

God Thoughts

What

Suppose we are started with a superhuman creator (say God) who made us and the world we live in as a demonstration of *love* – a creation in time and space outside of his dimension but under his control. He gave people a choice to love him back but they ignored his offer and broke the relationship. Without that connection, evil ensued. However, so that we could better understand his love, he sent a human example (Jesus) with an offer to reconnect. Like Jesus, who died for our evil yet rose to eternal life, we can turn from evil and live an eternal life in love with our creator.

Why

The result of loving God is a desire to please him in all we do. Submitting to his control can fix a broken life or make a good life better. You needn't be concerned about making changes you don't want or need. Jesus is not asking for changes. He simply says follow him. Then, any changes are up to you. The key is to do as he says (love God and love others). This includes not just making others aware of his love, but more importantly, caring for the needy, and living in harmony with all people, "good" or "bad." You will then be fulfilling the purpose for which God made you.

How

To follow Jesus requires understanding who he is and what he says. That means learning what the Bible has to say about him. Self study is good, but learning with others is better. As is gathering with others weekly in church to praise the God you love and learn how to live better. It's not about being religious or following rules. Loving and pleasing God will lead you in the right direction. Christian fellowship can be encouraging, but simply going to church to be religious is worthless. If your church is not teaching you how to love others by following Jesus, find a church that does.

When

Your eternal life begins the moment you declare your love for God and turn your back on your own way. Being led by his Spirit results in a more fulfilling life for both you and those you love, much better than you alone could do. At some point, you will leave the demonstration (die) or the demonstration ends, both unpredictable. But you will leave knowing you lived the best life possible on earth while fulfilling God's purpose for you. Where we go after this life is a mystery. It may be that we enter into God's dimension and experience a completely different form of life in "heaven" with our creator.