

Things I've Learned

Who is Jesus? What do Christians believe and why?

If you are searching for answers to these questions with genuine curiosity, the resources below might be interesting to you!

These are the resources I wish I was pointed to when I started searching for answers to the questions I had. I hope they might be helpful to you.

A few notes

Here are a few random thoughts I have encountered throughout my life that I thought were interesting to think about.

- Evolution requires a self-replicating system. “Survival of the fittest” doesn’t work if you can’t pass your genes to offspring. The question then is did our extraordinarily complex self-replicating system (DNA or RNA) spontaneously assemble (in a world where the 2nd law of thermodynamics shows the universe always tends towards increasing disorder) or was it designed?
- Science describes nature, it doesn’t prescribe it.

General overview of what the bible says:

1. God loves you and has a wonderful plan for your life.
2. People are sinful and separated from God. Thus, they cannot know and experience the wonderful plan God has for their lives.
3. Jesus Christ is God’s ONLY provision for sin. Through him, we can know and experience God’s love and plan for your life.
4. We must individually receive Jesus as our personal Lord and Savior, then we can know and experience God’s love and plan for our lives.

Videos

- [J. John - Sermon](#) (1 hr – Start at the 8:00 minute time stamp)
 - a. I would recommend watching this video if you are curious what a sermon at church is like. He answers the question of “Why Christianity” in a very entertaining way with a lot of examples.

- [The most terrifying truth of Scripture...](#) (12 min)
 - a. ... is that God is good. Video explains more.
- [The Chosen TV Series](#)
 - a. Free to watch! This is a dramatized version of Jesus' life. Super well produced, and gives you a lot of cultural context that makes the gospels make more sense.

Books

- [Click this link for excerpts](#)

Prayers

- The Lord's Prayer – Luke 11:2 NIV
 - “[Jesus] said to them, ‘When you pray, say: Father, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come. Give us each day our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, for we also forgive everyone who sins against us. And lead us not into temptation.’”
- [From this sermon](#)
 - “Thank you Jesus that you are the truth. Thank you Jesus that you are the way, the truth, and the life. I come to you just as I am. I know I am broken. I know I have failed you. Thank you Jesus for dying on the cross for me. I ask you to forgive me now. Cleanse my life. I open the door of my life now. Come in by your Holy Spirit. Fill me with your power and your presence. Reign and rule over my life. Help me from this day on to build my life on you. Thank you Jesus for hearing my prayer. Amen.”
 - “Lord Jesus we are asking you now as the Great Physician to release your healing power and your healing presence. If there is any kind of sickness, disease, or infection, we pray that you will flush it out of our bodies and loved ones. If there has been any kind of degeneration, we pray for regeneration and we pray for restoration. We speak health and wholeness in body, in mind, and in spirit. Minister your healing grace. Grant us a tangible sign of your healing. We pray and ask this in the name of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.

Song Lyrics

Here are some lyrics/ songs that I feel like describe the internal journey I look on my way to God

Empty - Tauren Wells

Oh, you could have it all
You can have the whole world at your feet
Every little thing you think you need
And still feel empty
You can have it all
You can have the best this life can bring
Livin' everybody else's dream
And still feel empty

Stupid Deep / Sinking Deep - Mass Anthem

What if who I hoped to be was always me?
And the love I fought to feel was always free?
What if all the things I've done,
Were just attempts at earning love? Yeah
'Cause the hole inside my heart is stupid deep
Stupid deep

Hallelujah Anyway - Rend Collective, Matt Maher

'Cause I think I'd rather strike a match, than curse the dark
Yeah I'll find a way to thank You
Though bitterness is real and hard
'Cause I'd rather take a chance on hope, than fall apart

Joy in the Morning - Tauren Wells

And you'll never have peace if you don't let go of tomorrow
'Cause it ain't even faith 'til your plan falls apart
But you still choose to follow
If it doesn't make sense right now
It will when it's over

Afraid with you - Tauren Wells

So here are your takeaways. God says that if you want to be like him, you have to love like him. You have to love people who don't think like you, who don't look

like you, who don't dress like you. You have to take down the tribunal whereby you judge people before you love them. And begin to understand that love has no loopholes. Don't dress it up in political clothes. Don't dress it up in religious clothes. Don't dress it up in status. Love has no loopholes. You see, love will make you change your mind. Love will make you go the extra mile. Love will make you apologize even though you thought you was right. Love will make you feed somebody who cussed you out. Love will have you call somebody even though it makes you look like the weaker one.

Believe - Blessing Offor

But what if you know something I don't?
What if you will something I won't?
If you don't give me what I want
But you give me what I need
Is that enough to
Believe, believe, believe, believe in your love?
...
Do I love you or what you can do for me?
Sometimes I don't know
But all I wanna do is...
Believe, believe, believe, believe in your love

Make Room - Community Music

Break down the walls of all my religion
Your way is better
Oh, Your way is better
And I will make room for You
To do whatever You want to