mankind in His image...Genesis 1:27

The Bible says that God has the hairs of your head numbered. Every moment of your life is watched by God.

Indeed, the very hairs of your head are all numbered...Luke 12:7

God is listening, and God loves you. He's your friend. He'll put His arm around you, and He understands, and He answers, and He's sympathetic to your problem.

God loves you, and the Bible says that God sent His Son from Heaven to this earth for you. Jesus Christ came to this earth to take your sins upon a cross.

For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish but have everlasting life... John: 3:16

...and he would've died had you been the only person in the whole world. He loves you. Don't ever forget He loves, loves, loves, loves you.

God is love...1 John 4:16

When Jesus Christ was nailed to that cross He did that for you. That's how much He loves us.

The Bible says, "I have loved thee with an everlasting love." Forever and ever and ever and ever and ever!

God loves you, and God has a plan for your life.

Who am I? What is the purpose of my life?

Many go through life unfulfilled, unfocused, searching, a blank canvas waiting for a picture of purpose to be painted on us. What does it all mean? It was once said that there was a God shaped blank in all of us, and we look for many things to fill this: friends, fashion, false faith, fornication, and the façade of drug induced fantasies, but follow me. Follow me to the edge of an abyss where deep down inside we all know something's missing. See, from the moment God spoke time into existence and shaped us with His own hands in His own image, His plan was for man and Him to be one, creator and creation communing together in beautiful harmony. Sounds perfect, right? So what happened? Sin.

We're sinners by nature.

Sin opened this void. Sin drove us away from our friend. Sins separated us from Him, and for many centuries since, we as human beings have attempted to bridge this ever widening gap with philosophies and religion, wealth and so called moral decisions, but the divisions became more instilled, that God shaped hole in our heart still unfilled and mankind seemed doomed, until "For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord, and ye shall find the baby wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger." Oh, but uh... this wasn't no ordinary baby. See, He grew into a boy, then a man, then a preacher, leading a multitude of people with radical and really off the wall teachings like, "Love your enemies." "Bless those that curse you." "Turn the other cheek."

He's the greatest teacher that ever was. But this was no ordinary preacher. See, the wages of sin is death but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ so for our sins, He had to pay the price.

They put nails in His hands. Betrayed and denied, they hung Him high and stretched Him wide on a cross for you and I and over two thousand years ago.

A spike through His side. The Son of God, our Lamb slain before the world began, died. One of the most agonizing physical deaths that a person can suffer.

They buried Him in the tomb of a friend and for three days His mother cried, and for three days His disciples ran, but thanks be to the Most High that's not how the story ends because three glorious days later, Jesus rose from the dead again. Oh, but this just wasn't any ordinary sacrifice because He became the way, the truth and the life, and we now have a way to the Father through Him. Through the cross we're now able to get across that great divide caused by sin, separating us from Him, and He's calling us, but we've got to come. See, the choice is still ours, but He has provided all the love. "For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son," and if we only believe that Jesus Christ paid this price...

Jesus Christ said, "You shall know the truth..."

... no more separation, no more fear of death, no more holes in our heart. We can now have eternal life.

You see, God gave man a choice. You either accept it or reject it.

Jonathan: On a daily basis I wanted drugs. You know, it was like, right after school I needed to go get something just a different drug just to try it out.

Brian “Head” Welch: I started drinking at fifteen, and I just...I never stopped. We got drunk, and we got high on drugs; had hangovers the next day. We’d get up and doing it again.

Jennifer: I just thought ramming my car into the embankment on a freeway was going to be the best way to get out of where I’d brought myself.

Emily: I’d use different objects...a blade to a safety pin. I would scratch at my skin over and over again.

Woman: One day it just came to the point where I exploded.

Russ: I knew I was breaking the law, and I knew that I was ruining other people’s lives, but frankly, I didn’t care.

Brian “Head” Welch: I just remembered just like growing up going, “Why is my life like this?” I’d be miserable, you know, and just be empty inside.

Jonathan: Watching my mom cry, and just seeing that, man, she really wanted me to change...I really had no feelings anymore. It was kinda like, “Well, too bad. If my mom cries she cries”, and when I thought about that I was like, “What’s wrong with me? Like, I’ve gone coldhearted.”

Brian “Head” Welch: The pastor, he’s like, “You know, if you hang out with Christ and talk to Him then all of the stuff in your life will start to fall away one by one. It’s his job to get rid of it.”

Jennifer: I just said to myself, “You know what? I’m tired of having last times, and I’m tired of feeling awful. I’m tired of being tired of myself.”

Woman: I didn’t like myself. So, I didn’t want to like others, and I just thought, “Lord, if there’s any help...”

Emily: In one of my journals I saw where just two pages are just dribbled with blood. I don’t know why I did it, but I’d cut more and more, and just wasn’t getting any better. You know, I didn’t feel any better about myself.

Russ: So, that night I decided to pray, but I didn’t know what to say. So, I said, “God, I don’t know who you are, and I don’t really know how to find you, but if you’re God and you’re there maybe you can find me.”

Brian “Head” Welch: ...and I said, “Jesus, you know, if you’re real like this guy said take these drugs from me”, and I just say, “Show me.”

Woman: It was something that to me I believe happened when I sincerely gave my heart to the Lord I was able to be real to be genuine with Him about the hurt I was dealing with.

Jonathan: When I knew that Jesus was God, and I knew that He was the way, the truth, and the life, and I just had to choose to serve Him.

Brian “Head” Welch: When we get that revelation and understand that Jesus died for our mistakes. Man, we’re just like, “I’m saved. I’m like...I’m rescued.”

Young Lady: I just told the Lord, “I don’t want me anymore I need you, Lord. I want you to change me and make me new.”

Russ: When I came to Jesus all I had to bring Him was junk. I needed to ask for forgiveness. I needed to repent of my sins and turn the other way, and be open to what God wanted to do.

Emily: I’d think about how I would cut on my wrists and Jesus was nailed there, you know, and that was his scar that He had, but he didn’t have to.

Woman: Jesus Christ says hope is possible. It’s there. It’s very much alive. I was so relieved that there was hope. I was so relieved that like someone really did love me for me.

Brian “Head” Welch: There’s no words that can describe the peace and the contentment.

Russ: God’s been consistent, and he’s been faithful, and it makes me love him today more than I ever have. God proved to me that He hears the heart cry of desperate people regardless of where they are.

...whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely. **Revelation 22:17**

What must I do to have eternal life?

The greatest problem in the world today is sin. What causes people to hate and lust and have greed? It's sin. It's a disease that we all have. The Bible says, "All have sinned and come short of the glory of God. You've missed the mark. You've broken the law on your way to spiritual death and eternal death and to judgment.

Scripture: "...for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." Romans 3:23

But Jesus said, "I can do something about that. I can change your life. I can make you a new person."

Jesus demanded that we make a choice.

He says there are two roads of life...the broad road and the narrow road, and you must choose. There are two destinies...Heaven and hell. Which road are you on? Which master are you serving?

I don't have to be judged? I don't have to go to hell. I don't have to be lost. My soul has been redeemed. I'm going to Heaven, but I've got to first repent of my sin and receive Christ as my Lord and my Savior.

You have to repent of your sins. That means to be willing to change your way of living. You may have no power to do it, but if you surrender to Christ He'll give you the power.

How many of you here tonight are broken, fed up, but you don't know what to do? You give your life to Christ tonight and you will have supernatural help in breaking those chains that bind you.

God's not waiting to judge you. God's not waiting to condemn you. He's waiting to receive you with mercy with love with open arms and forgive all your sins. You know, there only comes a few times in our lives when Jesus of Nazareth passes by, and we have an opportunity like we have tonight to receive Him. You may never have a tomorrow as far as God is concerned. There are people here tonight that may never be alive tomorrow. You may never hear the Gospel again like this, or your heart may not be this tender toward God. Come while you can and don't put it off. God is waiting to welcome you with open arms to receive you as you come to Him in repentance and faith. Simple, and yet could be life changing tonight, and all of Heaven will rejoice.

..."and everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." **Acts 2:21**

God knows who you are, He loves you, and He wants you to know and love Him.

How do you do that?

First, admit that you, like all of us, are a sinner. Being sinners means we have wronged God and fall short of His perfect standard. It also means we are separated from Him and deserve His judgment.

But He loves us! God sent His own son Jesus Christ to die for our sins. He died for your sins. He was punished so you don't have to be. Not only that, death did not defeat Him. After three days Jesus rose from the dead, alive again!

Trusting in Jesus' sacrifice for you is the only way to find forgiveness from God and to begin a relationship with Him. We urge you to take this step of faith today. To do that simply talk to God – this is called praying – and tell Him you believe in His Son. We suggest a prayer like this:

“Dear God,

I'm a sinner. I'm sorry for my sins. I want to turn from my sins. I believe that Jesus Christ is your Son. I believe that He died for me. That He rose from the grave. That He's alive. I want to invite Him to come into my heart to take control. From this day forward forevermore. And I pray this in the name of Jesus.

Amen”

WANT TO KNOW MORE?

Call 803-356-0260 and ask for any available pastor.