

So, what is the purpose of your life?

Do you have hope?

These are two really important questions. Do you have the courage to sincerely ask them of yourself and your life? Why not give it a try, for what will you have to lose, and you might have an important thing to gain.

What is hope anyway? It is a belief that a person has that something good will happen to them in the future. Most people's hope, these days, is in completing an education, or finding the right spouse, or right job, or getting wealthy, or seeing children graduate from college, or succeeding in some career, project or athletic event.

Some people don't even have hope in these uncertain things. What about you?

Is the purpose of your life closely tied with what you are placing your hope in? Is your purpose in life to do what you can in order to see your hopes come to pass?

And what if you achieve your hopes, one or all of them...then what? Then what will be your purpose for living? Creating a new set of hopes that will also pass away probably never to be remembered by anyone?

Reality check...**failure and death**. What will come of your hopes if these two things, which touch people by the millions every day, occur in your life? I know it is a popular philosophy to avoid "negative" things, but I'd rather know the cancer was there then to pretend it was not.

Wouldn't it be better to set your hopes on one certain thing? Wouldn't it be better if your hopes were more certain, like, "I hope the earth will continue spinning in the next few hours so the sun will rise"?

People make a practice today to live pretend lives. It's where the term "pretentious" comes from. It means insincere and void of sincere self-examination. It means fake or shallow. It means to either make a practice of hiding the true thoughts of your heart, or becoming so truly shallow that you **no longer think about anything important**.

Where are you at? Are you a shallow person? Does fear influence your heart? Can you see how messed up the world is all around you? People just seem to enjoy hurting other people...you should see this manifest every day in many ways. Perhaps you have experienced this yourself with people that you care about and who claim in some way to care about you?

Are you trying to prove your worth to people around you? Is that what you live for? Is that anyway to live? People will very rarely affirm you in a way that is true, lasting and real.

So, would you like true Hope? A Hope that does not fail?

What about love? Yeah, I know that love has been seriously downgraded. Your parent's say they love you, but do they really? If they really loved you, they would want to be with you? And yet they send you to school and this after-school program and give you a computer and tv for your companion. Since you were young they conditioned you so now you think it is good and normal to not have a significant relationship with your parents. They have told you, 'oh, we are not spending much time with you because we are working so hard and giving you things that we did not have when we were growing up' (they will say, 'advantages' but what they really mean is money or the means to get more or 'nicer' material things). But you still should know in your heart – if you have not yet become a shallow adult like most people – that your parents don't really love you or they don't know how to love. It is very simple...if they loved you, they would want to be with you and to really know you by having a real relationship with you.

But don't lose hope, because there is someone who loves you. There is someone who wants a relationship with you...who wants to know you well, and who wants and knows what is truly best for you...**but it will take courage to find that person**.

Is love 'sex' or the emotional attraction that goes along with wanting to have sex with a person? Well, if the culture around you defines what words mean, then you should conclude that love = sex. However, maybe there is a purer definition of the concept of love. Maybe real love has to do with commitment, selflessness and compassion? Just because you don't see something, doesn't mean it is not real...you don't see the millions of souls in China, but you know they exist. You don't see an X-ray, but you know it exists by the resulting image. In the same way, even though you don't see true, pure love lived out around you doesn't mean it does not exist.

Hey, now that we are on that train of thought, what about God? EEEEEKKKK, you might say, "not religion". **And you would be right for reacting that way, because religion equals hypocrisy**. Or maybe you have parents involved in religion and you have a good concept of it, where it provides some moral guidance to your lives. Generally speaking, however, if you are not a shallow creature, and you have experienced religion or 'the church' in your life, then you should know that religious or church-going people are not any different than you...**they just try harder to hide the hopelessness they themselves labor under**.

So, chuck religion, and ponder the question, does God exist? Just because you can't see Him or touch Him does not prove he does not exist, right? Don't make the mistake of throwing the baby (God) out with the bathwater (men's religious systems). Because people who supposedly represent God act in hypocritical ways, does not mean that God acts that way or that he approves of

their acting that way. If you love a person, and they are not around you so that you can sense them with your five senses, does that mean that the love you have in your heart for them is not real and does not exist?

Wouldn't it be wonderful to have a perfect Father who would love you with a pure, true and everlasting love? A Father who would know what is truly best for you so that you could have peace and joy in your heart? A Father that would provide you with a clear and beautiful hope and purpose to your life? Come on, be honest with yourself ... **wouldn't that be great?** Wouldn't it be great to have a Father who has great compassion for you and patience with you, and who loved you so much that he would tell you what will hurt you, damage you and cause you pain? After all, what kind of a Father allows his children to hurt themselves and turn a blind eye to that? You should know in your heart that it is a father who doesn't truly love you. Maybe this is the kind of a father you now have? It would be better to have a father who got angry at you when you did something wrong (that shows he cares even though he might be expressing his concern in the wrong way), then a father who just doesn't care and says, 'whatever...', and ignores you. (Maybe YOU have been ignoring God?)

The perfect Father is real, and you can have him as your Father. You can have a Life filled with true hope and purpose which comes from this Father's Love for you. This Father is waiting for you right now, but there are a few things you need to DO in order to be this Father's adopted child.

First, you must see how bad it was to ignore this Father who has been reaching out to you since you were a child. You must see and acknowledge that most of the pain and hurt you have experienced in your life has not been anyone's fault except **your own**...and this happened to you because you did not know, nor listen to this perfect Father. Second, you must turn to this Father and His spokesman,

His Son, and have faith in them. You must not only believe that they exist, but you must seek **to know them and love them back by doing what they say.**

And who is His Son, you ask? His Son's name is Jesus of Nazareth, the Word of God. Sadly, that name has been attached with many counterfeits which christian religion holds up in hypocrisy. Christian religion has created many weird 'jesus' to fill their buildings. The good news is that the Son of God is not the hypocrite that christian religion makes him out to be...there is one real Jesus and you can find him IF you seek him will all your heart.

The perfect Father actually spoke from heaven in an audible voice when He sent His Son the first time, and said, "This is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased – listen to **HIM**". You can find the Hope, Purpose and Life you need by listening to the Father's Son who perfectly represents the Father. The Son said, "For I did not speak on My own initiative, but the Father Himself who sent Me has given Me a commandment as to what to say and what to speak". (John 12:49) How can you hear him speak, you ask? By **reading his Words yourself**. You will find his Words in four small books in the bible, referred to as the gospels. Some bible versions have his Words in red, which is really helpful. Don't listen to all the other voices in the bible, **JUST JESUS**. Here is where it gets treacherous and dangerous...

You must DO what the Father has said, which is to **listen to His Son ONLY**. It is extremely important that you **don't listen to anyone else except His Son for a while**, while you get to know the Father. The biggest mistake you could make in trying to enjoy the benefits of being the perfect Father's adopted child, is to turn to anyone (especially christian leaders and their followers) except His spokesman, His Son. Everlasting Life comes by knowing the Father and the Son, and if you go any other way, then at best you will become confused, and at worst, you will be dragged into the darkness and hopelessness of the trap of christianity. www.JesusFamilies.org

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