

God Has This Plan For Us

There was a little boy walking along a beach. As he walked every once in a while he would pick up a starfish and throw it back into the ocean. A sunbather watching the boy remarked that the beach was miles long and there must be hundreds of starfish washed up along the shore. You can't possibly save them all. No said the little boy, but I can save this one. And he picked it up and threw it back into the ocean.

Did you know that God has a plan for you and for me? In fact God has a plan for everything person who has ever taken a breath or ever will take a breath. From the people who died in Noah's flood to the people who have not yet been born, God has a plan for us. It's a huge plan that to us might seem impossible to accomplish, but God is patient, persistent, and powerful. There is nothing that God cannot do.

This plan has its origin in Genesis when God said these words, "Let us make man in our image". His plan will culminate when we see him as he is for we shall be like him. In between the beginning and the end there is lots of room for us to make mistakes, to learn, and grow, and to build character and that is part of God's plan too.

There isn't time to discuss in depth the detail of God's plan but you can be assured that God has every detail worked out and God is in control so that what God has ordained will happen. Matthew 25: 34 **Matthew 25:34** Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world;

So what does God want us to do? The demand that God puts on us is no less than to be his witnesses. In a court of

law a witness's testimony can mean the difference between a wrongful conviction and justice being served. A witness must tell the truth and must be as candid and direct as possible. I believe we have forgotten this aspect of our calling. We are more than willing to sit in the courtroom and watch the proceedings, but God has called us to take the stand and tell a jury of our peers about God's son Jesus. **Luke 24:48** ⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things. When Jesus said "these things" was referring of course to the Easter story of persecution, torture, a puppet trial, a hasty death sentence, a glorious resurrection and ascension. The disciples witnessed it and through them so have we. So what are we going to do about it? We can step back, watch and wait for Jesus to do it, which he can do if he has to **Luke 19:39-40** ³⁹ Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, order your disciples to stop." ⁴⁰ He answered, "I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out. Or we can take the message of Jesus to those whom God is calling. How do we know whom God is calling? **Luke 24:46-47** "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷ and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. God wants to save the whole world...one person at a time.