



THE

*with-***GOD**
LIFE

Prayer as Relationship



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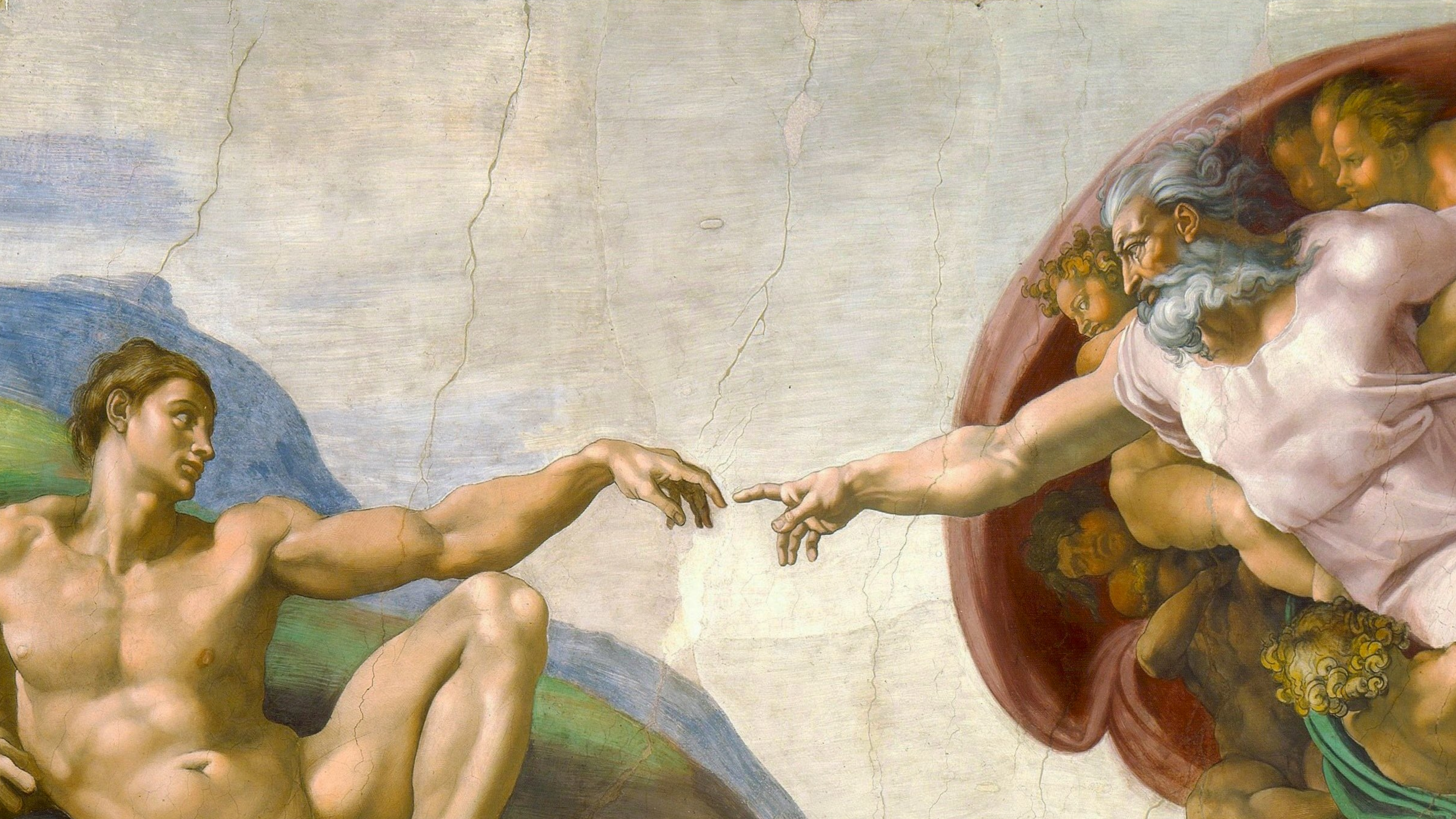
We think of religion primarily as the solution to the afterlife problem.

The Bible tells us that our primary problem is a broken relationship with God.

John 17:3

Now this is eternal life: that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent.





John Ortberg

... for nearly half a millennium this picture has spoken of God's great desire to be with the human beings he has made in his own image. ... This picture reminds us: God is closer than we think. He is never farther than a prayer away. All it takes is the barest effort, the lift of a finger. Every moment—this moment right now, as you read these words—is the “one timeless moment” of divine endowment, of life with God. ... The story of the Bible isn't primarily about the desire of people to be with God; it's the desire of God to be with people.

Luke 10:38-42

As Jesus and his disciples were on their way, he came to a village where a woman named Martha opened her home to him. She had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet listening to what he said. But Martha was distracted by all the preparations that had to be made. She came to him and asked, "Lord, don't you care that my sister has left me to do the work by myself? Tell her to help me!"

Luke 10:38-42

“Martha, Martha,” the Lord answered, “you are worried and upset about many things, but few things are needed—or indeed only one. Mary has chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her.”



Martha



Martha



Mary

Luke 10:40

But Martha was **distracted** by all the preparations that had to be made. She came to him and asked, “Lord, don’t you care that my sister has left me to do the work by myself? Tell her to help me!”

Luke 10:41-42

“Martha, Martha,” the Lord answered, “you are worried and upset about many things, but few things are needed—or indeed only one. Mary has chosen **what is better** (lit. “the good portion”), and it will not be taken away from her.”

Prayer is the doorway to
the one thing that matters
most—our relationship
with Jesus.

Dallas Willard

The “open secret” of many “Bible believing” churches is that a vanishingly small percentage of those talking about prayer and Bible reading are actually doing what they are talking about.

Theophan the Recluse

Find a place in your heart and speak there with the Lord. It is the Lord's reception room.