

Acts In Action Training Series



Foundational Lesson 2

Who is God?





Table of Contents

Introduction	5
Who is God?	7
God is a Trinity: The Father, The Son, The Holy Spirit	9
God is Omnipresent	13
God is Omnipotent	15
God is Omniscient	17
Creator and Sustainer of the Universe	19
God Never Changes	21
What Role Does God Play in Your Life?	23
God Created You	25
God Orders Yours Steps	27
God Offers You His Love and Salvation	31
God Will Judge You	33
What Are The Characteristics of God?	35
God is Love	37
God is Just	39
God is Good	41
God is Truthful	43
Why Do I Need God?	45
Conclusion and Closing Prayer	47



+



Introduction

The 'Who is God' training lesson is a course designed to provide Biblically based and Spirit led answers and teachings about questions related to who God is. In this series we will be taking a look at several common questions that people may have in regards to God and discuss answers to those questions. These questions and answers are designed to be simple and easy to understand while at the same time providing depth and spiritual insight. The format is laid out in question and answer format and each of the answers are based completely on Bible passages. In this study, we will be reviewing the following four questions: Who is God? What role does God play in my life? What are the characteristics of God? Why do I need a relationship with God? These questions may seem very basic for someone who already believes in Christ, however, we know that a house is only as strong as the foundation that it is built upon. This teaching is intended to help the new believer lay a solid foundation on which to build and grow as well as encourage and challenge those who have believed for a long time to continue to learn and grow closer in their relationship with God.

This lesson is also not intended to prove that God exists, that the Bible is true, or convince anyone to follow Christ. This lesson was prepared with the assumption that His word is true and alive, that Jesus died on the cross as the perfect sacrifice so that our sins could be forgiven, that we should always be prepared to testify about what God has done and what He is doing, that our faith must be displayed in action and not simply through words, that God is love, and that we should treat everyone the same way that we would treat Jesus.

As you go through this lesson the first thing that I recommend is that you pray. Pray that the Holy Spirit will guide you and teach you as you read and review the Bible passages that are used. Pray that as you learn about God and His Word you will grow closer to Him and that you would be changed. Finally, pray that you will not only learn the information, but that you will apply it to your life and bring glory to the name of the Lord.





Who is God?

The question of who is God is one that many people have spent their entire lives trying to answer. It seems that so soon after God created humans they forgot all about Him and one of the simplest questions became much more complicated than it ever should have been. After God created man and we sinned against Him we began to forget who He is and we even tried to write Him out of existence. At the same time, we look around at the earth and all that is in the universe and we realize that all of these things, ourselves included, could not have come from nothing. So we began to build theories and create other gods that we believed could have been capable of bringing everything into existence. Now, there are so many different theories and belief systems that it would be nearly impossible to know them all.

The reality is however that no matter how many different explanations we may create or how many different theories we may develop or how hard we use our imagination, the truth can never be changed. When something is truth it is not dependent on individual or popular opinion, the latest scientific theories, or governmental policies. It is not changed because someone disagrees with it or believes that it does not make sense or because it does not allow them to do what they want. No matter how hard people have tried over the centuries and millenniums to rewrite the truth we have never succeeded nor will we ever. So what is the truth? What is the answer to this question? Before we answer this question let us once again remember, truth is not a belief, it is not an opinion, it does not matter if you like it or don't like it and it is not something you can either choose to believe or not choose to believe. Truth is simply truth and there is nothing that you can or cannot do to change it.

The truth is, that there is one God who has absolute power, absolute wisdom, and absolute knowledge. He is the one who created all things and it is through Him that all things are sustained. He is everywhere and is in absolute control of everything from the paths of the largest stars in the universe, to the activity of the ants on the ground, and even in the things



that we can't see, such as the air we breathe and the gravity of the earth. He is perfect in love, in truth, and in judgement. He has created each of us and He loves us beyond measure.

How can we know this? It is because this God gave us all we need in His Word, the Bible. Let's examine more of what the Bible says about who God is.



God is a Trinity: The Father, The Son, The Holy Spirit

Genesis 1:26 (NIV)

Then God said, “Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground.”

From the very beginning of the Bible, God began to show us who He is. Only 26 verses into Genesis, God gave us a very distinct comment about Himself. This comment clearly made the distinction that God reveals Himself to us in more than just one way. When referring to Himself God uses words that indicate more than one person. If God were a single person then the phrase would have used the words “me” in place of “us” and “my” in place of “our”. One thing that we must keep in mind and that we will discuss further along however is that this does not mean that there is more than one God.

Matthew 28:19 (NIV)

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.

God is comprised of three different individuals or beings who, while each being entirely God and possessing all of the attributes of God, have their own distinct role. They are separate, yet at the same time, they are the one true God. These three individuals are referred to as the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Ephesians 4:6 (NIV)

One God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

The first person of the trinity is the Father. The Father created all things and sustains all things. He has no beginning and He will have no end. It is through and by the Father that we have life



and all things happen according to His will and plan. He gives and He takes away according to His riches and glory. All things belong to Him and He has authority over all things in creation.

John 1:1 (NIV)

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

John 1:14 (NIV)

The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

John 3:16 (NIV)

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

The second person of the trinity is the Son. The name of the Son is Jesus and Jesus is also the Word of God. God sent His Word, Jesus, to us to live and be in community with us. Just as the Father had no beginning and will have no end, so Jesus also has no beginning and no end. Jesus has all of the same attributes and power as the Father, yet He functions in a different role within the trinity.

The Father sent His Son Jesus to save us. In this way Jesus served as a sacrifice which atoned for our sins and when we accept this sacrifice, the weight of our sins and the eternal consequences of those sins are forgiven. Jesus serves as our mediator with the Father and through this relationship we are restored to a relationship with the Father just as Adam and Eve had a relationship with the Father in the Garden of Eden before the first sin was committed.

1 Corinthians 2:11 (NIV)

For who knows a person's thoughts except their own spirit within them? In the same way no one knows the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God.



John 14:26 (NIV)

But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you.

The third person of the trinity is the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is the very Spirit of God and is alive inside of those who have accepted Jesus. When we accept Jesus as our Savior and are restored to a relationship with the Father, the Holy Spirit then comes to us and acts as our teacher and guide. He will help us as we go through our lives to learn and apply the teachings contained in God's word. The Holy Spirit also imparts gifts to us that allow us to perform the work that God calls us to. These gifts include the gift of tongues, the gift of prophecy, the gift of healing, and the gift of discernment, among many others as well. In addition, when we have the Holy Spirit within us and we follow as the Holy Spirit leads us, we will experience the fruit of the Spirit in our lives. These fruits include love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

2 Corinthians 13:14 (NIV)

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit which make up God work completely in unison as God and provide us with all that we need. It is through God that we have been given life. It is through the Father that we have been given purpose. It is through the Son that we have been forgiven and provided with salvation from the consequences of our sins and it is through the Holy Spirit that we have been given fellowship, love, guidance, and companionship. Through this relationship with God that we are transformed so that we can bear fruit for the glory of God.





God is Omnipresent

Jeremiah 23:24 (NIV)

“Who can hide in secret places so that I cannot see them?” Declares the Lord. “Do not I fill heaven and earth?” Declares the Lord.

Proverbs 15:3 (NIV)

The eyes of the Lord are everywhere, keeping watch on the wicked and the good.

Psalms 139:7-12 (NIV)

7 Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence?

8 If I go up to the heavens, you are there; if I make my bed in the depths, you are there.

9 If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea,

10 even there your hand will guide me, your right hand will hold me fast.

11 If I say, “Surely the darkness will hide me and the light become night around me,”

12 even the darkness will not be dark to you; the night will shine like the day, for darkness is as light to you.

Being omnipresent simply means to be everywhere at the same time. God is omnipresent throughout the entirety of the universe. This is also not limited only to the visible and seen universe but also includes what is unseen. There is nowhere in which God is not present and that He cannot reach and touch. It is impossible to escape from the presence of God because no matter where you would try to go, there God would also be. It must also be stated that the omnipresence of God does not simply occur in space but also in time. God is not simply in all places at once, but in all times at once as well. God is not bound by time as creation is. He is in the past, He is in the present, and He is in the future simultaneously.

Because God is everywhere, He also sees and hears everything that occurs within the universe. Just as it is impossible to hide physically from God, it is also impossible to hide our thoughts,



actions, words and deeds because He actually has already seen everything you have done, everything you are doing and everything you will do in the future.



God is Omnipotent

Matthew 19:26 (NIV)

Jesus looked at them and said, “With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.”

Psalm 115:3 (NLT)

Our God is in the heavens and he does as he wishes.

Psalm 33:9 NLT)

For when he spoke, the world began! It appeared at his command.

Omnipotent means having unlimited or infinite amounts of power. God is Omnipotent. There is no feat, no act and no situation that is impossible for God to perform or handle. We can see so many examples of the extraordinary power of God within the Bible. He caused a flood that covered the entire earth and yet saved Noah and his family. God caused the ten plagues in Egypt and then parted the Red Sea so that the Israelites could escape the oppression of the Egyptians. God sustained the Israelites for 40 years in the desert. God brought down the walls of Jericho and God gave David the victory over Goliath. God brought countless victories to the Israelites and showed His power to Israel and the entire world, over and over again. Yet, as amazing as these occurrences may seem to our human logic, they actually pale in comparison to the actual power that God possesses. The true power and abilities of God go beyond anything that our human logic or knowledge can comprehend.

There is nothing that can be victorious against God and there is nothing that can compete with God in any way. The reality is that everything that God has created, which is everything other than God Himself, was created simply by God thinking and speaking. Also, everything that God created only still exists because at any given point in time, God Himself, sustains it by His will. In fact, as you read this, in this very moment, the only reason you exist is because God is



sustaining you and without God's will to sustain you, you would simply cease to exist. The very fact that you are here today is a testament to God's desire to sustain you and that He has a plan for you. It should be noted that this same scenario is true for the enemy of God as well, Satan. There is nothing that Satan can do to defeat God and there is **no** power that Satan has over God. Because God sends His Spirit to live within the followers of Jesus there is also nothing that Satan can do against us who believe. We do not need to be scared of anything in creation because greater is He that is in us than He that is in the world and He will never leave us or forsake us.



God is Omniscient

Romans 11:33 (NLT)

Oh, how great are God's riches and wisdom and knowledge! How impossible it is for us to understand his decisions and his ways!

Hebrew 4:13 (NIV)

Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account.

Psalms 147:5 (NIV)

Great is our Lord and mighty in power; his understanding has no limit.

Omniscience is defined as having complete knowledge of everything. This everything is not limited to a particular subject or topic of discussion but truly means literally everything. God is Omniscient. There is nothing that He does not know and there is no question that He does not know the answer to. Nothing happens that is outside of His knowledge and He is never wrong. As we have established, God is also not bound by time and therefore His knowledge also transcends time as well. There is nothing in the past that He does not have full knowledge of. He knows every detail that has happened in the lives of every person, animal, insect and living creature that has ever lived and He also knows the same details of everything living creature and object that will come in the future.

In the same way that God has complete knowledge of what happens in His creation, He also has complete knowledge of how it was created. Our modern study and knowledge of math, science, physics, biology and astronomy pales in comparison to the knowledge that God has of these subjects. God is the architect and designer of gravity, motion, light, chemistry, mathematics and the list goes on and on. The more we do learn about these subjects and discover the complexity and precision with which this universe operates, the more and more it points to the reality of



our creator and Lord. This is why the psalmist wrote in Psalm 19:1 that, “The heavens declare the Glory of God.”

This limitless knowledge and understanding of everything that has happened and everything that will happen means that when God asks us to do something, we can trust Him with full confidence that He knows what the best path for our lives are. Not only does God know the best path for our lives, but He also knows our hearts. He knows the things we like and the things we don't like. He knows our struggles, our hurts and our sufferings. He knows everything we have felt and every good or bad experience that we have ever had. No matter how logical or illogical the direction may seem based on our limited understanding and information, God's plan and path for our lives is always the best.



Creator and Sustainer of the Universe

Genesis 1:31 – 2:1 (NLT)

God saw all that He had made and it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning—the sixth day. Thus the heavens and the earth were completed in all their vast array.

Colossians 1:16 (NLT)

For through him God created everything in the heavenly realms and on earth. He made the things we can see and the things we can't see—such as thrones, kingdoms, rulers and authorities in the unseen world. Everything was created through him and for him.

Colossians 1:17 (NLT)

He existed before anything else and He holds all creation together.

Having established God as being the only one who is omnipresent, omnipotent, and omniscient, we can safely understand that God is the one who created the universe. The universe and each creation within it, is not random. It was created in a specific sequence and process which is described in the first chapter of the book of Genesis. God started from nothing when He created the universe. It was not like when humans create something. When humans create something we utilize materials and resources from our surroundings, process them into the condition in which we need them and then construct the item based on the plans we have. When God created the universe however, there were no materials and resources that existed. As He needed different things to build the universe He simply spoke and they existed.

I am reminded of a funny story that I once heard which illustrates this difference. A man decided that, just like God, he could create a living being. He called out to God and told Him of the plan that he had. He showed God how he had studied the biology of living creatures and now knew all of the elements and compounds needed to create a living creature. As God watched, the man reached down to pick up a handful of dirt in order to start to extract the



resources needed. God however, immediately spoke up and said to the man, “I have no problem with you trying but.... I do insist that you use your own dirt.” When God created the universe and each thing in it He didn’t simply build them, He made something out of nothing and made it to function in perfect harmony and symmetry.

Not only did God create the physical world that we see, God also created the things that we cannot see. The things of the spirit cannot be seen with our own eyes, yet there is an entire other realm which includes angels, demons, and supernatural powers. God is the source of all authority, every nation, every leader and every power. Even those who are against God receive their authority and power from God. The nations of this world exist and were created by God.

A concept that we must also understand is that because God is the Creator of all things, there is nothing that can be created apart from Him. A question that many people will pose is, what about the inventions and creations of humans? What about the medications that humans have created? What about the buildings, the cars, the planes, the boats, the computers and all of the other “man made” objects? The Bible tells us that all wisdom and understanding come from God and therefore the wisdom, creativity, understanding and imagination of each person is from the Lord. When we invent something or build something it is a result of God allowing us to and providing the fundamental inspiration and knowledge to do so.

As we have touched on already, everything that has been created by the Creator is also sustained by the Creator. If a human builds a house, they can leave the house after it is built and for all intents and purposes the house will continue to exist on its own. Yet, the role that God plays with His creation is much more serious. The Bible tells us that God is the one who holds all of creation together. God sustains all of the things that He has created and without His power, His wisdom and His will to maintain all that He has created then it would fall apart and be no more. It is through Him that all things move and have their being and it is through Him that we have life. In the same way that God spoke creation into being He also is continually sustaining it.



God Never Changes

Hebrews 13:8 (NLT)

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever.

Psalm 102:25-27 (NIV)

In the beginning you laid the foundations of the earth and the heavens are the work of your hands. They will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like a garment. Like clothing you will change them and they will be discarded. But you remain the same and your years will never end.

James 1:17 (NLT)

Whatever is good and perfect is a gift coming down to us from God our Father, who created all the lights in the heavens. He never changes or casts a shifting shadow.

God, including the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, did not have any beginning and will not have any end. God has always existed and God will never cease to exist. This is an impossible concept for the human mind to truly grasp because we are finite beings. Being finite means that there is a limit, a start, or an end. God however, is infinite, which means something without limit, without beginning and without end. To our minds everything must have a beginning and an end. In the same way that the power, presence and wisdom of God is without limits so is His very existence.

In creation, as things exist they change over time. All we need to do is look at a child as they grow and we will see them changing. This change is not only in their physical characteristics but also in their heart, their emotions and their beliefs. After only a handful of years a person may be almost unrecognizable from the young child that they once were. Then as an adult the way that they behaved and the things that they believed in when they were 25 years old will likely



be entirely different than the way they behave and what they believe in when they are 65 years old. We truly never stop changing as we go through our lives. God, however, never changes. The exact same way that He judges yesterday is the exact same way that He judges today. The way that He loves, cares, provides, sustains, forgives and redeems never changes.

Many people have believed that the God of the Old Testament and the God of the New Testament are different in their actions. They feel that when Jesus was born God somehow changed and became a God of nothing but peace who would never punish anyone for anything. The reality is however, that the same God who wiped out nations, destroyed armies, brought fire and brimstone down onto Sodom and Gomorrah and wiped out all living creation in the flood of Noah is the same God that is alive today and who will still be alive forever. That same judgement and punishment is set for creation however, because the blood of Christ has covered the sins of those who believe and follow Him, they will not have to suffer the consequences of that judgement.

The reality that the Lord does not change should give us great peace and confidence because we know that when He says He loves us He will never change His mind. When He tells us that He forgives and forgets He will never bring up our sins anymore. He will never lie to us or treat us one way today and then treat us a different way tomorrow.



What Role Does God Play in Your Life?

Proverbs 3:5-6 (NLT)

Trust in the Lord with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. Seek his will in all you do and he will show you which path to take.

Jeremiah 29:11 (NIV)

For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

Job 14:5 (NIV)

A person’s days are determined; you have decreed the number of his months and have set limits he cannot exceed.

Some of the most difficult situations that we deal with in this life occur when we begin to believe that God is not in control and as a result we need to take control. This could be summed up in this way, in the world today when someone wants to take a trip in a car, they typically will use some type of navigation device to show them the way. This may be their cell phone, a dedicated GPS device, or a built in GPS system in a car. Now, imagine someone who has a navigation system pulling up the complete directions to a destination they had never gone to before. However, just as they begin to embark on their journey, they turn off the navigation system and say, “I don’t trust that navigation system so I’m just going to figure out how to make it there on my own.” This sounds like foolishness to us and yet, so many Christians ignore the voice of the Lord and the direction that He gives to us in His Word.

It can be easy to consider all of the wonders of the Lord and find it hard to understand how someone who is so powerful and amazing would want to be involved in our lives. How is it that the King of Kings and Lord of Lords would desire to play a role in our lives? The reality is that God is intimately involved in the lives of each and every person and He knows everything about



each one of us. The Lord knows the exact moment that you woke up this morning and He knows the exact time that you will fall asleep tonight. He knows the obstacles that will be placed in your path and the consequences of the decisions that you are making. In fact, the correct way to look at this is not to ask the question of what role does God play in your life, but rather to make the statement that there is no part of your life in which God is not intimately involved.



God Created You

Genesis 1:26 (NLT)

Then God said, “Let us make human beings in our image, to be like us. They will reign over the fish in the sea, the birds in the sky, the livestock, all the wild animals on the earth and the small animals that scurry along the ground.”

Genesis 2:7 (NIV)

Then the Lord God formed a man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life and the man became a living being.

Psalms 139:13-15 (NLT)

You made all the delicate, inner parts of my body and knit me together in my mother’s womb. Thank you for making me so wonderfully complex! Your workmanship is marvelous—how well I know it. You watched me as I was being formed in utter seclusion, as I was woven together in the dark of the womb.

Each human being exists because God created them. Every human being, with the exception of Jesus Christ, exists because it was the will and desire of God that they exist. There are no other means by which a human has or will ever be created or exist. God does not create anything without purpose and therefore we have a beautiful truth to consider in our lives. None of us, not me, not you, not your neighbor, not your co-worker and not the baby that is being born on the other side of the world as you read this, is the result of some mistake or random action.

God has not just created each of us, He created each of us absolutely unique. Not just unique in one way or in certain ways, but in every part of our being. Each part of your body He created perfectly according to His purposes and plan for your life. When we think of great works of art such as sculptures or paintings we often see copies. Sometimes these great works are copied in mass quantities, however, no matter how many are produced there is never more than one



true original. The true original represents a unique work that cannot be duplicated. An original work of art created by a great artist may often be displayed in an art museum or private collection and holds with it a tremendous value to both the artist and the owner. Like a great piece of art created by a great artist, each one of us is a unique and priceless creation that cannot be duplicated. We are each greatly treasured by our creator and each part of us, each brush stroke, was created with care and intention.

One of the tools that the enemy has used against man is the lie that we exist without purpose and as a result of random chance. When a person believes that their lives have no meaning and that they do not have purpose, why would they believe that there is meaning and purpose in the lives of others? If their lives have no value than neither do the lives of the people around them. When they believe this, their actions, their treatment of others and also of their selves will follow suit. This belief and the effects from it, are a source of great suffering in this world. This belief goes against the great commands that Jesus gave to us, that we would love God above all others and love others just as we love ourselves. When we believe the lie that we were not created by a loving God and are precious in His sight, we will not love God nor will we have any reason to love others.

We must always remember that God is alive, He is real and He is the one that created us. He has created each of us completely unique like a priceless work of art and each of us has a specific purpose that can only be fulfilled by us and as a result of this, we should value who we are. We must also remember that each person around us is also a unique and priceless creation and we must love and value them just as we love and value ourselves.



God Orders Yours Steps

Acts 17:25 (NIV)

And He made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined their appointed times and the boundaries of their habitation,

Psalms 139:16 (NLT)

You saw me before I was born. Every day of my life was recorded in your book. Every moment was laid out before a single day had passed.

Psalms 32:8 (NLT)

The Lord says, “I will guide you along the best pathway for your life. I will advise you and watch over you.”

Something that we can clearly see in scripture is the authority of God. God is in complete control in every situation and circumstance. This does not just refer to the big things that happen in the world and the universe, but in the lives of each person as well. As amazing as it sounds, God knew you, knew every step you would take, every decision you would make, every situation you would be in and the result of your life, before you even existed. God knew what you would own, the job you would have and the friends you would make and because of this, there is no situation that you can be in that will surprise God. In fact, because He is the one who orders our steps, we can take comfort in the knowledge that there is a purpose and a plan for our lives and that every circumstance has meaning.

We find people falling into two different traps in regards to the authority of the Lord. The first occurs when an individual experiences what would be considered by the world “Success”. They have a good job, a happy family and a comfortable living standard. When an individual is in this situation they will often begin to forget the authority of the Lord in their lives and may have never considered it in the first place. They view their success and accomplishments as a result of their own intelligence, hard work, and abilities. They will say “I got that education”, “I got that job”, “I made that money”, or “I bought those possessions”. They will fail to recognize or remember that the reason they have all of those things is



that the Lord ordained it according to His perfect will. Because of this truth the correct response would be to give all the glory and praise to the Lord for everything they do and everything they have.

The second trap occurs when people experience difficult times and suffering. They may experience the loss of a loved one or be the victim of a terrible crime. They may find themselves in a position where they are starving or being abused and there may be no end that they can see to the circumstances.

When these situations occur people often will focus on the situation and forget who is in control. They only think about the negative things that are going on in their lives and they forget to look to the future that they have. They think only of the struggle that they are going through at the moment and forget the wonderful future that they can have in Jesus. They lose hope and they become bitter and angry and they no longer have love and joy in their hearts.

If you have been in either of these situations, or if you are going through it right now, remember that God is with you and He seeks to guide you along the best path for your life. Call on Him and ask Him to show you the way. Listen for His voice and His lead and when you hear it and experience it, remember the most important step of all, you must obey what you have heard. Without obedience then all your effort to hear Him and seek Him is meaningless.

You may ask the question, if God truly orders my steps, do I actually have a choice? And what's more, how can I be held responsible for my own life if I am not able to choose? What we must remember here is that God has laid out the path before you, but He gives us the ability to choose to follow His path or not to follow His path. God already knows what we will choose and as such has already prepared for and incorporated the result of that decision into His plan. God has established order and given us instructions on what we must do in order to have that close and personal relationship with Him and He has also told us what the consequences of the decision that we make will be.

Let's look at an example to try and help illustrate this. Imagine a father and son playing together in a field. The father knows that there is a hole in the field and knows that if the son goes to the side where the hole is he will fall in and be hurt or even killed by the fall. So the father tells the son, "If you go and play on the side of the hole you will be hurt and even killed and we will no longer be together. However, if you choose to avoid the side with the hole and stay with me and play you will not get hurt and after we are done playing we will go get ice cream together." In this example, if the son does choose to go



and play beside the hole and away from his father and as a result dies, does this mean that the son's death was a punishment from the father? No, it is not a punishment, it is simply the consequence of the decision that the son made and it happened exactly as the father told him. If the son chooses to stay by the father and play with him and avoid the hole then, just as the father said, the son will live, will be happy and will enjoy ice cream with his father. In this example though, we must remember that at every moment the father knows what the decision of the son will be and in fact has incorporated the decision and the consequence into his plan. So when the son makes the decision he makes it in perfect accordance with the father's plan and expectation.

Our Father in heaven has given us a very similar choice. We can either hear and obey what our Lord is telling us and remain close to Him or we can choose to ignore what He has told us and move away from Him. Each of these has a consequence that has been completely described by our Lord and we know exactly what will happen as a result of each of the possible decisions that we could make. The question that we each have to answer is this, will we choose to listen to Him and obey what He has told us, or will we choose not to?





God Offers You His Love and Salvation

1 John 4:10 (NLT)

This is real love—not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as a sacrifice to take away our sins.

John 3:16-17 (NIV)

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

Isaiah 12:2 (NIV)

Surely God is my salvation; I will trust and not be afraid. The Lord, the Lord himself, is my strength and my defense; he has become my salvation.”

A fundamental understanding that every Christian must grasp is that at the heart of everything, the reason for all that God has done for us is love. The reason that God created us and offers His son as a Savior to us is because of His great love for us. We must each also understand that this love, the love of the Father for us, is on an individual level. What that means is that when God says He loves us, He is not talking only about a group of people, but about each specific person. If you were the only person that God could rescue and the only person that would respond to His love, He would not have changed anything. He would still have given His son and allowed Him to suffer on the cross. Each one of us is that valuable in His eye.

Because of this great Love, the Lord does not just save us but He also offers us life, eternal life, with Him in heaven. When the Bible speaks of eternal life here it is not simply talking about existence, because each one of us will continue to exist forever. However, we can either experience life for all eternity or experience death for all eternity. Life is experienced when we have a relationship with God and are close with Him. Death is experienced when we have no relationship with God and are separated from Him. What is truly amazing is that even though as we have learned God is in complete control of everything that happens, God still allows each of us to make our own decision to either accept His gift of love and



salvation, or reject His gift of love and salvation. We can, and in fact, must choose if we will experience life for all eternity or death for all eternity.

A beautiful reality that we should know is that this love and salvation that God offers to us are not things that are far off in the future. No, we do not need to wait until some distant day in the future to experience and understand. We can make the decision to accept and experience it right here and right now, in this life, on this earth. We only need to believe, trust and obey Him. When we do this, we experience many benefits to our lives. We will not have to fear the future, we will not have to fear anything because when we are seeking the Lord and obeying what He tells us, He will be our guide, He will be our defender and He will be our strength.

God offers His love and salvation as a gift, but there is one thing that we must never forget. Salvation, which is often described as a free gift to us, came at an immeasurable cost. Jesus, the Son of God, who was without any imperfection or sin was sacrificed as the perfect atonement for our sins. This was the greatest cost to ever be paid and it was paid for you and I. God offers this to us, but again, there is a requirement that is placed on us as well. The Bible tells us that if we believe in God and what Jesus has done for us, then we must take up our cross daily and follow Him. Just as Jesus took up His cross and gave His life for us, we must take up our cross and give our lives to Him by listening to Him and doing the things that He tells us to do. We must seek His will and His glory and not our own.



God Will Judge You

Revelation 20:12 (NLT)

I saw the dead, both great and small, standing before God's throne. And the books were opened, including the Book of Life. And the dead were judged according to what they had done, as recorded in the books.

2 Corinthians 5:10 (NIV)

For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each of us may receive what is due us for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad.

Romans 14:10-12 (NIV)

You, then, why do you judge your brother or sister? Or why do you treat them with contempt? For we will all stand before God's judgment seat. It is written: "'As surely as I live,' says the Lord, 'every knee will bow before me; every tongue will acknowledge God.'" So then, each of us will give an account of ourselves to God.

God also does not force us to accept His love and His salvation, but in fact allows us to make a decision to accept it or not. We can each choose to follow Him and give our lives to Him, or choose to reject Him. Each of these decisions comes with a consequence attached to it and this consequence is an eternal one that, after it has been made and we have passed from this world, can never be changed. As we have mentioned prior, we can choose to live for eternity in life or live for eternity in death.

So many people think that God is looking down on them and when they do something wrong, He is right there to punish them and is even seeking to do so. This simply is not true, God does not desire to punish us, in fact God's desire is that everyone of us would have a close and personal relationship with Him. Nonetheless, there will be a day in which each person will stand before the judgement seat of the Lord and their decisions and actions will each be reviewed and judged against the commands of the Lord. When we think of this scene, we may have images of a modern court in which someone has been accused of a crime and is on trial and in fact, this is a good illustration of the situation. The person who has been accused will appear before the judge and be accompanied by their defense attorney. The role



of the defense attorney is to prove that the one who has been accused is innocent and should not be punished under the law. On the other side, there is a prosecutor whose duty is to prove that the accused individual did in fact commit the crimes that they are charged with and as a result should face punishment under the law. Both of the attorneys will present their case and, based on the evidence presented the judge will render the verdict. The accused will either be acquitted of the charges against them and set free, or they will be found guilty and sentenced to be punished for their crimes.

In the situation that we will face, we can view ourselves as the accused person. The prosecutor will be Satan. Satan will know every single mistake that we have ever made and he will make a strong case as to why we are deserving of punishment. However, there is a fundamental difference between the judgement found in our earthly courts and the judgement of the Lord. When the Lord judges us, it will be with absolute truth, knowledge, wisdom and accuracy. Unlike our human court in which the facts of the case must be proven, our God is omniscient and knows the full reality of every detail of our lives. Based on what we have done with this life and the decisions that we have made God will rule that we are either worthy of eternal life or eternal death. We will either be in a close personal relationship with Him for all eternity or experience complete separation from Him for all eternity.

One thing that the Bible is very clear on is that each one of us will be judged based on our own decisions and actions. There will be no excuses and no one will be able to say, “but you don’t understand what happened to me, what they did to me, or how my parents treated me, or” And the list goes on and on. In every situation and circumstance, you have a choice to make, to either love the Lord and obey Him or to reject His commands. Jesus laid out the criteria in an extraordinarily simple way when He was asked what the greatest commandment was. Jesus responded by saying that the first is to love the Lord with all your heart, mind, soul and strength; and that the second is to love your neighbor as yourself. He also added that all of the law and prophets hang on these two commands. So, here are two very simple questions that you can ask yourself, yet that have eternal impact. The first is very simple, “Do I love the Lord with all of my heart, mind, soul and strength?” I believe that most, if not all Christians, and in fact most people when faced with the judgement of the Lord, will answer yes to that question. The second question however, proves to be the true test and it goes like this, “How does my life prove that this is true?” You see, it is very easy to say the words that you love the Lord and that you believe in Him, however, if you truly do then your life will be forever changed and the evidence of that will speak for itself.



What Are The Characteristics of God?

Romans 11:33 (NLT)

Oh, how great are God's riches and wisdom and knowledge! How impossible it is for us to understand his decisions and his ways!

Exodus 34:6-7 (NIV)

And he passed in front of Moses, proclaiming, "The Lord, the Lord, the compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness, maintaining love to thousands and forgiving wickedness, rebellion and sin. Yet he does not leave the guilty unpunished; he punishes the children and their children for the sin of the parents to the third and fourth generation."

Isaiah 40:28-29 (NLT)

Have you never heard? Have you never understood? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of all the earth. He never grows weak or weary. No one can measure the depths of his understanding. He gives power to the weak and strength to the powerless.

Have you ever been somewhere that was breathtaking? Someplace that was so amazing that it is impossible to describe to other people? Someplace where the only way that a person can actually understand what it is like is to experience it for themselves? Maybe you have visited the great coral reef in Australia, or saw Mt. Everest, or hiked the Grand Canyon. When you come home and try to explain to your family and friends you find that the words you speak simply cannot convey the true magnitude and beauty of that place. Trying to describe our Lord is similar to this experience. The reality is that no amount of paper or no quantity of words could ever capture the fullness and perfection that the Lord God is. Yet, because of what we experience when we begin to know who He is, we desire to read and write about Him, to learn more about Him and ultimately to tell others about what a relationship with Him is truly like.

The Bible tells us that God's wisdom and knowledge are so great that they are immeasurable and it is impossible for us to comprehend and understand. Our God is compassionate and gracious and He is slow to become angry. He loves us and forgives us and yet, when we are truly guilty, He is just and punishes us just as a good parent punishes their child. He is the one who has created all things and He is



the one who sustains all things. All that we can and all that we are come from Him. He owns everything and He gives and takes away according to His riches and glory.

While we could read and write about Him forever and never fully understand the Lord we will take just a few of the characteristics that the Bible gives us about our Lord and dig deeper into them. We have already spent time talking about the omnipresence, omnipotence and omniscience of God and these certainly foundational concepts of who He is, but we want to take a closer look. We do not simply hope to understand the basics of who He is, but to truly know Him the same way a child knows their father. When we think about what a good father is, we may think of love, a kindness and a gentleness that cannot be explained. We think of protection and correction and the ability to teach and encourage. We think of wisdom and discernment and the ability to help with any problem that is presented to them. We think of someone who is willing to sacrifice whatever is required for their child because they truly love them and wish to see them not just survive, but to thrive and experience happiness, fulfillment and most of all, love.

In this section we will examine four characteristics of our Father that we clearly see outlined in scripture. As we learn more about who God is and how much He loves us, remember to always pray and ask Him to reveal His truth to you. Invite Him to read along with you and seek to become closer to Him. He will hear your prayer because He also desires to be closer to you.



God is Love

1 John 4:16 (ESV)

So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love and whoever abides in love abides in God and God abides in him.

1 John 4:9-10 (NIV)

This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.

1 Corinthians 13:3-7 (NLT)

If I gave everything I have to the poor and even sacrificed my body, I could boast about it; but if I didn't love others, I would have gained nothing. Love is patient and kind. Love is not jealous or boastful or proud or rude. It does not demand its own way. It is not irritable, and it keeps no record of being wronged. It does not rejoice about injustice but rejoices whenever the truth wins out. Love never gives up, never loses faith, is always hopeful and endures through every circumstance.

In the world we live in, the word love is used to describe so many feelings and things. If we open our ears as we go through our day, we will hear the word love used in many different ways. I love those clothes! I love the food there! I love shopping there! I love those kinds of animals! I love my new boyfriend! I love my job! I love my car! I love my house! I love to relax! I love to go to parties! And the reality is that this list could go on and on. The word love has come to a point in which the argument could be made that it is meaningless. After all, if we say that we love this and we love that and then a day later change our minds and say we love something else, then what does it really mean when we say we love something?

What then is real Love? What does it mean to truly love? If we want to understand what love is and what it means to love the Bible shows us. The one who can show us what love is and who is in fact the source of love, is God himself. God takes love entirely serious and sincere. So sincere that He sent His son to be sacrificed so that our sins could be forgiven and we could enter into a relationship with Him. There is a word that is used to describe what true love looks like, the kind of love that God has for us.



This word is Agape. Agape refers to love that is completely unconditional and not self-seeking in any way. There is never a thought of gain or return, but only of the good of the other. When we examine what most humans view as love, we find that this type of love is not very common. In the vast majority of relationships in the world today, whether they are marriage relationships, family relationships, or friendships, we see that this type of love is not present. The only one who is capable of giving perfect love to us is our Father. When we read the passage in 1 Corinthians 13, we see one of the best descriptions of God's Agape love. This is the love that He has for us and this is the type of love that He has called us to have for others as well.

So, if God is love and the source of love, is it possible to have true love apart from Him? Humans have multiple ways of looking at love and each person has their own standard of love. We are in many ways obsessed with love. So many books and movies and stories revolve around a person's search to find love and the events that take place when they believe they have found it. How do they know that they have found it though and how do they know they are expressing it? Is love something they feel, is it a decision that they make, or is it something that they do or experience? True love, the Love of God, is all of these things and the most difficult thing about the love of God and what we have difficulty understanding is that true love has no requirement or even expectation that it is reciprocated, ever. A wonderful example of this is when Jesus was being nailed to the cross and as the hammer fell and the nail went through His hand, He cried out to the Father to forgive them for they did not know what they were doing. Even as our sin put Him on the cross and our words mocked Him, He cried out in love for our forgiveness. This is the love of God and what true love looks like. The only way that we can experience it and learn how to demonstrate it to others, is by having a relationship with the Father.



God is Just

John 5:30 (NIV)

By myself I can do nothing; I judge only as I hear and my judgment is just, for I seek not to please myself but him who sent me.

Deuteronomy 32:4 (NLT)

He is the Rock; his deeds are perfect. Everything he does is just and fair. He is a faithful God who does no wrong; how just and upright he is!

Isaiah 30:18 (NIV)

Yet the Lord longs to be gracious to you; therefore he will rise up to show you compassion. For the Lord is a God of justice. Blessed are all who wait for him!

Something that we clearly established earlier in this study is that God will judge us. There will be a day in which each one of us will stand before the judgement seat of the Lord and He will determine if we will experience life or death for eternity. This decision will be made based on what we have done with our lives and if we choose to love the Lord and follow His commands or we choose to reject Him. We can imagine what this scene may look like and there are many examples that we can see on TV and in books today. On one side we see the prosecutor who has an argument and evidence that they hope will prove that the one being accused is in fact guilty. On the other side we have the accused and the defender who is there to try and demonstrate that based on the evidence the accused is in fact innocent. The judge or the jury must then decide who has proven their case and then give a ruling as to whether the accused is innocent or guilty.

For human standards and abilities this setup is as good as it can get. We try to limit our personal biases and opinions and instead make a judgement based on the facts of the case. Though this sounds reasonable and just the reality is that it is still open to mistakes. However, what if there was a judge who knew every single fact about a case before the prosecutor or defender even made their case. What if there was someone who could render a perfect judgement based on perfect law and who never made a single mistake in the decisions that they made? No one could fool them, no one could sway their opinion and no one could tamper with the evidence or force a judgment based on a technicality. There



was never a hung jury and no case was ever thrown out because of lack of evidence or suspicious behavior. This type of justice is not possible in the world we live in because no judge or jury can ever know the truth.

Another aspect of being just is fairness. How many times have you heard someone use the phrase that “life is not fair”? When we look around at the world, we can see on the surface why this statement would be a popular one. You will find some people who have no relationship with the Lord thriving based on the standards of the world and experience no resistance, while on the other hand, people who are truly seeking the love and will of the Father struggle to even survive. However, when we are judged by the Lord it will not be based on the world’s standards. It will not be based on what we have accomplished, how much we have achieved, or how many possessions we have acquired. Our judgement will be based solely on the decisions we have made and what we have chosen to do with the time we have been given. What does this look like? Jesus gave us a perfect example....

Mark 12:41-44 (NIV)

Jesus sat down opposite the place where the offerings were put and watched the crowd putting their money into the temple treasury. Many rich people threw in large amounts, but a poor widow came and put in two very small copper coins, worth only a few cents. Calling his disciples to him, Jesus said, “Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others. They all gave out of their wealth; but she, out of her poverty, put in everything—all she had to live on.”

Jesus could see each person and their heart as they gave their offering. The amount was inconsequential, it was the heart, the faith and their love for the Lord that He was concerned with. Because He can see the heart and see the motivation behind it, His assessment of the situation was perfect and could not be challenged. So it will also be with each one of us. God is just and His justice and decisions are perfect.



God is Good

Matthew 19:17 (NIV)

“Why do you ask me about what is good?” Jesus replied. “There is only One who is good. If you want to enter life, keep the commandments.”

Romans 8:28 (NIV)

And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

Psalms 107:1 (NIV)

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever.

One of the things that the world wants us to believe is that people are essentially good at heart but just make mistakes and get blinded by their desires. The reality is that people are not good at heart. Yes, we were each created by God and created in His image yet, He gave us something that He did not give to any other creature, He gave us a choice. We failed at making that choice and as a result we disobeyed Him and the heart of man was tainted for all generations to come. It does not matter how clean a glass of water is, if only one drop of contamination is allowed in the water will no longer be clean and bacteria will grow and grow and grow until the once clean water is nothing but filth. We can see the full extent of this only five chapters after God had created man in the book of Genesis.

Genesis 6:5 (NLT)

The Lord observed the extent of human wickedness on the earth and he saw that everything they thought or imagined was consistently and totally evil.

This is the result of a world in which we have chosen to ignore God and His laws. No one, not a single human being is good because we have each sinned. If the world we live in was left only to human hands and to be ruled by human wisdom, then I will tell you that it would literally be hell on earth. The statement we see about the condition of the world here in Genesis 6 would be completely true for our world today. People will say “how can there be a God who loves us if there are so many bad things in the world today and He lets so many evil things happen?” However, this is the incorrect perspective and



as a result it is the wrong question to ask. If we view our condition from the correct perspective then the question we should ask should be this, “why is it that, given the fallen state of creation, the sinful heart of man, and the evil plans of the Adversary, there is any good in the world at all?” Do you see the change in perspective here? If it were not for God and His presence in this world there would be no good at all. The good that is present is not a result of humans, but the presence of the Lord! He is the only source of goodness and apart from Him, nothing and no one is good.

Another question we should consider on this topic is this, what does it mean to be good? We use the word “good” to describe so many different things and so many different situations and experiences. But what does it mean when we say that God is good? The word “good” may become clearer when we add its opposite into the conversation, evil. In almost every book we read, movie we watch, or story we hear, there is some element of good versus evil. The right way versus the wrong way. Evil is the opposite of good just as we know that Satan is the opposite, or the adversary of God. The things that God does and the way that He behaves will be the opposite to the things that Satan does and the way he behaves. When we think of it in this light, we can start to see that God is not good because He matches our definition of what good means, rather goodness is defined by God and His very character and nature. If we want to understand what is good, then we must simply look to who God is.



God is Truthful

Hebrews 6:18 (NLT)

So God has given both his promise and his oath. These two things are unchangeable because it is impossible for God to lie. Therefore, we who have fled to him for refuge can have great confidence as we hold to the hope that lies before us.

John 17:17 (ESV)

Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth.

Numbers 23:19 (NIV)

God is not human, that he should lie, not a human being, that he should change his mind. Does he speak and then not act? Does he promise and not fulfill?

Truthfulness is a quality that is becoming less and less common in our world. When we listen to conversations around us, look at advertisements and hear the messages that we hear spoken by people in the media, we will see that it can be very hard to know what is actually true. It seems that everyone has an opinion about everything and they are quick to demonstrate why their opinion is in fact the truth. So how are we to know the truth? What makes something true?

Let's first talk about what makes something true. The definition that we as humans have established for truth is this, "the quality or state of being true, that which is true or in accordance with fact or reality." Our understanding of this is that truth is what actually is. Truth is not opinion or speculation and it cannot change. God is truth and this first means that what He does and what He says is truth. Once God speaks or acts, those things become the truth and the reality of them cannot be changed. No matter what someone may say or what they may do, what God has said and done nothing can never be changed.

Because of this, we can also be certain that when God speaks something, He will not say something that will later become untrue. In other words, God will not lie to us. There are no other people in this world and no other sources that we can know will never lie to us. We can have complete peace and confidence to know that what God tells us is completely honest and true. This also means that we do not need to



doubt anything that He has told us. If He has spoken it, then He is bound to it because if He does not fulfill His word, then it would mean that He has done something that is contrary to His very nature.

Because God's words and actions are true and because He is that author of all that happens, we can also say that God is the source of all truth. Similar to what we have learned about goodness, if God were not present in our world today then there would be nothing that we could find truth in. One of the names that has been used in reference to Satan is the deceiver. A deceiver is someone who attempts to lead a person to believe that something that is true is not. We can see the work of the deceiver in our world today in that so many have rejected the truth of Christ. However, no matter how much the deceiver may work to trick mankind, the fact and the reality will never change. God is truth and His desire is to share in a relationship with you so that you are no longer deceived, but instead know the truth. His desire is that you know Him and His truth.



Why Do I Need God?

Isaiah 53:6 (NIV)

We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to our own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

Romans 3:22-24 (NIV)

This righteousness is given through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference between Jew and Gentile, for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God and all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.

Acts 4:12 (NLT)

There is salvation in no one else! God has given no other name under heaven by which we must be saved.

A question that I have heard many people ask is, “why do I need God?” Many people who have had difficult lives and who have experienced suffering feel that, if there is a God, then why did He allow them to suffer? Because of this they want to push God away and have nothing to do with Him. Others who have not experienced difficulty in their lives view their lives as good and complete. They will say that they are healthy, they are happy and they don’t understand why they need to make any changes. So then how can we respond to these questions? How can we show the people who do not have a relationship with God that they desperately need one?

The first thing that we need to do is define what we are talking about when we say relationship. A relationship is defined as the way in which two or more people regard and behave toward each other. Each person and being who has ever been created has a relationship with God. Satan himself has a relationship with God and the demons all believe in God. So, it is not enough to simply acknowledge that God exists or to say that you believe in Him. We can also see from scripture that all of us, every one, has sinned and fallen short of the mark. No matter how good we believe we are or how good someone appears to be, our actions will never be enough. Each of us was created to be in relationship with the Lord and to bring glory to His name. This is the fundamental purpose for our existence. So, if we are not engaging in the fundamental purpose for our existence, how can we truly experience joy and



contentment? The Bible tells us that the joy of sin lasts only for a while. At some point, no matter if it is hours, days, months, or years, the fun will eventually fade and we will be left with emptiness. We will search desperately for something that can bring happiness back into our lives.

Consider the way a drug addict behaves. When they first try the drug, they feel great and feel like they have all they need. Then the drug wears off and they crash and the reality of this world comes back. They need more and when they get it, they find that the more they use it, the less affect the drug has, so they need more and more. Each time they crash it gets harder and deeper until they need the drug to even be able to make it through the day and feel alive. Forget joy or happiness, it becomes simply a means to make it through each day. This is life without Christ. Eventually, everything we find in this world will end and we will be empty. There is only one thing that can bring us the eternal joy and contentment that we each desperately seek, and that is when we come back to fulfill the true purpose for which we have been created, to be in relationship with God and to bring Him glory.

So, what does it mean to be in relationship with Him? It is not simply believing that He is real or trying not to do “bad” things. Being in a relationship means that you believe in Him. You believe that you are a sinner who has no hope of salvation and happiness on your own. You believe that in order to forgive your sins He sent His son Jesus as a sacrifice to pay the penalty for your sins and you accept Jesus as your savior. You read His Word and you spend time in communion with Him through prayer. Finally, you begin to obey what He has told you to do. When you engage in a relationship with the Lord, real relationship, your life will be changed forever and ever and you will experience joy and contentment like you have never experienced, nor could ever experience with any other thing and you will have an eternity to share with Him in that relationship.



Conclusion and Closing Prayer

During this study, we have discussed many things about our Lord. We have talked about who He is, how He is involved in our lives, what He is like, and finally, why it is so important that we have a real relationship with Him. However, this study has not even scratched the surface of who God is and what He wants to do in your life. As we have mentioned, there is not enough paper and ink in the world to truly be able to write down all there is to know about our God. There are many other studies that have been written and many other resources that you could read, watch or talk about, but the one that is the most simple and easy to access is available to you at no cost and is available to everyone who has a real relationship with Him no matter where they are. That resource is the Holy Spirit who lives inside each person who has accepted Christ. The Bible tells us that if we truly seek Him we will find Him...

Jeremiah 28:9 (NIV)

You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.

This passage does not simply refer to our initial encounter with the Lord, but goes much deeper. For those of us who have accepted Christ and know the Lord and desire to go deeper in our relationship with Him, we can. Seek Him with your whole heart and desire to know Him more and more and He will take you deeper and deeper, deeper than you could possibly imagine. Open your Bible and before you begin to read pray....

Father, I want to know to You more. I want to experience Your presence and Your love for me. I want to learn more about who You are and what Your plan is for my life. I desire above all else to be close to You. Father, as I read the words that You have written to me, I ask that the Holy Spirit will reveal Your truth to me and teach me the lesson and the wisdom that You have for me. Father, let me understand Your word and let the Holy Spirit be my guide. Lord, I give You my life, I give You all of me, and I submit to Your will. Lead me, guide me, and protect me according to Your perfect purpose and will. In the name of Jesus I pray, Amen and Amen.

God will take you deeper if you ask Him and seek Him. Do not be afraid to ask, but test and you will see that He is alive, that He loves you and that He wants to go deeper with you.

