

The Meaning of Life: A Psychological Thriller

1. There are 5 clues to the mystery embedded in the very first pages of the bible.
 - a. God already knew the ending
 - b. God brought it about
 - c. What we gained in the Garden of Eden (and why it wasn't enough)
 - d. What kind of character is God? Villain? Judge? Hero?
 - e. Cast out- and then, oddly, pursued

2. Jesus is the Big Reveal: the Plot Twist and Ah Ha! Moment
 - a. The Metanarrative (Big Picture)
 - i. **God pursues us with His perfect love. We are what He's always wanted. Will we believe it?**

3. The Happy Conclusion
 - a. From paradise to a paradise even more extravagant
 - b. From walking with God to being one with God
 - c. From knowing how to judge good and evil to growing in perfect love

4. Our Questions Answered
 - a. Why am I here?
 - b. What is my purpose in life?
 - c. What is my daily challenge?

Resources

The Lord speaks to the people of Israel saying, "I have loved you with an everlasting love... and I have drawn you in loving-kindness." Jeremiah 31:3

"Your beauty and love chase after me every day of my life." Psalm 23:6 (*The Message*)

"For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast." Ephesians 2:8-9

"Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me." Revelation 3:20

Herein is our love made perfect, that we may have boldness in the day of judgment: because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear: because fear has torment. He that fears is not made perfect in love. We love him, because he first loved us. (1 John 4:17-19)

You saw me before I was born. Every day of my life was recorded in your book. Every moment was laid out before a single day had passed. How precious are your thoughts about me, O God. They cannot be numbered! (**Psalm 139:16–17**, NLT)

Max Lucado: “You are valuable because you exist. Not because of what you do or what you have done, but simply because you are.”

Philip Yancey: “There is nothing we can do to make God love us more. There is nothing we can do to make God love us less.”

“The scriptures tell us that God is love. How do you pursue love? You pursue it by letting it catch you! You come to know that you cannot make God love you more, and you cannot make God love you less. His love, like His presence, simply is. It only needs to be seen. This is why a great deal of our seeking is merely asking God to open our eyes to His divine love. When we see, we rest.

God tells us, ‘Everything has meaning—everything you experience in life is either a product or by-product of my great pursuit.’” (Tim King & Frank Martin, *Furious Pursuit*)

https://www.amazon.com/Furious-Pursuit-Why-Will-Never-ebook/dp/B003CIQ52E/ref=sr_1_1?dchild=1&keywords=Furious+Pursuit&qid=1604793120&sr=8-1