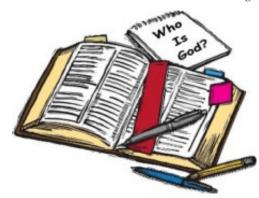
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Church of God Sunday School

WHO IS GOD?



DAILY READINGS:

| Monday: God is the Creator (Genesis 1:1-5; Isaiah 40:25-26; 44:24). |
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| Tuesday: God is everlasting and eternal (Deuteronomy 33:27; Isaiah 9:6-7). |
| Wednesday: God is omnipresent (Psalm 139:7-10; Jeremiah 23:23-24). |
| Thursday: God is omnipotent (Isaiah 40:28-29; Revelation 19:6). |
| Friday: God is omniscient (Psalm 139:1-6; 1 John 3:20). |
| Saturday: We know God through His Son (John 14:5-13). |

MEMORY VERSE: "I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty."

—Revelation 1:8

God Is Eternal

It has been said that there are four basic questions of life. They are: (1) Who am I? (2) Where did I come from? (3) Why am I here? and (4) What will happen to me when I die? Have you ever asked any of these questions? There is a question that is more important than all these questions, and it is, Who is God? As you search for the answer to this question, you will also begin to learn the answers to the fundamental questions of life.

Throughout history you can read of people from different cultures, races, and locations who have believed in a god of some sort. There is something within every one of us that "crieth out for the living God" (Psalm 84:2). God made us in His image, capable of having a relationship with Him. However, the devil knows this and has created many false gods, hoping to keep us from the very purpose for which we were created. It is not God's will that we be confused (1 Corinthians 14:33); thus He preserved His words (the Bible) so that we can discover who He really is.

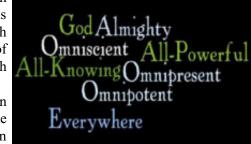
The very first verse in the Bible tells us something important about God: He was there "in the beginning." The rest of that chapter lists all that God created. If God is the Creator of the Universe (and everything within it), who created God? God has no beginning and no end; He is eternal. Although, everything within time has a beginning and an end, God does not. He is "The everlasting Father" (Isaiah 9:6), and He dwells in eternity (Isaiah 57:15), a place of continuous existence. Our human mind has a hard time grasping the concept of eternity being unending. Perhaps, it is one of the "secret things [which] belong unto the LORD our God" (Deuteronomy 29:29).

God Is Omnipresent, Omnipotent, and Omniscient

Omnipresent: this means that God is everywhere at the same time. God is not limited by time or location. He

is not limited by a human body, as we are, because He is a Spirit (John 4:24). King David said regardless of where he went, God's presence was there (Psalm 139:7-10). Jonah tried to flee from God's presence (Jonah 1:3), but he soon learned that God is everywhere, including in the belly of a fish. There are no "secret places" where you can hide from God (Jeremiah 23:24). "The eyes of the LORD are in every place . . ." (Proverbs 15:3).

Omnipotent: this means that God's power has no limits. Revelation 19:6 describes Him as "the Lord God omnipotent." The Bible uses the title God Almighty 37 times. God's power is what we must depend on. When



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our problems seem impossible, we read in the Bible that "with God all things are possible" (Matthew 19:26). God has power over sin (Mark 2:10), sickness (Mark 3:15), unclean spirits (Mark 6:7), death and the grave (1 Corinthians 15:55-57). When you are saved, God gives you His power and strength to live a holy life.

Omniscient: this means that God has unlimited knowledge or understanding. First John 3:20 tells us that God "knoweth all things." He knows our thoughts (Psalm 94:11); He knows everything that has happened and everything that will happen (Isaiah 46:9-10); He also knows small details, such as the number of hairs on your head (Matthew 10:30). It should not be hard to place your trust in the One who has all the answers. He has a perfect plan for your life (Jeremiah 29:11).

God Introduces Himself

God is "not far from every one of us" (Acts 17:27). He is not hiding or making Himself difficult to be found. From the beginning of time when He created the first man and woman, God has desired a relationship with people. He walked with Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden, and He walked with Enoch and Noah. He desires to "walk" with all of His children (Micah 6:8). What does it mean to walk with God? It means that your life is lined up with God's will. You are going in the same direction. You are in agreement with God.

God knew that in himself man could not find God (Psalm 14:2-3). People's thoughts and ideas about who God is are often wrong (Psalm 50:21). God would have to tell men and women who He really is. He told Abraham that He is "the Almighty God" (Genesis 17:1); He told Moses that He is the "I AM" (Exodus 3:14). Other times God introduced Himself as the God of deliverance or the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Yet, people still struggled to fully understand and truly walk with God.

So, God sent His Son to become a man (John 1:1, 14). Jesus told Philip that "he that hath seen me hath seen the Father" (John 14:9). The way to having a relationship with God is through Jesus (John 14:6; 1 Timothy 2:5). Sin created a gulf between God and man, but Jesus' sacrifice on the Cross has bridged that gap.

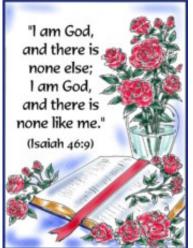


God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit

God is made up of three Persons: God the Father (John 14:9), God the Son (Matthew 16:16), and God the Holy Spirit (1 Thessalonians 4:8). First John 5:7 says that "these three are one." All three have an important part. They all work together perfectly in the plan of salvation. This is often called the Trinity or the Godhead (God in three Persons).

When God created man, He said, "Let us make man in our image . . ." (Genesis 1:26). Who was with God in the beginning during Creation? John 1:1, 14-17 tells us "the Word" was there "in the beginning" and that the Word is Jesus. In Genesis 1:2 we find that the "Spirit of God" was also there in the beginning. We read of God, Jesus, and

the Holy Spirit together in several places in the Bible (Matthew 3:16-17; 28:19; 2 Corinthians 13:14). When discovering who God is, it is vital that you learn about Jesus and the Holy Spirit.



"There Is None Else"

As you begin to search for the true God, in time you will learn that "there is none else; I am God, and there is none like me" (Isaiah 46:9). David wrote, "For who is God, save the LORD?" (2 Samuel 22:32a). Salvation cannot be found anywhere or in anyone else (Acts 4:12). He is the Creator, our Father, our Savior, our Guide, and our Friend. He has all power, knowledge, and wisdom. He is everywhere. The best news of all is that God made it possible for you to have a personal relationship with Him. Because of Jesus' sacrifice, you can have your sins forgiven. Then, the Holy Spirit will begin working in your life, revealing to you who you are, why you are here, and where you are going.

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| Bible Ouiz | How would you answer the question, Why am I here? What are some examples of the "false gods" the devil has created? |
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| 3.) Who created God? | |
| 4.) The Bible uses the title God Almighty 3 | 7 times. Give one Scripture reference: |
| | e lesson) of men who "walked with" or "walked before" God? "walk before.") |
| 6.) What does it mean to walk with God? | |
| 7.) How did God describe Himself in the fo | ollowing verses? Fill in the blanks. |
| "I am | " (Genesis 17:1). |
| "I am | " (Exodus 3:14). |
| "I am | " (John 14:6). |
| "I am | " (John 6:51). |
| "I am | " (Revelation 21:6). |
| "I am | " (Haggai 1:13). |
| "I am | " (John 10:11). |
| 8.) Name one characteristic that makes Go | d different from all other gods: |

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How would you describe yourself to someone who did not know you? You might tell them your name, who your parents are, and where you live. Your answer could include words like: son/daughter, student, American, Christian, employee, or volunteer. You also might describe your characteristics, such as: what you look like, what you like or dislike, and your personal strengths and achievements.

All of these give a more complete and accurate portrayal of who you are.

How would you describe God to someone who does not know Him? Begin with His attributes and characteristics. Each one gives a more complete picture of who God truly is.

Attributes of God Match the Attribute to the Correct Scripture

| God Is Good: | 1 Peter 1:3 |
|-------------------------|---------------------|
| God Is Holy: | 2 Peter 3:9 |
| God Is Everywhere: | John 1:1-3 |
| God Does Not Lie: | 1 Peter 1:15-16 |
| God Is Merciful: | Numbers 23:19 |
| God Is All-Knowing: | Jeremiah 32:17 |
| God Is Eternal: | 1 John 3:20 |
| God Has All Power: | 1 Corinthians 10:13 |
| God Is Patient: | John 4:24 |
| God Is Faithful: | Psalm 90:2 |
| God Is a Spirit: | Jeremiah 23:23-24 |
| God Created Everything: | Psalm 31.19 |