

God's Plan for All People

1. *God created us for a purpose: to love Him and others.**
2. *We cannot fully love without self-sacrifice, even to death.**
(*Jesus is the ultimate example.*)

There is a God who created us and loves us and, for our own good, wants us to love and obey Him. Most of the Bible is spent showing us how it is humanly impossible to obey Him. So He offered His Son Jesus as an example of perfect obedience and to take the punishment for our disobedience. Accepting His Spirit in our hearts gives us the power to obey Him and die to our disobedient life. We can then live and love as Jesus, now and eternally.

The story of Jesus pervades the entire Bible. Believe what you want about certain parts, but deny this central theme and you will miss out on God's perfect plan for your life, forever.

S.A. Pierce

Christmas 2024

*Secular Harvard professor and social scientist Arthur C. Brooks suggests that to find happiness and meaning in life, you should ask yourself two crucial questions. He posits that the answers to these questions are not universal but are deeply personal and essential to finding a compelling sense of purpose.

The two questions are:

1. **"Why am I alive?"**
2. **"For what would I be willing to die?"**

Brooks explains that the first question gets at the core of your existence and purpose. The answer might be related to your faith, what you were put on Earth to do, or a combination of both. The second question, which he says is a little harder, forces you to confront what you truly value and what you believe is significant enough to make your life meaningful.

According to Brooks, the only way to "flunk the test" of these two questions is to not have any answers at all. The process of searching for and discerning the answers to these questions is what will ultimately reveal your purpose and bring meaning to your life.

My answers to his 2 questions introduce the article above.