

# LIFE QUESTIONS



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## Relationship With God

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The Bible says that 'God is love' (1 Jn 4:8), because of this God wants everyone to have an intimate and meaningful relationship with Him. Love is not love unless it is given away and involves others! Romans 5:8 confirms telling us that God demonstrated His love for humankind as He gave His only Son Jesus to die for us! He didn't do this because we were worthy, lovely or that we deserved it. In fact humankind were at their worst.

No one in their right mind would go to such lengths, unless it was worth their while. As far as God is concerned, everyone is important and matters to Him. He desires to have an intimate and meaningful relationship with everyone, however, not everyone wants this and able to accept Him and His love. This is their choice but does not alter the way God feels towards them!

Christianity stands alone from other faiths, due to the emphasis on having a relationship with God. Without relationship, God becomes an abstract identity. However, having a relationship with God means individuals are referred to as people of God, friends of God, sons / daughters of God and children of God – all relational terms.

Every meaningful relationship requires time spent in thought given to the other person as well as to the relationship, unhurried time spent with the other person is also an important ingredient. Due to the busyness of life and pressures of modern living, you will have to choose as to what is most important – remaining as you are or making time to develop your relationship and walk with God. The Psalmist helps us to understand what is necessary in pursuing your relationship with God when he says, "Be still and know that I am God" (Ps 46:10). He has learned that being still has more to do with being relaxed in mind, will and emotions, rather than just being still and doing nothing per se. For it is possible to be still whilst being all keyed up and anxious – not the best way to build a relationship!

No relationship is able to develop without communication of some sort taking place and this is so in a having a relationship with God. Not only is it necessary for you to speak heart to heart, it is also necessary for you to give time for the Lord to reveal Himself to your heart as well. In John 10:27 Jesus says, "My sheep hear my voice and they follow me!" It is only by hearing Him that you are able to follow. In following Him, you not only are able to keep in step with Him, but you are able to draw on His wisdom and learn His ways! God has given you the scriptures as well as the Holy Spirit to help you to listen to Him in every area of life. As you take the time to quieten your heart and listen, not only will you begin to hear Him speak to your heart, you will also get to know Him, His character and nature more and more. Many find hearing and listening to God a challenge, because they are not used to the way God speaks. Invite the Holy Spirit to teach and help you to hear God's voice and be prepared for an exciting and wonderful relationship with God! More information is given on the subject of Hearing God's Voice in another article. Enjoy!