

Lesson 2

Your New Lord: God

“God is Spirit, and his worshippers must worship him in spirit and in truth” (John 4:24).

As a follower of Jesus you are gaining a new understanding of who God is and what he is like. In the first lesson you learned that God has revealed himself in the book we call the Bible. God is a self-revealing God. This lesson will teach you some things God has revealed about himself. Some say Christians worship three gods. Is this true? What does the Bible teach us about God?

1. Deuteronomy 6:4-5 _____.

2. Isaiah 43:10-11 _____.

3. Mark 12:29-30 _____.

4. John 4:21-24 _____.

5. Acts 17:24-25 _____.

6. God is the creator and sustainer of all things. How did he create all things (Genesis 1:1-31)? _____.

7. Why did God create the heavens (Scripture is speaking here of the heavenly bodies, sun, moon, stars, etc.) and earth (Isaiah 45:18-19)? _____.

Christians use the non-biblical term “Trinity” to express the biblical idea that the one true God reveals himself in three persons: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. Although the Bible neither uses nor explains the term, it teaches the concept.

8. Jesus instructed his disciples to baptize believers in what name (Matthew 28:19)?
_____.

The apostle Paul ended his second letter to the Corinthians by praying this benediction: “May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all” (2 Corinthians 13:14).

9. At the baptism of Jesus something extraordinary occurred. What was it (Luke 3:22)?
_____.

10. Do you think this was significant? Why? _____

11. What did Jesus say about his relationship with God (John 10:25-30)? _____

12. Why did the Jews want to stone Jesus (John 10:31-33)? _____

Note the cooperation of the Father, Jesus Christ, and the Spirit.

13. 1 Peter 1:1-3 _____

14. Jude 20-21 _____

While no one can fully explain the mystery of the Triune God, no one can deny the biblical teaching. The one true God has revealed himself in three persons: Father, Son (Jesus Christ), and Holy Spirit.

Concerning mankind's relationship with God, Christians believe in transcendence, or distance. This means that God distances himself from creation, and it refers to God's superiority over creation. "As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts" (Isaiah 55:9). "Who is like the Lord our God, the one who sits enthroned on high, who stoops down to look upon the heavens and the earth?" (Psalms 113:5-6). Christians also believe in immanence, or nearness. This refers to God's presence in the world and his interaction with creation.

How near is God to humanity?

15. Job 27:3 _____

16. Genesis 2:7 _____

What do the prophets have to say about the Spirit of God in relation to immanence?

17. Isaiah 63:11 _____

18. Micah 3:8 _____

19. Haggai 2:5 _____

20. How close does Paul portray Jesus Christ to his disciples (Colossians 1:27-28)?

_____.

21. How close does Paul say God is to all people (Acts 17:22-28)? _____

_____.

Not only does the Bible teach immanence, but it describes God as love. “Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love” (1 John 4:8). Paul refers to God as “the God of love and peace” (2 Corinthians 13:11). To whom does God demonstrate his benevolence?

22. Matthew 5:45 _____.

23. Psalms 145:16 _____.

24. God gave his Son to die because (John 3:16) _____.

25. God’s love has made us his (1 John 3:1) _____.

26. Memory Verses:

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. (Genesis 1:1)

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.” (Matthew 28:19)

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whosoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. (John 3:16)

27. Action:

The Bible reveals God’s character to us. Christian theologians refer to his characteristics as attributes. Look up the references in your Bible for the following attributes. Reflect on the meanings. In addition to transcendence, immanence, and love, God is:

- Holy (Isaiah 57:15; 41:14; Acts 3:14; Ephesians 4:30)
- Self-existent (John 5:26; 1 Timothy 6:16)
- Eternal (Psalm 90:2; Habakkuk 1:12; Hebrews 1:10-12)
- Just or righteous (Deuteronomy 10:17-18; Psalm 116:5; 145:17; Hebrews 6:10)
- Merciful (Psalm 103:8; Luke 6:36)
- Unchanging (Malachi 3:6; Hebrews 13:8; James 1:17)
- Omnipresent (He is present everywhere) Psalm (139:7-12; Jeremiah 23:23-24)
- Omniscient (all knowing) (Job 11:7-8; Psalm 147:5-5; Romans 11:33)
- Omnipotent (all powerful) (Job 42:2; Genesis 1:1-2; Daniel 4:35; James 4:12-15)

28. Rethink the lesson

- The Bible teaches that God has revealed himself as one God in three persons.
- God created and sustains all things.
- Although God is high above all things, he is involved in the affairs of daily life,
- God is love.
- God is spirit.
- The Bible reveals God's character. God is holy, self-existent, eternal, just, merciful, unchanging, omnipresent, omniscient, and omnipotent.

Answers to Lesson 2:

1. God is one.
2. There is no other god, there is no other savior.
3. God is one, and he is to be loved and served completely.
4. God is Spirit.
5. God does not live in temples made with hands.
6. God spoke everything into existence.
7. God made the earth to be inhabited, and he did not speak in secret from a land of darkness, but his spectacular creation speaks truth and what is right. Therefore people do not seek God in vain. His creation is revelation and communication.
8. In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
9. While Jesus was praying, the Holy Spirit descended in the form of a dove, and a voice came from heaven saying, "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased."
10. Thus, in one verse there is mention of the Son, the Holy Spirit, and although the voice is not identified as the Father, it is obvious that the voice is that of the Father.
11. I and the Father are one.
12. They wanted to stone Jesus for blasphemy for they said that he was a mere man claiming to be God.
13. The elect, had been chosen for obedience, or discipleship, to Christ and the sprinkling by his blood by the foreknowledge of God, through the sanctifying work of the Spirit.
14. Pray in the Holy Spirit, keep yourselves in the love of God, and wait for the mercy of the Lord Jesus Christ to bring you eternal life.
15. The breath of God was within Job.
16. God breathed the breath of life into Adam.
17. God brought the people through the sea, and he set his Holy Spirit among them.
18. Isaiah said that he was filled with the Spirit of the Lord.
19. The Lord encouraged Zerubbabel and Joshua by the prophet Haggai saying to them that his Spirit remains among them.
20. Christ was in them and his power worked in Paul.
21. God is not far from each person. We live in him and move and have our being. We are his offspring.
22. The good, the righteous, and the unrighteous.
23. Every living thing.
24. God loves the world.
25. Children of God.