WHY DID GOD CREATE ME? (12)

Why are we here? Did God create us like toys to play with as entertainment? Did He make the huge universe and design the complexities of life just to sit back and admire His own greatness as a creator? Did He make us with the purpose of bringing "glory" to Himself, or to bring "glory" to us? Did He make us just so He would have someone to rule over? Someone to boss around? Did He do it to gain our respect? This is an important question.

We must remember that God is constantly likened to a father in the Bible. What if you learned that your father brought you into the world just to rule over you? What if he did it just so you would honor and reverence him? What if he became a parent just so others would admire him and praise him? How would you feel about such a father? You might not feel too enthusiastic about serving or catering to his selfish desires.

Many people have viewed God in this way. They think of God as a powerful scientist who made us like a robot or a puppet. They think God finds fulfillment in pulling our strings and pushing our buttons. Their concept of God sees Him as giving arbitrary commands just to see us stumble and fall. They see Him giving commands just to see if we will obey, commands that have no purpose or reason, commands designed to limit our happiness while at the same time increasing His. Is this what human fathers are like? Are we guilty of seeing God this way?

What is the purest and most common reason for a human being to want to be a parent? Most of our parents wanted to be parents because they wanted an opportunity to LOVE US! They wanted our FELLOWSHIP! They made great PLANS for us! They DELIGHT in our happiness! They SACRIFICE everything because they are totally UNSELFISH when it comes to our needs. They will do these things for us even though we have not earned them or deserve them.

How would you feel toward these parents described in the last paragraph? In response to their UNCONDITIONAL LOVE you would try to constantly please and honor them. If not, you are a totally uncaring and truly selfish person.

So what is our primary purpose on earth? Why did God make us? God's aim and intent in making us was to pour out His love on us. He said in the beginning, "Let US make human beings in our likeness and give them dominion over everything we have created" (Genesis 1:26-27). (Note: The plural (US) in the previous quote refers to the personality later known as Jesus Christ, see John 1:1-14). When man realizes the greatness of God's love; he is often made to cry out like David: "What is man that You think of him; mere man that you care for him? Yet you have made him inferior only to Yourself; you crowned him with glory and honor" (Psalms 8:4-6).

God crowned us with glory! What does the word glory mean? The Greek dictionary says the word "glory" refers to a "high estimate or opinion" of someone. Glory is "honor resulting from a high opinion". God creating us and wanting to be our father shows His high opinion of us. We are drawn to "love Him, because he first loved us (1 John 4:19).

However, some children don't appreciate their parents' sacrifice and love. In the same way every man has at some point in his life, selfishly turned up his nose at God as his loving father and creator. Every single man and woman has sinned and rebelled against God. In the next lesson we will see that God still continues to love us, even in our sin. The Bible is the story of God's love for rebellious children!
Questions:

1. God is often called our __________ in the Bible.
2. What motives do our parents and God have in common for wanting children?
3. What does the word "glory" mean?