

THE REASON FOR EVERYTHING

1. Everything starts with _____!

The Lord has made everything for his own purposes. (Proverbs 16:4, NLT)

For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. (Colossians 1:16, ESV)

“For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory forever. Amen.” (Romans 11:36, ESV)

“For everything comes from him and exists by his power and is intended for his glory. All glory to him forever! Amen.” (Romans 11:36, NLT)

2. God is love.

(7) Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. (8) Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. (1 John 4:7-8, ESV)

3. God wanted a family to demonstrate his _____.

(14) For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, (15) from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named. (Ephesians 3:14-15, ESV)

4. God’s family is the _____!

(14) I hope to come to you soon, but I am writing these things to you so that, (15) if I delay, you may know how one ought to behave in the household of God, which is the church of the living God, a pillar and buttress of the truth. (1 Timothy 3:14-15, ESV)

5. God’s family will last forever, outlasting everything else _____.

He [God] has made everything beautiful in its time. Also, he has put eternity into man’s heart, yet so that he cannot find out what God has done from the beginning to the end. (Ecclesiastes 3:11, ESV)

in hope of eternal life, which God, who never lies, promised before the ages began (Titus 1:2, ESV)

6. Although God created us last, he thought of us first. He planned the universe for _____.

“Thus says the Lord who made you, who formed you from the womb and will help you” (Isaiah 44:2a, ESV)

"He chose to give birth to us by giving us his true word. And we, out of all creation, became his prized possession." (James 1:18, NLT)

7. God didn't reveal his plan until _____.

(8) To me, though I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, (9) and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God, who created all things, (10) so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. (11) This was according to the eternal purpose that he has realized in Christ Jesus our Lord. (Ephesians 3:8-11, ESV)

8. Jesus makes the whole plan _____.

(11) In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, (12) so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory. (Ephesians 1:11-12, ESV)

(9) For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, (10) who died for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we might live with him. (1 Thessalonians 5:9-10, ESV)

(9) God has now revealed to us his mysterious will regarding Christ—which is to fulfill his own good plan. (10) And this is the plan: At the right time he will bring everything together under the authority of Christ—everything in heaven and on earth. (Ephesians 1:9-10, NLT)

9. The time is getting _____.

(19) For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. (20) For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope (21) that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. (Romans 8:19-21, ESV)

(9) But, as it is written, "What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man imagined, what God has prepared for those who love him." (1 Corinthians 2:9, ESV)

10. In the meantime, we can practice for _____.

(11) For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, (12) training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, (13) waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, (14) who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works. (Titus 2:11-14, ESV)