



Why Did God Put Us Here - Why Do We Exist ?

This is a question that people have been searching for an answer to for eons. It's the basic question of life.

There are all sorts of ways to head in an effort to answer this question. For example, one direction to go would be to answer it from the "God's purpose for us" perspective.

There are a bunch of right answers when it comes to God's purpose for us human beings. Maybe the one found most often in the Bible is the '3G' purpose. (For those of you who pay attention to such things, please know that this answer has nothing to do with cell-phone speed.) The '3G' answer is: Give God Glory. It is certainly biblically correct to say that we are here with a purpose of shining the spotlight on God with our words and actions.

But I believe the person who asked this question was coming at it from a different angle, from the perspective of "God's motivation" for creating us. What was His purpose?

There may also be several different levels of correct answers here. But for me the answer at the most basic level has to do with God's most basic characteristic. John in his first epistle (1 John 4:16) puts it very simply "God is love." (You can't get much simpler than a nine-letter sentence.) Since God's primary trait is love, it logically follows that He needs to have objects of his love. God needs being who can be the recipients of His loving actions. The most basic thing about love is that it is focused on others. It cannot exist in a vacuum. That means God needs Creatures who are capable of receiving His love.

God put us here to be the objects of His love. Maybe another way to think of it would be that God was creating a family for himself. (And - back to the "Our purpose" aspect of the question - since we have been created in His image, that means one of our most basic purposes is to return that love and follow His example, loving others like He loves us.)

I'd invite you to join our Sunday morning study to discover some of the other correct and "deeper" answers to that question. But the simplest answer may be that God is love and needs people to receive that love.

Thanks for asking,
Pastor David

Send your questions to pastor@livingwordlutheran.net

