





# There is no doubt we are hard wired for purpose...

THERE ARE MANY CLUES TO THIS, BUT NONE MORE OBVIOUS THAN OUR NEED TO QUESTION.

In our early years, we asked parents, teachers and family members question after question. Are we there yet? Is Santa real? Why, why, why?

Do you think that the older we get the less questions we seem to ask? Sure, we're learning lots as we go but if you're like most

people, some of your biggest questions remain unanswered. None of these could be more important than the deepest questions of life.

Questions like: why am I here?  
What is the meaning of life? How should I live?  
What happens when I die?

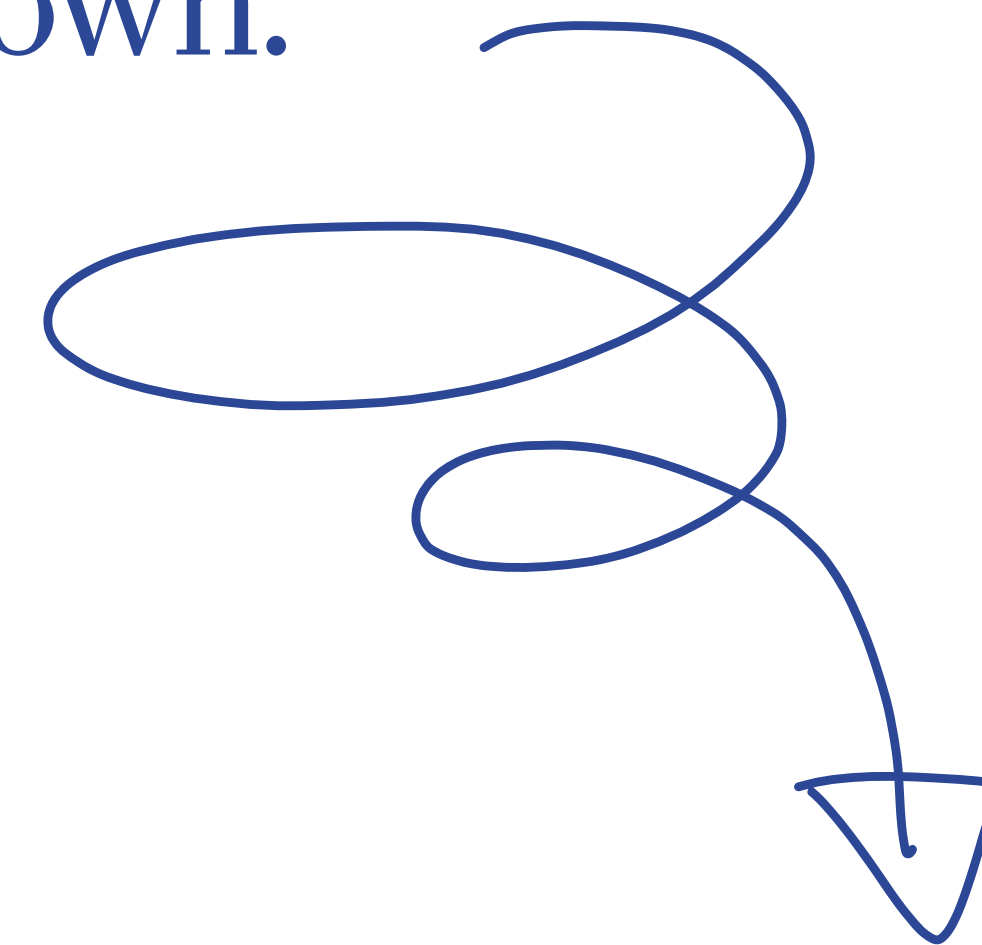
We believe the answers to all of these questions find their answer in Jesus.



The Bible records a time where Jesus was being questioned by a very religious man called Nicodemus – let's call him Nick. At this time, Jesus was busy bringing God's truth to the world, and it was upsetting a lot of people – especially the religious ones like Nick. What Jesus was teaching and doing was like nothing they'd seen before. His idea of God was nothing like what their tradition taught. For other people though, it meant transformed lives that finally had meaning and purpose. It's not surprising Nick had a lot of questions for him. Desperate for answers, Nick approached Jesus, but he did it at night – possibly hoping he wouldn't be seen. Ironically, as a religious expert,

Jesus should be asking Nick for advice, not the other way around. Nick was now the one seeking answers rather than giving them.

Why did he do this? Because his curiosity got the better of him. Jesus answered his questions that night, but what Nick wasn't expecting was to have his heart changed and his world flipped upside down.



People have always had a deep-seated curiosity to explore life and find out what it means to be a good person. In some cultures today we aim to be good by

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prioritising, finding meaning or living in balance. In other cultures keeping traditions is considered to be good. Jesus came with a simple message; good news, that spoke of humanity's real need. Forgiveness.

Instead of more religion and modern bandaids, Jesus actually heals the heart of the matter; our hearts. The Bible tells us that, "God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, that whosoever will believe in Him (trusting) won't perish but have everlasting life" (John 3:16). The way the writer uses the word 'life', isn't just length of life but depth of life. Quality and quantity! The life Jesus gives us through forgiveness is real life.



# What is the message of Jesus?

HIS MESSAGE IS HOPE,  
FORGIVENESS, PURPOSE,  
IDENTITY AND SALVATION.

It is the promise of a life-giving relationship. Jesus has one goal; to bridge the gap between us and God. God in His love for all of humanity wants to be connected in a personal relationship with each of us. No matter how far you feel from God, you are able to have this relationship with Him today.

You might have noticed religion isn't on the list. That's because God isn't interested in formulas. Religion is often just man's way of controlling and hoping to please God. Jesus doesn't do that kind of religion.

He has only one goal; to bridge the gap between us and God, by means of the cross.

US ← JESUS → GOD



# What if I already live a good life?

WE ARE HUMAN AND WE ALL  
MAKE MISTAKES.

Even in our search for goodness, we still mess up. Sin separates us from God. The original use of the word 'sin' was an archery term, which meant 'to miss the mark'. Scriptures teach us that the sin which affects us was Adam's, and the gift to undo that effect is Jesus. Jesus said we can't make up for our sin by self-improvement or good works. Only our trusting

faith in Jesus and the saving work He does on our behalf can connect us to God.

The moment we choose to believe in Jesus, not only do we have access to a personal relationship with God, but we are also set free from the need to be good out of our own merits. He forgives us, He sets us free from our mistakes and He gives us a transformed life of hope and freedom.

Good news right?! —





# This is good news! How do I believe?

IT'S NOT HARD TO BELIEVE. YOUR FAITH IS AT WORK EVERY DAY OF YOUR LIFE.

You use it in so many scenarios that it's easy to forget it's there. When you sit down you trust the chair will hold you. That is faith - trusting, believing. If you believe in your heart and are willing to say out loud (the next page can guide you) that you believe in Jesus; who He is and what He has

done for you, you will be saved. Jesus did not say that your good works, or morality would save you. Even good religious people like Nick cannot earn their salvation. He said only your trusting faith in Him could. Faith in what? In the fact He was with God and was God and was sent to die for our sins. This was God's love. What He did on the cross, was the entire requirement of sinful man's punishment (Romans 6:23).



ARE YOU IN RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD? IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE,  
PRAY THIS PRAYER FROM YOUR HEART. GOD WILL HEAR YOU.



Dear God, thank you for loving me.  
Thank you for creating me. I ask you  
to help me to know you, to know your  
forgiveness, to know your salvation  
and to know the amazing things you  
have in store for me. Please open my  
eyes to Jesus and to the hope that He  
brings. Forgive me for the wrong things  
I have done. Make me new. Walk with  
me every day of my life. Amen.



# So, what's my next step?

TO PRAY THIS PRAYER  
WHOLEHEARTEDLY IS TO BEGIN  
A JOURNEY OF GETTING TO  
KNOW JESUS.

Whether you are new to the  
faith journey, or are coming  
back after a detour there are  
always more questions we  
have about God!



The Bible is a great place  
to start in your search for  
answers. Grab one for free  
online or download it for  
your device.

Church is another great  
place to find answers. Be part  
of a community that is on the  
same faith journey.

If you'd like to talk more  
about the decision you've  
made or to find out more  
about church, please get in  
touch with us.



# Annesbrook Church

We are a church that loves God and are passionate about seeing people live a Jesus-filled life.

We'd love to hear from you!  
Hit any of the links below to contact us:

- [www.annesbrook.co.nz](http://www.annesbrook.co.nz)
- [info@annesbrook.co.nz](mailto:info@annesbrook.co.nz)
- [@annesbrookchurch](https://www.instagram.com/annesbrookchurch)

