

Character of a Loving God

A great way to know the character of God is knowing exactly what Jesus did by coming to this world to live as a man. We take acknowledgment in the fact the he died for our sins, but we glance over the magnitude of what he really did to show his love and care for us. He not only came to die for us, he came to live as us. He wanted to experience life as a human, our struggles, pains, hurts, emotions so he could truly connect with us by relating to us, on our level. Below are just a few example of how he truly took on our identity, so he could take it all to the cross, win the ultimate victory, then give us a new identity through Him!

Just like many of us, Jesus was:

- Betrayed **Matt 26:48-50**
- Mocked **Matt 27:29**
- Falsely accused **Matt 26:59-61**
- Abandoned **Mark 15:34**
- Constant death threats **Luke 13:31-35, John 7:30**
- Temptation multiple ways **Matt 4:1-11**
- Felt Anger **Mark 3:5**
- Suffering **Isaiah 53:5**
- People following him for personal gain not relationship **John 6:26-56**
- Anxiety **Luke 22:43-44**
- Fear **Mark 14:33**
- Frustration **Mark 4:40, Matt 16:8-11**
- Hated by many **Matt 27:22, Mark 15:13-14, Luke 23:21**
- Abused (Physically, Emotionally) **1 Peter 2:23-25, Luke 22:63-65**
- Detested **John 15:25**
- Disrespected **Matt 13:57**
- Felt Alone **Matt 27:46**
- Underappreciated **Mark 6:4**
- Tempted w/ drugs to dull pain **Matt 27:34 (Wine/Gall mix on cross)**
- Brutally assaulted **John 19:1-25**
- Misunderstood **Mark 8:15-21**
- Friends/Family opposition **Mark 3:20-21, John 7:5**
- Tried to trap him with his words/set him up **John 8:1-11**
- Disfigurement (Marred beyond recognition) **Isaiah 52:14**
- Sadness **John 11:35**
- Lost Loved ones **Matt 14:13, John 11:33-36**

*There is so much more when you search the scriptures. Jesus wanted to feel our pain on a human level in order to take it all on at the cross. He stepped down from a place of sovereignty to come as a servant. He knew that he would have to endure a great deal but chose to endure knowing that we would have to do the same ...but yet he still came, still lived a sinless life, still carried on the plan of redemption, still took our punishment because God is.. Love. He loves us. He created us uniquely with our own purpose. We are valuable to him. We are beautiful to him because we have his image. We are heard because he hears our cry and will wipe every tear from our eye. When we feel low, he exalts us. When we are lost, he gives us shelter. When we're broken, he restores. He was able to provide freedom because he walked a mile in our shoes. He put his money where his mouth is so to speak to be an example knowing that he endured trauma way past anything we can imagine so we would have the strength **THROUGH HIS POWER** to do the same.*