BOOK 1 TEACHER HELPS: SECTION 1 ON MACHER HELPS: SECTION 1 Journey into the Depths of God's Word

How can we Know What God is Like?

The only way we can know what God is like is for God to reveal Himself to us. God wants us to know Him. One way He has chosen to reveal Himself is by a special book, of which He Himself is the Author.

If God has chosen to reveal Himself to us in a special book, how do we identify that book? There are some qualifications this book should have:

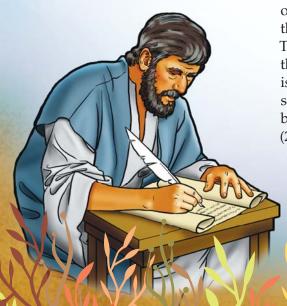
- It must tell us plainly that its true Author is God Himself.
- It must give us a detailed description of the past and future of the earth and the universe.

• It must be understandable and available worldwide in many languages. It must be a living book through which God speaks to us today.

There is only one book which meets all of these qualifications—the Bible. In the Bible there are over 300 verses which begin with, "Thus says the Lord," and thousands of verses where God is speaking.

The Bible consists of 66 books, written over a period of 1,500 years. Amazingly, these books all fit together. The reason for this is that the true Author of the Bible is God Himself. The Bible says, "All scripture is given by inspiration of God..." (2 Timothy 3:16).

God used many men to write the books in the Bible, but the Holy Spirit of God told these men



what to write. The Bible says, "...for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke [wrote] as they were moved by the Holy Spirit" (2 Peter 1:21).

There is only one book which gives us a detailed description of past events and future events. This book is the Bible, which is authored by God. Only God knows everything that has happened, and only God knows everything that will happen in the future. In His Word God has told us everything we need to know.

The Bible is the most available book of all time. Each year millions of copies of God's Word are printed in many languages and distributed worldwide. There is no other book like the Bible. It is a living book through which God speaks to us today.

The Bible is the only book, of which the Author is God Himself. It is the only book which was inspired by God. The Bible is God's complete written revelation of Himself to us. In the Bible we learn the attributes of God—what God is like.



What is God Like? part 1

getting deeper 1

memorize it!

"All scripture is given by inspiration of God...." 2 ТІМОТНҮ 3:16

discuss it!

In your own words, tell your leader how you can *know* the Bible is God's Word.

Do you believe it is a living book God uses to speak to you today?

It tells us plainly that its Author is God; it gives us a detailed description of past and future events; and it is understandable and available worldwide in many languages.

GOD is a Personal Being

There is only one God—the true and living God. In His Word, God says, "...I am the First, and I am the Last; Besides Me there is no God...I am the LORD, and there is no other; There is no God besides Me..." (Isaiah 44:6; 45:5).

God is not a "force." God is a living Personal Being who knows and loves every one of us. He is pleased when we earnestly desire to know Him. Above all, He wants us to love Him with all our heart. (See Jeremiah 9:23-24.)

God is eternal. He has always existed and He will exist forever. God had no beginning, and He will have no end. The Bible says, "...from everlasting to everlasting, You are God" (Psalm 90:2b).

GOD is Spirit

We have a body which can be seen. We also have a soul and a spirit which cannot be seen. God is all Spirit. He cannot be seen. Jesus said, "God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth" (John 4:24).

Because God is Spirit, He commands us not to make any image to represent Him. In the Ten Commandments, God said, "I am the Lord your God...you shall have no other gods before Me. You shall not make for yourself a carved image...You shall not bow down to them nor serve them..." (Exodus 20:2-5).

GOD is Everywhere

Because we are human beings and have bodies, we can be in only one place at a time. Because God is God and because He is Spirit, He can be everywhere at the same time. God said, "...Do I not fill heaven and earth...?" (Jeremiah 23:24).

We cannot see God because He is Spirit, but He is always with us, loving us and caring for us. The Bible says, "The eternal God is your refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms..." (Deuteronomy 33:27).

getting deeper 2

memorize it!

"The eternal God is your refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms..."

DEUTERONOMY 33:27

SECTEMONOMI 33.27

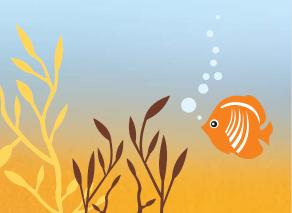
read it!

Read Jeremiah 9:23-24.

discuss it!

From the above verses in Jeremiah, what are the things you should not glory (boast) in? Instead, you should glory (boast) in what?

Should not glory in wisdom, might, or riches.
Should glory in knowing and understanding God.



GOD is Almighty

The word "almighty" means "having all power." God has all power! This word "almighty" occurs 56 times in the Bible, and it is never used of anyone but God. He alone is "Almighty." He told Abraham, "...I am Almighty God; walk before Me and be blameless" (Genesis 17:1).

All power belongs to God. God gives power to men, but all power belongs to Him. The Bible says, "God has spoken once, twice I have heard this: That power belongs to God" (Psalm 62:11).

We cannot imagine how great the universe is. Our solar system is part of an enormous galaxy called "the Milky Way," which contains more than a billion stars like our sun. Astronomers tell us that there are billions of galaxies like our Milky Way, each containing a billion or more stars.

This staggers our imagination; yet our almighty God brought this universe into being by His word! The Bible says, "By the word of the LORD the heavens were made, And all the host of them by the breath of His mouth... For He spoke, and it was done; He commanded, and it stood fast [immovable]" (Psalm 33:6,9).

GOD is All-Knowing

God has perfect knowledge about everything—past, present and future. He knows all things perfectly. God knows everything about each one of us; He even knows how many hairs we have on our head. The Bible says, "Great is our Lord, and mighty in power; His understanding is infinite [limitless]" (Psalm 147:5).

God sees everything. God knows everything. Nothing can be hidden from Him. The Bible says, "You have set our iniquities [sins] before You, our secret sins in the light of Your countenance [face]" (Psalm 90:8).

For those who have trusted the Lord Jesus as Savior, how wonderful it is to know that all our sins—past, present and future—have been forgiven forever. God says, "Their sins and their lawless deeds I will remember no more" (Hebrews 10:17).

getting deeper

memorize it!

"By the word of the Lord the heavens were made, And all the host of them by the breath of His mouth..." PSALM 33:6

read it!

Psalm 33

discuss it!

From Psalm 33 tell your leader two things that show how God is Almighty and two ways God demonstrates He is All-Knowing.

God showed He is Almighty by creating the heavens by His word, by the breath of His mouth. He also showed He is Almighty when He speaks or commands and is obeyed (verses 6-9). He demonstrates that He is All-Knowing because He sees all men and understands their works (verses 13-15). *Other answers may be given.

GOD is Holy

God is absolutely pure, absolutely righteous, and absolutely holy. In the Bible, sin is often referred to as "darkness." The Bible says, "...God is light and in Him is no darkness at all" (1 John 1:5).

The angelic beings who stand in the presence of God cover their faces before the glory and holiness of God. They cry out, "Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; The whole earth is full of His glory!" (Isaiah 6:3).

The prophet Isaiah was one of the greatest prophets of God in the Old Testament. One day he saw a vision of God. He said, "In the year that king Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lifted up..." (Isaiah 6:1).

Immediately Isaiah fell on his face before God and cried out, "Woe is me, for I am undone! Because I am a man of unclean lips, And I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; For my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts" (Isaiah 6:5).

What caused Isaiah to fall on his face? He saw something of God's infinite holiness and realized that he was a sinner and unfit to stand in the presence of such a holy and glorious God.





GOD is Sovereign

This means that God is in absolute, total control of everything that happens in His universe. Jesus said that two sparrows were sold for less than a penny; yet not one of them could fall to the ground without God's knowing and willing it.

God makes no mistakes. He is infinite in His wisdom. He always knows what is best for us. God is perfect in His love. He always does what is best for us. The Bible says, "And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose" (Romans 8:28).

GOD is Unchangeable

This means that God never changes; He is always the same—perfect in every way. God is always holy, always righteous, always faithful, always good. God said, "For I am the LORD, I do not change..." (Malachi 3:6).

It brings great peace to our heart to know that our Heavenly Father never changes. We do not have to worry about God being in a bad mood; He is always the same. The Bible says, "As for God, His way is perfect..." (Psalm 18:30).

getting deeper-

memorize it!

"And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose." ROMANS 8:28

discuss it!

Of the attributes of God you have learned so far, which one is your favorite? Why?

*Answers will vary.



Section / Questions



| ١. | What is the only way we can know what God is like? |
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| | We can only know what God is like is for Him to reveal Himself |
| | to us. He has revealed Himself to us in the Bible. (page 6) |
| 2. | Why is the Bible different from all other books? |
| | The Bible is the only book that has God as its true Author. It is |
| | the only book inspired by God. (page 7) |
| 3. | Why can God be everywhere at the same time? |
| | God is a Spirit and does not have a body like people. Because He |
| | is God. (page 9) |
| 4. | Does God see and know everything? Can anything be hidden from Him? |
| | Yes. God sees and knows everything. Nothing can be hidden from |
| | Him. (page 11) |
| | Name the most important things you learned in this section. |
| | 1. God has revealed Himself to us in a special book, the Bible. |
| | 2. There is only one living and true God. |
| | 3. God is sovereign. He controls everything. |
| | *Student answers may vary from these. pray it! |
| "Dear God, I thank You and praise You for being the God that You | |
| | —the true and living God whom we can know, trust, and love. esus' name I pray." |
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