

About the FATHER

Lesson 3

The second major theme is ABOUT THE FATHER!

The fact that GOD IS A PERSON is one of the unchangeable characteristics found in the WORD.

If you did not notice it, in the first chapter of Genesis God describe the nature of His person in several ways. Let's review them.

Genesis 1

1:1 In the beginning **God** created the heavens and the earth.

1:2 The earth was formless and void, and darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the **Spirit of God** was moving over the surface of the waters.

1:26 Then **God** said, "Let **Us** make man in Our image, according to Our likeness;

1:27 **God** created man in His own image, in the **image** of **God** He created him; male and female He created them.

1. It is _____ Who created the heavens and the earth.

2. The _____ of God is moving over the surface of the waters.

3. God refers to Himself as _____.

4. God create both male and female in His own _____.

Genesis

2:4 This is the account of the heavens and the earth when they were created, in the day that the **LORD God** made earth and heaven.

As God continues to detail the creation of man in Genesis Chapter 2, He adds another name to His nature.

5. The part of God that actually created everything is called the _____ God.

A Beginning Picture of the Nature of God Found in Genesis 1 & 2

God created everything.

Yet, in Genesis Chapters 1 & 2, He gives three different names to Himself.

All three names **identify** the **Us** of **God!**



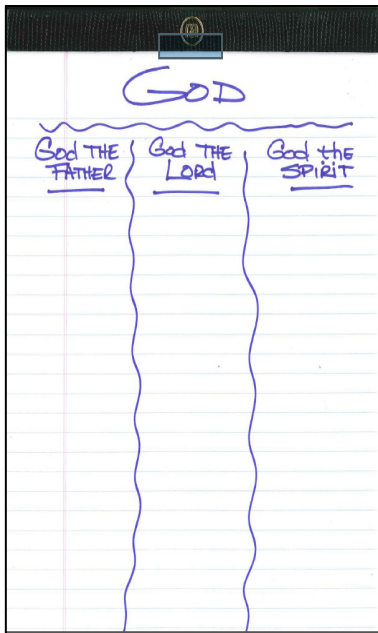
As you study through the entire WORD of God, you will see how He presents Himself in the form of three persons.

WHAT IS A PERSON?

In the world of the study of God's WORD, the definition of the PERSON of GOD is different from our common thinking of a man with a human body and appearance.

In religious terms, we call God a PERSON because He bears all the qualities of a personality.

1. God is an intelligent, rational moral spirit being capable of determining His own course in life.
2. God is a self-conscious spirit capable of self-awareness.
3. Each personality of God is distinct from the others and capable of individual action.



Job Descriptions of the Three Personalities of God

Throughout the remainder of God's WORD, He develops the duties of His three Persons. They all have the characteristics of God studied in the last lesson; however, as you read the entire WORD, you will notice that each one has His own specific job duties.

If, while reading the WORD, you jot down the different things each person does, you would quickly see the distinct differences.

As the Lord develops His message and story through the WORD, we begin to see that God presents Himself in the form of three persons.

Possible Answers

HOLY SPIRIT

SON

FATHER

1. **GOD** the _____
2. **GOD** the _____
3. **GOD** the _____

Here is a little preview of what we are going to discover about God and creation!

1. **God the Father** designed a plan for creation.
2. **God the Son** implemented the Father's plan for creation.
3. **God the Holy Spirit** sustains and administers the Son's creation.

In this lesson, we will look at the jobs of **GOD** as He presents Himself as **the Father**.

The Jobs of God the Father Found in Israel's Music

The Psalms, found in the middle of God's WORD, are the songs of God's people. The psalms were put to music and sung in the Tabernacle, the Temple, the Synagogues, the homes and out in the fields by those who loved God throughout the Old Testament days. The songs were written to teach truth and they are a good place to start to see how God presents Himself as the Father.

Psalm 68:5 A father of the fatherless and a judge for the widows, **Is God in His holy habitation.**

Psalm 89:26 "He will cry to Me, **'Thou art my Father, My God,** and the rock of my salvation.'

Psalm 2:7 "I will surely tell of the decree of the LORD: He said to Me, **'Thou art My Son, Today I have begotten Thee.**

1. In this song, God shows His duties as the Father to the _____ and the judge for the _____.

2. As God acts as the Father of the orphans and widows, He is doing so from His holy _____.

3. In Psalm 89, the song is showing the Father's relationship to the Lord.

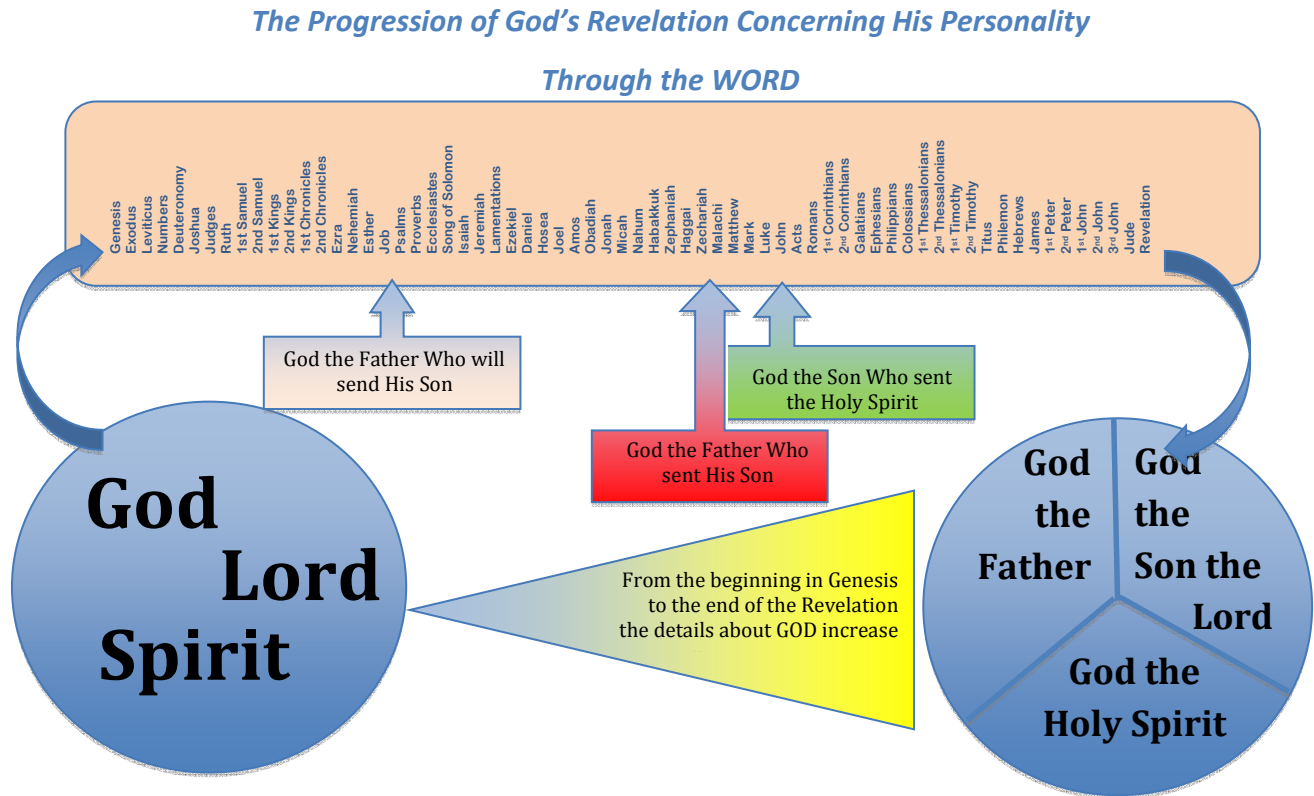
"He (the Lord) will cry to Me (the Father)."

The Lord calls Him His _____.

4. Continuing with the Father's relationship to the Lord, In Psalm 2, He calls the Lord His _____.

Everyone who attended the baptism of the Lord heard the Father speak similar words from the clouds. Here is the record of that event at Jesus' baptism.

Matthew 3:16 And after being baptized, **Jesus** went up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened, and he saw the **Spirit of God** descending as a dove, *and* coming upon Him, ¹⁷ and behold, a **voice out of the heavens**, saying, " **This is My beloved Son**, in whom I am well-pleased."



For simplicity, the chart above shows just three examples of how the personality of the Father is developed as the delivery of the WORD to the world continues from Genesis to the end of the Revelation.

A General Guide to Understand When the Word God Means the Father

*In the next lessons
we will learn that*

**LORD, OR LORD GOD IS
SPEAKING ABOUT THE SON,
JESUS.**

**SPIRIT IS SPEAKING ABOUT
THE HOLY SPIRIT.**

When the WORD uses the word **GOD**

it is usually speaking **about the Father,**

occasionally, it is speaking about the

united work of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

A List of the Eighteen Distinct Duties of God the Father

*The following list is not a complete listing of all the duties of God the Father;
it is just a good short introductory list to help you begin to know Him better!*

Matthew 11:25 At that time Jesus answered and said, "I praise Thee, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that Thou didst hide these things from the wise and intelligent and didst reveal them to babes. ²⁶ "Yes, Father, for thus it was well-pleasing in Thy sight.

John 3:16 "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life.

Matthew 28:18 And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, " All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

John 19:11 Jesus answered, " You would have no authority over Me, unless it had been given you from above; for this reason he who delivered Me up to you has the greater sin."

1. The Father does **what pleases Him.**
2. The Father **starts** the work of **redemption.**
3. The Father **gives power to His Son.**
4. The Father **gives all authority** through His Son to His Spirit.

Matthew 6:9 " Pray, then, in this way: 'Our Father **who art in heaven**, Hallowed be Thy name.

Daniel 4:35 "And all the inhabitants of the earth are accounted as nothing, But **He does according to His will in the host of heaven And among the inhabitants of earth**; And no one can ward off His hand Or say to Him, ' What hast Thou done?'

Romans 11:33 **Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and unfathomable His ways!** ³⁴For WHO HAS KNOWN THE MIND OF THE LORD, OR WHO BECAME HIS COUNSELOR? ³⁵Or WHO HAS FIRST GIVEN TO HIM THAT IT MIGHT BE PAID BACK TO HIM AGAIN? ³⁶For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things. To Him *be* the glory forever. Amen.

John 1:12 But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right **to become children of God**, even to those who believe in His name, ¹³who were **born not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.**

Matthew 11:27 " **All things have been handed over to Me by My Father**; and no one knows the Son, except the Father; nor does anyone know the Father, except the Son, and anyone to whom the Son wills to reveal *Him*.

John 1:11 He came to His own, and those who were His own did not receive Him. ¹²But as many as received Him, **to them He gave the right to become children of God**, even to those who believe in His name,

5. The Father **sits on His throne** in heaven.

6. The Father **plans and carries them out.**

7. The Father **plans according** to His unlimited **wisdom.**

8. The Father **provides a spiritual birth.**

9. The Father is called **the Father of Jesus Christ.**

10. The Father is the **Father of the redeemed.**

1 John 3:1 See how great a love the Father has bestowed upon us, that we should be called children of God; and *such* we are. For this reason the world does not know us, because it did not know Him.

John 14:6 Jesus •said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life; **no one comes to the Father, but through Me.**

Galatians 4:4 But when the fullness of the time came, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the Law, ⁵ in order that He might redeem those who were under the Law, that **we might receive the adoption as sons.**

Matthew 7:21 " Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven; **but he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven.**

Hebrews 12:7 It is for discipline that you endure; **God deals with you as with sons; for what son is there whom *his* father does not discipline?**

11. The Father **loves**
those who belong to Him.

12. The Father **allows**
people to come to Him through Jesus Christ.

13. The Father **adopts**
those who give their
lives to Him.

14. The Father **expects** His
children to live in His will.

15. The Father **corrects**
the disobedient.

Getting to Know God – This Week

WEEK THREE – STORIES TO READ

From the Bible Version of Your Choice!

MONDAY	<i>The Story of Jesus' Birth, John the Baptist and the Lord's Temptation</i> Matthew Chapters 1, 2, 3 and 4
TUESDAY	<i>The Story of Jesus' Ministry – Part 1</i> Matthew Chapters 5, 6, 7 and 8
WEDNESDAY	<i>The Story of Jesus' Ministry – Part 2</i> Matthew Chapters 9, 10, 11 and 12
THURSDAY	<i>The Story of Jesus' Ministry – Part 3</i> Matthew Chapters 13, 14, 15 and 16
FRIDAY	<i>The Story of Jesus' Ministry – Part 4</i> Matthew Chapters 17, 18, 19 and 20
SATURDAY	<i>The Story of Jesus' Ministry – Part 4</i> Matthew Chapters 21, 22, 23 and 24