



How Can You Discover and Experience God's Ways?

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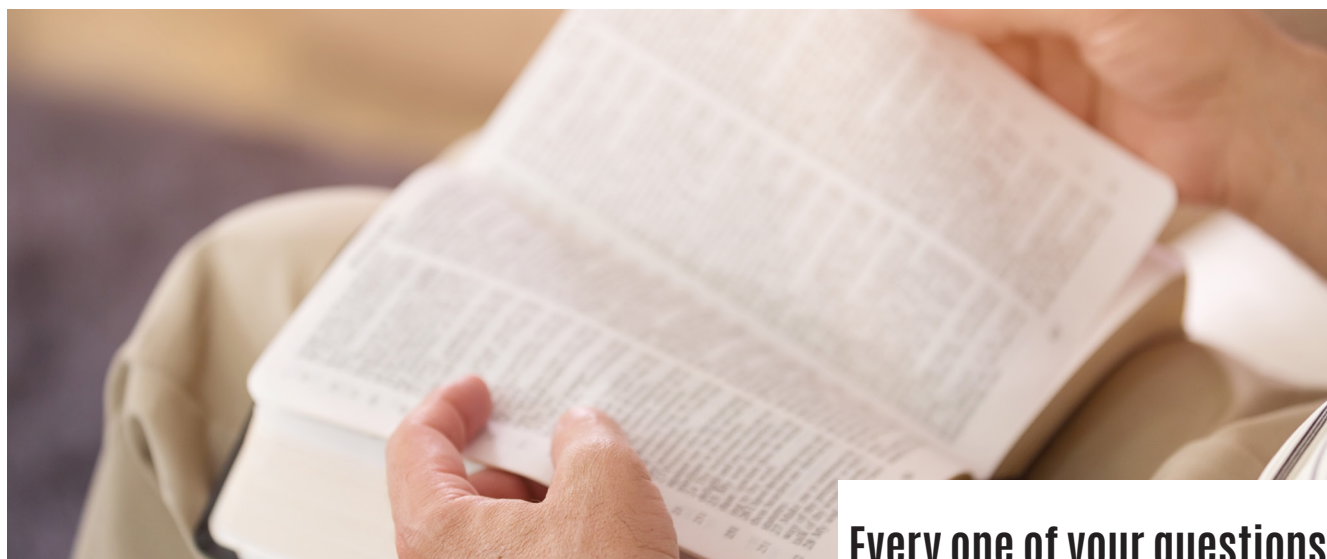
“God never said that the journey would be easy, but He did say that the arrival would be worthwhile.”

-Max Lucado


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When you think about God, what questions come to mind?

There are two large buckets into which questions about God can get sorted. The first bucket holds our intellectual questions, and the other bucket is for our experiential questions.



Every one of your questions
IS NORMAL



Regardless of whether you consider yourself a Christian, just a person exploring spiritual things, or maybe you're brand new to thinking about God and faith: you've probably had experiences that brought up some questions about what you believe and what it looks like to have a spiritual life.

I want you to know that every one of your questions is normal. Even though I've been following Jesus for many years now, there are still moments that make me stop in my tracks and have to get clarity.

How do I connect with God and His ways experientially and meaningfully?

So, frankly, sometimes it seems like God is absent, and we wish to experience Him. Let's explore a few of those experience-based questions...

Where Is God In The Middle of My Circumstances?



Let's get real – life hasn't quite turned out like any of us thought it would. I mean, the world as we understood it has been flipped upside down, turned inside out, and now looks a little backward to the one we grew up in! It's hard to see where God is present in your experience, especially in the unexpected circumstances that make themselves known to us.

Experiences like this can do one of two things; they can either push you away from God or draw you closer to Him. Hope is found as you lean into belief and faith and make an attempt to connect with God.

You, right now, have the power to make this moment, this season of circumstances in your life, something which moves you to discovering and experiencing God's ways.

How Can I Know Who God Is? And Can I Hear His Voice?

Psalm 23:4

***Even if I walk through
a valley as dark as the
grave,***

***I will not be afraid of any
danger, because you are
with me.***

***Your rod and staff
comfort me.***

To you, God might be as vague as a “higher power.” God could also be an object of devotion, an unapproachable, divine being, or a best friend. There are so many opinions out there about God and His nature that it can feel overwhelming to think you could ever know and connect with God on a personal level.

Even so, the Bible (God’s love letter to humanity) tells us that He desperately wants to communicate with you [Psalm 23:4]. Learning to recognize God’s ways is an excellent way to start hearing His voice.



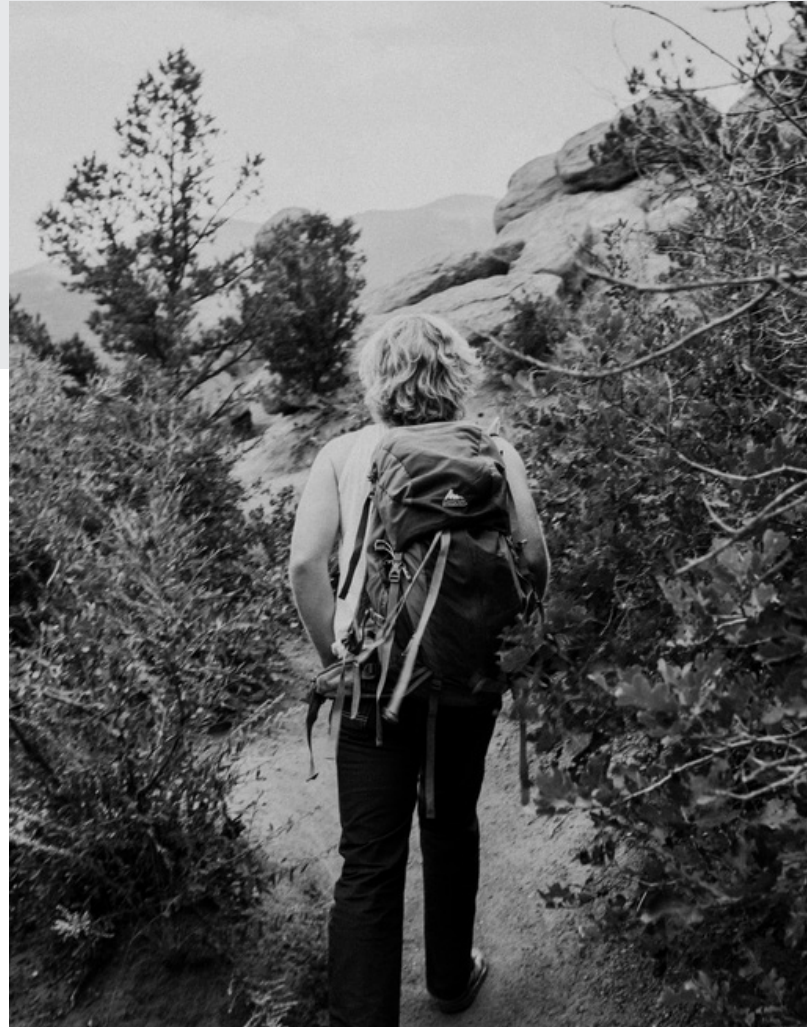
Who Can I Talk To About My Spiritual Questions?

All of this can certainly seem like way too much to take on by yourself. You are not wrong!

Good news - God didn't make us to live life on our own, without other people. Instead, He created us to be around others who can help us take next steps in our spiritual growth. At the same time, you might have great friends but don't feel like you could ever talk to them about your spiritual questions.

So, what are you supposed to do?

In addition to attending church and becoming known by the people who attend, you might want to [try one of our groups](#). They're a great environment to ask and discuss different questions about faith.



GOOD NEWS

***God didn't
make us to
live life on
our own***



How Do I Experience God In A Powerful Way That's Bigger Than Me?

The questions we have looked at so far have to do with realizing God's presence and direction for us, but sometimes we want more than a listening ear – we want an adventure or a mission.

[Here's a message series I shared recently](#), and it's all about refocusing our lives around what will allow us to live the kind of life we are designed for. But be warned, this series is not for the faint of heart!

Hope Church's Mission

**To invite people to discover and
experience God's ways**

Where Do I Start? Can You Share Some Practical Resources?

The absolute best way to find out what God thinks about all kinds of issues is in the Bible. A great way to start reading the Bible is to read shorter bits (a paragraph or maybe a chapter) and then reflect on what can be applied and put into action. [Here are some of our staff team's favorite online reading plans.](#) If you want to grow your prayer life, [here's a message I did on prayer.](#)

Here's something I find encouraging: You're not the only one asking these questions. I've certainly had my questions along these lines and different times, too.

Guess what? The people you're friends with probably also have these kinds of questions. Questions are not wrong; instead, they can help you make a stronger connection to God and grow in new ways. Asking questions keeps us actively involved in our relationship with Jesus. Asking questions forces us to discover and experience God and His ways like we've never imagined possible.

So, keep asking, keep discovering, keep experiencing, and keep leaning into Him.

HopeChurch.com / 1750 Beach St. Fort Worth, TX

**You're not
the only one
asking these
questions.**

***Connect with others people just
like you at Hope Church!***

***We have two identical services
every Sunday at 9:30 and 11 am***