Are you searching?

Our Search:

People are always searching for something- for things, information, other people...

More than two thousand five hundred years ago, Queen Sheba travelled a thousand miles to look for wisdom and knowledge, nowadays we let our fingers do the walking in a much shorter time. Billions of searches are made on the Internet every day.

But what are we really searching for?

What mankind has searched for:

For centuries, people throughout history have searched for various things...

China's first emperor, Qin Shi Huang, who created the world-famous terracotta army, ordered a nationwide hunt for the mythical elixir of life that would allow him to live forever. He died at the age of 49 in 210 BC without finding it.

King Solomon, who reigned from 970 to 931 BC was said to be richer and wiser than any other king in the world. The Bible recorded that he received 25 tonnes of gold each year. Whatever he laid his eyes on he obtained them and he denied himself no pleasure. However, he declared that all is vanity and striving after the wind. He did not find true and lasting meaning in all the earthly pursuits and pleasures.

In 1987, the rock band U2 released the hit song "<u>I Still Haven't Found What I'm Looking</u> <u>For</u>", which became among the top one hundred greatest songs of all time. Bono, the lead singer and songwriter referred to it as "a gospel song with a restless spirit". It represents the spiritual yearning of our age, and how it remains unfulfilled even though our lives have become increasingly more sophisticated with all the technological advancements.

Something that satisfies:

On the other hand, a renowned English writer, C.S. Lewis remarked that perhaps what we are searching for is too menial. He said, "It would seem that our Lord finds our desires not too strong, but too weak. We are half-hearted creatures, fooling about with drink and sex and ambition when infinite joy is offered us, like an ignorant child who wants to go on making mud pies in a slum because he cannot imagine what is meant by the offer of a holiday at the sea. We are far too easily pleased."

We are all searching for something to satisfy us and to give us meaning. Some search all their lives, look in all kinds of places, experiment with all kinds of things, and still come out empty. Others resort to lowering their expectations of life and do not expect to find much meaning, purpose or satisfaction in life. Is this how we are meant to live?

The sad irony is, in all our searching, we are actually lost. The Bible likens us to sheep who have gone astray, each of us has gone his own way (Isaiah 53:6). We are harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd (Matthew 9:36).

The real search:

But actually, we are not the only ones searching. In fact, God is also searching. What is God searching for?

God is searching for us, who are lost! The Bible says that if a man have an hundred sheep, and one of them be gone astray, doth he not leave the ninety and nine, and goeth into the

mountains, and seeketh that which is gone astray? (Matthew 18:12). This is the heart of God. In the Bible, it is said: For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost. (Luke 19:10)

Who is this Son of man?

Who is the Son of man:

Jesus Christ is the Son of man. He is God, who condescended to become man, some two thousand years ago. His birth is the reason we celebrate Christmas. Jesus is God with us.

One may ask, why does God need to become man? There are many reasons, but one main reason is to be clothed in the human body so he could die on the cross in our place to bear our sins (Isaiah 53:6). Our sins consist of rebellion against God and His commandment. God, who sees human hearts declares that no one is righteous and all have turned away (Romans 3:10-12), and therefore we deserve death.

But we can be saved, through Jesus Christ.

For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. (Romans 6:23)

Why would God save us?

Because He loves us and He knows that in our sinful state, we are unable to save ourselves.

For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life. (John 3:16)

But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. (Romans 5:8)

This is the promise from God, that by believing in Jesus we should not perish but have everlasting life, a life that is full and meaningful. Jesus said: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly. (John 10:10)

This abundant life that is promised by Jesus starts from the moment we receive Him into our lives and it continues on in heaven where we shall meet Him. The Bible urges us to seek the Lord and live (Amos 5:6).

Friend, have you searched for and found the Lord Jesus? Is there anything stopping you from believing in Jesus? Would you invite Jesus into your heart today? You may begin by saying a simple prayer:

God, I admit to you that I am a sinner. Thank you for sending Jesus to die on the cross for my sins. I ask you to forgive me of my sins. I invite you to come into my life to be my Lord and make me the kind of person you want me to be. Thank you for saving me. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen

New life in Jesus Christ:

When we receive Jesus into our lives, we will be at peace with God and have the peace of God to help us navigate through our lives. We will have the security of belonging to His family and the hope of eternal life.

• Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ (Romans 5:1)

- But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name (John 1:12)
- These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God. (1 John 5:13)
- When finally our ultimate search is done, we who were once lost are now found and there is great joy in heaven.
- For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found. And they began to be merry. (Luke 15:24)

You may have more questions or doubts in your mind, or you may ask: "What's next?" Please reach out and contact Christian friends that you know, or you may contact us at: admin@lifebpc.com or call us at 6594-9399. We will be more than happy to help you and to know you better.