

Why were we created?

1. Does God need human beings for anything (i.e. fellowship, etc.)? What do you observe?

Who has been first to give to Me, that I should repay him?
Whatever is under the entire heaven is Mine. (Job 41:11, NASB)

The God who made the world and everything that is in it, since He is Lord of heaven and earth, does not dwell in temples made by hands; nor is He served by human hands, as though He needed anything, since He Himself gives to all people life and breath and all things; (Acts 17:24-25, NASB)

2. Why did God create man? In speaking to the nation of Israel, the prophet Isaiah said:

Everyone who is called by My name,
And whom I have created for My glory,
Whom I have formed, even whom I have made.” (Isa 43:7, NASB)

3. What observations of the text can you make to help you understand God’s phrase “My glory?”

Then Moses said, “Please, show me Your glory!” And He said, “I Myself will make all My goodness pass before you, and will proclaim the name of the LORD before you; and I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show compassion to whom I will show compassion.” (Ex 33:18-19, NASB)

Then Aaron lifted up his hands toward the people and blessed them, and he stepped down after making the sin offering, the burnt offering, and the peace offerings. And Moses and Aaron went into the tent of meeting. When they came out and blessed the people, the glory of the LORD appeared to all the people. Then fire went out from the LORD and consumed the burnt offering and the portions of fat on the altar; and when all the people saw it, they shouted and fell face downward. (Lev 9:22-24, NASB)

4. What conclusions do you draw for the question “why were we created?” Circle key words to help your observation!

Then God said, “Let Us make mankind in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over the livestock and over all the earth, and over every crawling thing that crawls on the earth.” So God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. (Gen 1:26-27, NASB)

Therefore they said to Him, “What are we to do, so that we may accomplish the works of God?” Jesus answered and said to them, “This is the work of God, that you believe in Him whom He has sent.” (John 6:28-29, NASB)

Therefore, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all things for the glory of God. Do not offend Jews or Greeks, or the church of God; just as I also please everyone in all things, not seeking my own benefit but the benefit of the many, so that they may be saved. (1 Cor 10:31-33, NASB)

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Teacher Notes

1. Does God need human beings for anything (i.e. fellowship, etc.)? What do you observe?

Who has been first to give to Me, that I should repay him?

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Ask the student: did God create human beings for fellowship? Can he support his answer from the Bible? If a hint is necessary, have the student observe John 17:22-24 to see who God fellowships with.

The glory which You have given Me I also have given to them, so that they may be one, just as We are one; I in them and You in Me, that they may be perfected in unity, so that the world may know that You sent Me, and You loved them, just as You loved Me. Father, I desire that they also, whom You have given Me, be with Me where I am, so that they may see My glory which You have given Me, for You loved Me before the foundation of the world. (John 17:22-24, NASB)

God shares His glory and love in perfect unity with His Son even before Creation. There exists among the persons of the Trinity a perfect love, fellowship and communication for all eternity. God did not need to create man nor is He dependent on creation to be completely happy or completely fulfilled.

Ask the student to share what he saw in Job 41:11 and Acts 17:24-25. Allow some time for discussion.

No one contributed anything to God that did not first come from God (Job 41:11). God does not need anything from human beings (Acts 17:24-25).

God is a distinctly unique being. Not only does He **not need** creation for anything, He **could not** need creation for anything. God is absolutely independent and self-sufficient.

2. Why did God create man? In speaking to the nation of Israel, the prophet Isaiah said:

Everyone who is called by My name,

And whom I have created for My glory,

Whom I have formed, even whom I have made.” (Isa 43:7, NASB)

Ask the student: who did God create for “His glory?”

Isaiah reveals that **everyone who is a Believer** was created for God’s glory.

Remind the student: let the Bible always interpret itself. Consider this passage Exodus 19:4-6: what do you see?

You yourselves have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I carried you on eagles’ wings, and brought you to Myself. Now then, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be My own possession among all the peoples, for all the earth is Mine; and **you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.**’ (Ex 19:4-6, NASB)

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Ask the student: what do you observe about God's glory? What is the distinction between these two meanings here?

God's glory in the abstract sense describing His character of "all of God's goodness."

God's Glory in a tangible and visible sense when it can be visibly seen.

4. What conclusions do you draw for the question "why were we created?" Circle key words to help your observation!

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How does understanding God's glory affect Isaiah's statement, "everyone who is called by My name, and whom I have created for My glory?"

Believers are visibly seen and abstractly represent God's all encompassing goodness to the world. With an understanding of why man was created, the purpose of man becomes clear. Human beings are to "do all to the glory of God" by doing the work of God so that the world will "believe in Him whom He has sent."