FFWPU Europe and Middle East: Jack Corley - More Than a Belief: Finding a Living, Loving God

Knut Holdhus September 15, 2024



Early member shares how he found more than a belief. He discovered the door to experiencing a living, loving Heavenly Parent



Part 2 of an interview in Episode 2 of "Why I Stayed - <u>Unificationist</u> Stories", where Jack Corley, a farmer's son from Ireland, tells his story.

See part 1: Reason for Joining: God Became a Reality Part 3: Importance of an Ideal When We "Marry Reality"

See the video of the interview

Presenter: The concept of <u>God</u> is present in so many religions these days. How would you put the way that people see it in the <u>Family Federation</u> (formerly the <u>Unification Church</u>)?



Parents kissing baby in Belarus August 2017

Jack: God is a loving parental being, and the whole purpose of his <u>creating human beings</u> is that he wants to have children. Parents cannot be parents unless they have children. It is children who give their parents their title.

When we say <u>God</u> is our Father, how can you be a father unless you have children, or a mother for that matter?

It's important that we understand this relationship between the Creator and the created. And that's what I felt was one of the biggest insights for me, that I could really understand in a much more substantial way, that

<u>God</u> indeed is not just a fearful Lord over his children, but actually a loving Parent who lives entirely for the sake of his own children, us human beings.

And he gave us a beautiful planet Earth and the whole universe as our home while we are alive.

So I thought, how much effort did this Parent make before the birth of his children?

Just like any parents, they prepare the room, the cot, the clothing, all kinds of things before the birth of their children.

<u>God</u> Almighty prepared the whole universe, and particularly this planet Earth, to be exactly right by the time his children were to be born.

And so when we understand this quality of our Creator, it's much more than a belief I choose to believe, or I choose not to believe. It's a real experience of a living, loving Parent.



Presenter: Yes, I see a really interesting picture here. We started with drawing this nice image of God being a loving Parent and creating the whole world for us, but then something happened, and people failed, if I can put it that way. How do such things as redemption and punishment align with the story?

Jack: That was always a part of my belief as a Catholic. Somehow our first ancestors fell, and then we needed salvation through Jesus.

But one question always came to my mind: If Jesus promised the <u>Kingdom of Heaven</u> 2,000 years ago, how come the world is still such a mess? Even worse? That was always a question in my mind. And I found in the <u>Divine Principle</u> a much clearer explanation about why, even so many years after the coming of Jesus Christ, the world is so messed

up.

And the concept is that at the time of Jesus, we received what we call spiritual salvation. But now we have the opportunity for complete salvation, which means that we can live our lives in such a way that we become divine beings, people who truly resemble <u>God</u>, and that at the time of our death, we move on to the <u>Kingdom of Heaven</u> in heaven. But ultimately, we will build the <u>Kingdom of Heaven</u> physically here on earth as well, as the Lord's prayer says.



Presenter: I have to say that from the viewpoint of psychology, that I'm studying, this sounds very real because we say that problems and things we experience in our lives often come from our parents. And here we see the ancestors making that mistake that, as you say, carries on to all people. That is very interesting to hear.

Continued in part 3.

See part 1: Reason for Joining: God Became a Reality Part 3: Importance of an Ideal When We "Marry Reality"

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