

Reflect: Thankfully God doesn't think we're imaginary. Imagine if He did? If he ignored us as though we didn't exist? If he simply walked away from his creation, like a failed project, abandoned to run its course? ... switching out the lights, turning off the rain, refusing to maintain the delicate ecological balance of our universe and our world...

Thankfully, even though we treat him and others so badly, he's willing to forgive and stay committed to us. The Bible calls this grace. In grace he keeps the earth turning and preserves his creation. In love he preserves the precious conditions for life, even though we often forget and neglect Him. But sadly, some 'imagine' God's not there.

Here's the Bible's response to this kind of pretending. 'The fool says in his heart, there is no God' (Psalm 14:1). Surely it's biting the hand that feeds us if we refuse to acknowledge the existence of the one who created, sustains and will judge us. Not all imagination is good. This kind is folly!

God longs for us to do more than imagine him. He longs for us to know him. And He helps us by sending Jesus into the world so we don't have to struggle to imagine Him. Jesus's life on earth was recorded by the people he came amongst. Jesus said, 'He who has seen me has seen the Father' (John 14:9). So don't try to imagine God in or out of existence, read the Bible and meet Jesus.

The way to know God is through Jesus, not as imaginary friend, but as Saviour and King. Don't dismiss him as an imaginary companion of intellectually inferior Christians. Listen to his wise counsel in the Bible and revel in the comfort and assurance of being loved and known by your creator.

Prayer: Dear God, please forgive where I have gone in my imagination. Help me to trust Jesus. Amen.

Verse: "The fool says in his heart, there is no God" (Psalm 14:1)