



Who is God?

God's Desire for Your Life

Scripture: Phil 3:8, Matt 22:37, and Col 3:17

Big Idea: We should know God, love God, and serve God.

Biblical Truth: God wants each of us to know him, love him, and serve him.

Memorize: 1 John 3:1 "See what kind of love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him."

After spending some time learning about the realness of God, learning about his character, and his desire to be our Father; the question remains for us, what now? If all of this is true about God, what should our response be? Lucky for us, if we're followers of Christ, we don't have to figure it out for ourselves because God gives us the answer!

What does God want for your life?

1. God wants you to know him.
 - a. God wants us to be in a relationship with him, to know him the same way we would a family member or friend.
 - b. In Philippians 3:8 the apostle Paul says, "Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I might gain Christ."
 - c. God makes it really easy to know him! All we have to do is spend time with him! We can spend time with God by reading our Bibles and praying.
2. God wants you to love him.
 - a. In Matthew 22:37, Jesus tells us that the greatest commandment we have here on this earth is to "love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind."
 - b. One way we can show God we love him is by praising him! We praise God with our words, with our songs, with our actions, and even with our thoughts!
 - c. God does not want halfhearted love, he tells us time and time again in the scriptures that he wants our whole hearts. That means prioritizing God, making him first in our hearts. He shouldn't be competing with video games, or grades, or friends, or even family.
3. God wants you to serve him.
 - a. When Jesus called his first disciples in Matthew 4:19, "he said to them, 'Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.'" As believers, we have that same calling in each of our lives—to first follow Christ and know him, and then to make him known to others.
 - b. God created each of his children (including you!) uniquely, he gives us each different gifts and has a different plan for each of our lives. That means in whatever you do, God has a plan to use you and use your talents for his glory!

- c. Colossians 3:17, “And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.”

Even though God wants all of us to know him, love him, and serve him, he doesn't force any one to do so. God's love for us is so great, that he allows us to make our own decisions—he lets us choose to follow him for ourselves. In fact, God sent Jesus to the cross knowing that most of the world would reject him and reject his free gift of salvation. But even our rejection doesn't stop God from pursuing us. In Revelation 3:20 Jesus says, “Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me.” Jesus is still standing at the door of each of our heart's knocking, the question is will we choose to let him in?

Do you want the same things for your life that God does?

- Do you want to know God and spend time with him?
- Is God first place in your heart?
- What gifts has God given you that you can use to glorify him?