

## How God feels about you

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It is astonishing that God created us in His own image. And as we certainly know, we are people of great emotions or feelings. Sometimes our emotions can even be mixed. Like the man who said, "I have mixed emotions when I receive Father's Day gifts. I'm glad my children remember me, but I'm disappointed that they actually think I dress that way."

God made us that way because He is that way. The Bible ascribes many emotions to God, including joy, anger, and grief.

We have to be very careful about our feelings. They are not usually our best guide to making decisions, because they can be false and fleeting. The difference is that God's feelings are perfect and holy – they are never false or fleeting.

There is a verse in the Scriptures that was brought to my attention at a time when I was asking questions. Does it really matter to God what I do with my life? With billions of people in existence, am I of any concern to Him?

In Ezekiel 33:11, God tells the prophet, "Say to them, 'As surely as I live,' declares the Sovereign LORD, 'I take no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but rather that they turn from their ways and live. Turn! Turn from your evil ways! Why will you die, O house of Israel?'"

Israel had turned her back on God and was now suffering the consequences. The people were in a very difficult situation without much hope. But God reminds them through his prophet Ezekiel just how He felt for them and how He feels for you today.

This verse teaches us that God feels pain when you disobey (“I take no pleasure”). God hurts when He sees you making wrong choices and suffering the consequences of those choices.

He is very pleased when you repent (“but rather that they turn”). When a wayward child returns home, all of heaven rejoices, (Luke 15:10), and the one leading the celebration is God Himself.

He feels passionate about your future, (“Turn!, Turn!”). He is pleading with you to make the right choice and follow Him.

He is puzzled by your decisions, (“Why?”). God expresses puzzlement not because He is not surprised when you make bad choices or does not know why you do, but because it so astonishing when you do.

You really want to know how strongly God feels for you? Look to the cross of Christ! “But God demonstrates His own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us,” (Romans 5:8). You were on His mind when He was on the cross.

Some of you may never have realized how God feels about you and some of you may have forgotten. But be certain, God loves and cares for you!

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