

THE GETTING EQUIPPED™ SERIES

Basic Beliefs of Christianity

Lesson- 2



EQUIPPERS GROUP INTERNATIONAL

GOD THE FATHER

Equipping for the Christian Journey



GOD THE FATHER

OBJECTIVES OF THE LESSON

1. To know that there is only one God
2. To examine the characteristics and nature of God
3. To understand the persons of the Godhead
4. Take action to know God better

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS AT END



GOD THE FATHER

KEY VERSES

You shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself an idol in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the LORD your god, am a jealous God.

Exodus 20:3-5

And we pray this in order that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and may please him in every way; bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God.

Colossians 1:10



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Who is God?

God is an intelligent, spiritual and personal being—the creator, redeemer, preserver and ruler of the universe. Although God is above all creation, He still desires to have a relationship with people.

Come near to God and he will come near to you... (James 4:8)

The Lord is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth. (Psalm 145: 18)



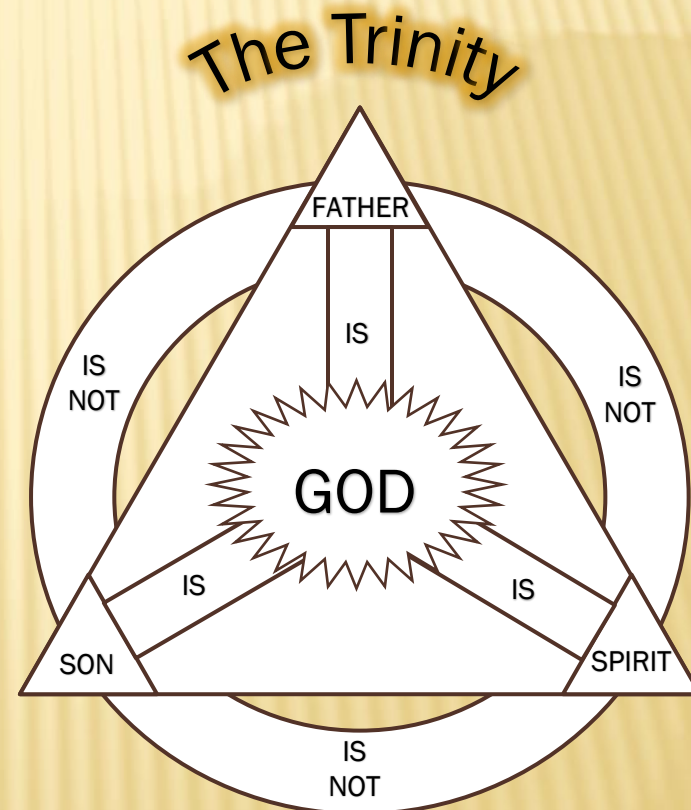
GOD THE FATHER

How many persons are in the Godhead?

While God is one, He exists in three persons (the Godhead)—commonly referred to as “the Trinity”—the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. The God head is composed of these persons of God—each with His own attributes as they relate to mankind.

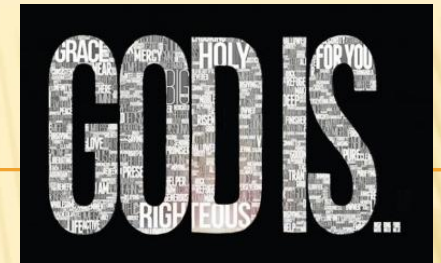
- **God, the Father**—All powerful, all loving and all wise. God is Father to those who become His children through faith in Jesus.
- **God, the Son**—Jesus Christ, God’s Son, became a man and, through His death and resurrection, is Savior.
- **God, the Holy Spirit**—The Spirit of God, who regenerates, indwells, baptizes, energizes and sanctifies the believer.

These three persons of God are one God—the same in substance, equal in power and glory.





GOD THE FATHER



Common attributes of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit

Attribute	God the Father	God the Son	God the Holy Spirit
Eternal	Psalm 90:2	John 1:2 Revelation 1:8, 17	Hebrews 9:14
Omnipotent (all powerful)	1 Peter 1:5	2 Corinthians 12:9	Romans 15:19
Omniscient (all knowing)	Jeremiah 17:10	Revelation 2:23	1 Corinthians 2:11
Omnipresent (always present)	Jeremiah 23:24	Matthew 18:20	Psalm 139:7
Holy	Revelation 15:4	Acts 3:14	Acts 1:8
Truth	Psalm 31:5	John 14:6	John 14:16-17
Kindness & Goodness	Romans 2:4	Ephesians 5:25	Nehemiah 9:20

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Activities involving the Father, Son and Holy Spirit

Activity	God the Father	God the Son	God the Holy Spirit
Creation of the world	Psalm 102:25	Colossians 1:16	Genesis 1:2 Job 26:13
Creation of Man	Genesis 2:7	Colossians 1:16	Job 33:4
Baptism of Jesus	Matthew 3:17	Mark 1:11	John 1:32
Death of Jesus	Hebrews 9:14	Hebrews 9:14	Hebrews 9:14



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Is there more than one God?

NO! There is only one God—the living and true God. Many Scriptures point to this fact.

This is what the Lord says—Israel's King and Redeemer, the Lord Almighty: I am the first and I am the last; apart from me there is no God. (Isaiah 44:6)

How great you are, O Sovereign Lord! There is no one like you and there is no God but you, as we have heard with our own ears. (2 Samuel 7:22)

Also read Deuteronomy 6:4 and Isaiah 43: 10-13



GOD THE FATHER

Why knowing God is so important

- **Eternal life (salvation) is rooted in relationship with God.**

We know also that the Son of God has come and has given us understanding, so that we may know him who is true. And we are in him who is true—even in his Son Jesus Christ. He is the true God and eternal life. (1 John 5:20)

Now this is eternal life: that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ,, whom you have sent. (John 17:3)

- **We are commanded to pursue the knowledge of God.**

*Let us know, let us pursue the knowledge of the Lord.
(Hosea 6:3 NKJV)*



- **Strength in battle comes from knowing God.**

*...but the people who know their God shall be strong and carry out great exploits.
(Daniel 11:32 NKJV)*

- **Knowing God is more important than gaining wisdom, strength or riches.**

*This is what the Lord says: “Let not the wise boast of his wisdom or the strong man boast of his strength or the rich man boast of his riches, but let him who boasts boast about this: that he understands and knows me, that I am the Lord, who exercises kindness, justice and righteousness on earth, for in these I delight.”
(Jeremiah 9:23-24)*



GOD THE FATHER

Attributes of God the Father

Spirit

John 4:24,
Genesis 1:2

**Eternal
& Infinite**

Deut. 33:27 & 32:40,
Job 11:7, Psalm 90:2
& 139:1-9,
Isa. 57:15

**All Knowing
(omniscient)**

John 16:30,
Ps. 139:1-6,
Acts 1:23-26,
Heb. 4:13,
1 John 3:20

**All Powerful
(omnipotent)**

Ps. 147:5,
1 Ch. 29:11,
Eph. 3:20

God
is a loving
father

1 Jn. 3:1,
Isa. 63:16,
Mal. 2:10,
Rom. 8:15,
Jas. 1:17

Changeless

Jas. 1:17,
Mal. 3:6

Holy

Rev. 4:8

Loving

1 Jn. 4:16, Jer. 31:3,
Rom. 5:8 & 8: 38-39,
Eph. 2:4-5

**Always Present
(omnipresent)**

Ps. 139:7 & 8-12

God does not live
in temples—but in
the hearts of men

1 Cor. 3:16,
Acts 17:24-25

God created
us in his image—
But is not like us

Isa. 55:8, Gen. 1:26-27,
Num. 23:19

Gracious

Ex. 34:6-7

**Wrathful
(severity, anger)**

Rom. 1:18, Ps. 95:11,
Heb. 12:28-29,
Rev. 6:16

God can be known by us

Heb. 8:11, Ez. 38:23,
John 16:14-15 & 17:25-26

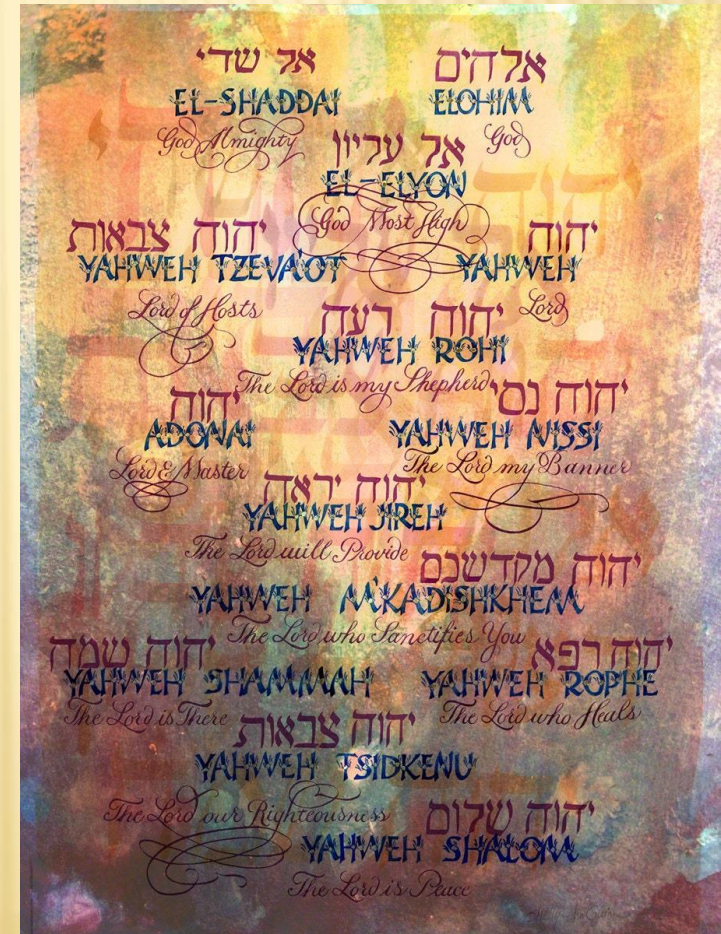


GOD THE FATHER

Names of God the Father

God has many names which are associated with His different character traits. These names are the English translation from Hebrew. Several are shown in the following table.

Note that Jehovah is a translation for the word Yahweh.





GOD THE FATHER

Names of God the Father

Hebrew names and meanings of God the Father

God's Name	Meaning & Significance	Reference
Elohim	God —refers to God's power and might. He is the only supreme and true God.	Genesis 1:1, 26 Psalm 42:2
Yahweh (Jehovah)	The Lord —the self-existent One, I Am That I Am—the proper name of the divine person.	Genesis 2:4 Exodus 3:13-16, 6:2-3
El Elyon	God Most High —He is above all gods; nothing in life is more sacred.	Genesis 14:19-20 Psalm 7:17, 57:2
El Roi	God Who Sees —God oversees all creation and affairs of people.	Genesis 16:13
El Shaddai	God Almighty —the all sufficient One, God is all powerful.	Genesis 17:1 Job 33:4 Psalm 91:1
Yahweh (Jehovah Yireh)	The Lord Will Provide —God will provide our real needs.	Genesis 22:13-14
Yahweh (Jehovah Nissi)	The Lord is my Banner —we should remember God for helping us.	Exodus 17:15

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Names of God the Father

Hebrew names and meanings of God the Father

God's Name	Meaning & Significance	Reference
Adonai	Lord—God alone is the head over all.	Genesis 15:2 Psalm 90:1
Yahweh (Jehovah Shalom)	The Lord is Peace—God gives us peace, so we need not fear.	Judges 6:24
Abiynu	Father—God is our Father	Isaiah 9:6, 63:16, 64:8
Yahweh (Jehovah Sabaoth)	Lord of Hosts—(host refers to armies, but also to all the heavenly powers)—God is our Savior and Protector.	1 Samuel 17:45 2 Samuel 6:2 Isaiah 6:3
El Olam	The Everlasting God—God is eternal. He will never die.	Isaiah 40:28 Psalm 90:2
Yahweh (Jehovah Tsidkenu)	The Lord is Our Righteousness—God is our standard for right behavior. He alone can make us righteous.	Jeremiah 23:6, 33:16
Yahweh (Jehovah Shammah)	The Lord is There—God is always present with us.	Ezekiel 48:35



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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS



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1. Describe God in your own words.
2. Why is it wrong to worship other gods?
3. Are other gods worshipped in your culture?
4. Which one of the attributes of God brings you the most comfort?
5. How is God like us?
6. Why is God's attribute of wrath consistent with His love?
7. Which characteristic or attribute of God motivates you to serve, obey or love God?



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APPLICATION

1. Memorize Exodus 20:3-5 and Colossians 1:10
2. Look up the additional Scriptures—think about and examine God's character.



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Equipped Through:
Basic Beliefs of Christianity



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And the things you have heard me say in the presence
of many witnesses entrust to reliable men
who will also be qualified to teach others.
2 Timothy 2:2

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