

God's Profile

1. What do you put on your social network profiles?

- Highlight your positive qualities and history?
- Omit some less than desirable information?
- Decisions have to do with your goals

2. Does God have a problem with His image?

- He is often perceived to be a tough judge punishing or blessing based on our behavior.
- He is seen by many as a cosmic kill-joy? (Rules, rules, rules!)
- He is accused of indifference to suffering and injustice.
- He is perceived by many to be hard to please, difficult to understand or irrelevant to daily life.

3. Jesus came to reveal God's true nature.

*Jesus said, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. **If you really knew me, you would know my Father as well.** From now on, you do know him and have seen him." **Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father.** How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? Don't you believe that I am in the Father, and that the Father is in me? The words I say to you are not just my own. Rather, it is the Father, living in me, who is doing his work.*

John 14:6-7, 9b-10 (NIV)

So....what is God really like?

4. He is "good" (Incapable of evil or injustice)

Now behold, one came and said to Him, "Good Teacher, what good thing shall I do that I may have eternal life?" So He said to him, "Why do you call Me good? No one is good but One, that is, God."

Matthew 19:16-17a (NKJV)

5. He is full of grace....towards all

*"You have heard that it was said, 'Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' But I tell you: Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, **that you may be sons of your Father in heaven.** He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous. Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.*

Matthew 5:43-45 & 48 (NIV)

"In a word, what I'm saying is, Grow up. You're kingdom subjects. Now live like it. Live out your God-created identity. Live generously and graciously toward others, the way God lives toward you.

Matthew 5:48 (MSG)

6. He is not looking for a way to make people "pay" for sin

As he went along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" "Neither this man nor his parents sinned," said Jesus, "but this happened so that the work of God might be displayed in his life.

John 9:1-3 (NIV)

7. He is merciful

"The son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' "But the father said to his servants, 'Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let's have a feast and celebrate. For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' So they began to celebrate.

Luke 15:21-24 (NIV)

8. He is unchanging (and incapable of change)

*Do not be deceived, my beloved brethren. Every good thing given and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, **with whom there is no variation or shifting shadow.***

James 1:16-17 (NASB)

**God is good, loving, gracious, merciful and unchanging!
Let's get to know Him for who He is!**