

One step at a time

Lesson 6

God Made You Special **(self-esteem)**

Introduction:

God has made a unique and wonderful creation and there is nothing in the world like it...you. Sometimes it is hard to feel special and purposeful. We will discover today that God has a plan for your life and is going to use you in a powerful way.

1. Can I really know what it is like to be loved?

And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God.

Ephesians 3:19

God promises us that we can be filled with His love.

2. Am I accepted into a family?

But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, [even] to them that believe on his name:

John 1:12

We call Him our Father in Heaven because we are His children. Know and understand there is a God, a Father that loves you.

3. Was I created with love, with a purpose?

1 - But now thus saith the LORD that created thee, O Jacob, and he that formed thee, O Israel, Fear not: for I have redeemed thee, I have called [thee] by thy name; thou [art] mine.

4 - Since thou wast precious in my sight, thou hast been honourable, and I have loved thee: therefore will I give men for thee, and people for thy life.

7 - [Even] every one that is called by my name: for I have created him for my glory, I have formed him; yea, I have made him.

21 - This people have I formed for myself; they shall show forth my praise.

Isaiah 43:1, 4, 7, 21

If you were worthless God never would have created you.

4. What am I really worth?

For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end.

Jeremiah 29:11

I will make a man more precious than fine gold; even a man than the golden wedge of Ophir.

Isaiah 13:12

In the eyes of God you are worth more than Gold. If you are worth that much to God, imagine what you are worth to those who love and depend on you.

5. Can a God that rules the universe even know who I am?

And Moses said unto the LORD, See, thou sayest unto me, Bring up this people: and thou hast not let me know whom thou wilt send with me. Yet thou hast said, I know thee by name, and thou hast also found grace in my sight.

Exodus 33:12

Absolutely, He knows your name and everything about you...after all He created you.

6. Would anybody give their life for me?

I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.

Galatians 2:20

Christ lives in you. Yes, the one who loved you so much he allowed Himself to be crucified for you. Christ would not have died for a nobody. You are worth more than you could possibly imagine to Him.

7. But my life is falling apart, will it ever get better?

And we know that all things work together for good to them that love god, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

Romans 8:28

Keep your faith in Christ. You have been called for a purpose. Things will work out. Even your physical deformities, inadequacies and deficiencies do not deter His love.

8. But I've really messed up, does Jesus still love me?

What shall we then say to these things? If God [be] for us, who [can be] against us?

He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?

Who shall lay any thing to the charge of God's elect? [It is] God that justifieth.

Who [is] he that condemneth? [It is] Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us.

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? [shall] tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end.

As it is written, For thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter.

Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us.

Romans 8:31-37

Nobody can separate you from the love of Christ, not even yourself. Now, if God is for you who can be against you? Not only will you make it through the tough times, but you will be more than a conqueror through the One that loved you enough to create you then die for you.

9. How will I know what to do next in life?

The steps of a [good] man are ordered by the LORD: and he delighteth in his way.

Psalms 37:23

Put your faith in God and allow Him to lead you. This is a divine Bible promise from God Himself that He will guide you if you allow Him.

10. Does God have a plan for me?

Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, [and] I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations.

Jeremiah 1:5

Even before He created you, and set you apart for a purpose.

11. How do we receive faith from Jesus?

Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset [us], and let us run with patience the race that is set before us,

Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of [our] faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Hebrews 12:1, 2

Looking to Jesus, we receive faith from Jesus and our faith grows.

12. But there is nobody I can trust, who can I put my faith in?

Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.

In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

Proverbs 3:5, 6

Do not rely on your own understanding rely on God. Do not trust in the things of earth trust in God. Acknowledge Him in all your ways and He WILL direct your paths.

13. How can I be the recipient of all these promises?

For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end.

Blessed [is] the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful.

But his delight [is] in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night.

And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.

Psalm 1:1-3

Live your life in harmony with God and in harmony with the Bible and all these things will be added unto you. By the power and strength of Christ He can do a powerful work in your life.

14. Sometimes I feel like God is working against me, is that true?

For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end.

Jeremiah 29:11

God is never working against you. In every aspect of your life He is always working for your good.

Conclusion:

God has a plan for your life (Jer. 19:11) and it can be found in the Bible (Ps. 119:105). Will you accept His plan today? Will you accept the love of the One who sacrificed so much for you?

Look around. Look at all the blessings in your life. Look at your past and see how God has worked put your faith in Him to give you a bright future.

Will you put your faith in God today?

As an earthly shepherd knows his sheep, so does the divine Shepherd know His flock that are scattered throughout the world. "Ye My flock, the flock of My pasture, are men, and I am your God, saith the Lord God." Jesus says, "I have called thee by thy name; thou art Mine." "I have graven thee upon the palms of My hands." Ezekiel 34:31; Isaiah 43:1; 49:16.

Jesus knows us individually, and is touched with the feeling of our infirmities. He knows us all by name. He knows the very house in which we live, the name of each occupant. He has at times given directions to His servants to go to a certain street in a certain city, to such a house, to find one of His sheep.

Every soul is as fully known to Jesus as if he were the only one for whom the Saviour died. The distress of every one touches His heart. The cry for aid reaches His ear. He came to draw all men unto Himself. He bids them, "Follow Me," and His Spirit moves upon their hearts to draw them to come to Him. Many refuse to be drawn. Jesus knows who they are. He also knows who gladly hear His call, and are ready to come under His pastoral care. He says, "My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me." He cares for each one as if there were not another on the face of the earth.

[The Desire of Ages p. 479-480]