



Accepted

Understanding Our Relationship with God

In the world in which we live there are times when we wonder if there is a God, if God really cares, and if it makes any difference whether or not we believe. If you feel this way, the chances are you may also feel that life has little meaning; you may be experiencing loneliness and rejection. Here are four truths that can bring your life new joy, meaning, and purpose.

Truth 1: God loves you and wants your life to have meaning. God so loved _____, that he gave his only son that _____, who believes in him, should not perish but have everlasting life. *(Insert your name in the blanks.)*

You may ask, "If this is true, why doesn't everyone have a happy and meaningful life?"

Truth 2: When we interrupt this plan, we have a broken relationship with God and this brings disorder to our lives.

We interrupt God's plan by:

- Trying to go it alone;
- Rebelling against God;
- Trying to be God.

We are unhappy with ourselves, others, and the world around us.

Truth 3: God loves us so much that he sent Christ to reconcile us to himself. Jesus Christ offers peace with God and harmony in life. The Bible tells us:

- Christ died for us. (Romans 5:8)
- God forgives our sins. (1 John 1:9)
- Christ restores our relationship with God. (2 Corinthians 5:19)
- Christ gives life new meaning. (2 Corinthians 5:17)

Truth 4: You will find joy and meaning in life if you receive and confess Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior.

The Bible says:

- You must confess Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. (Romans 10:9)
- You must receive Jesus as Savior and Lord. (John 1:12 and Revelation 3:20)
- You must begin a life of discipleship, now. (Matthew 16:24)

When you are ready to make these truths real in your life, simply open your heart in prayer. You may want to use this prayer:

"God, I realize you want me to follow your son Jesus. I can't seem to do this by myself. Help me by making your forgiveness real to me and by accepting me just as I am. I accept what I understand of your message and will try to follow it in my new relationship with you."

Expect great things to take place in your life. For help in understanding your new life:

- Be assured daily of God's love for you.
- Become a part of his fellowship by joining a church.
- Seek out other Christians for fellowship and sharing.
- Read your Bible often, especially the four Gospels.
- Claim God's promises in these Gospels.
- Pray often to God.
- Ask others to pray for you.
- Tell others what is happening to you.
- Let Christ use you to serve others.
- Celebrate the joy of your new knowledge and relationship with God.