

The Basics – Week 1: Who Is God?

Part 1 — Everyone Has a View of God

Key Thought

Whether people realize it or not, everyone has formed opinions about God.

Those views are often shaped by: Family Church experiences Pain or disappointment Culture Media Personal success or suffering **Discussion Prompt**

“How did you view God when you were younger and how have those views changed over time?”

Possible answers: Angry Distant Loving Controlling Judgmental Kind Uninvolved **Transition**

“The problem is this: if we build our understanding of God from opinions instead of revelation, we can end up worshiping a version of God that isn’t actually Him.”

Part 2 — God Reveals Himself Through Creation

Genesis 1:1 — “In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.”

Teaching Points: The Bible begins with God—not man. God is eternal. God is Creator. Everything begins with Him. We are created beings, not self-made beings. Illustration:

A painting points to a painter.

A building points to a builder.

Creation points to a Creator.

Romans 1:20 teaches that creation reveals God's eternal power and divine nature.

Key Point

Creation reveals there is a God, but Jesus reveals what God is like.

Part 3 — God Reveals Himself Through Scripture

2 Timothy 3:15–16 teaches that Scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, correcting, and training us in righteousness.

Through God's written Word we receive revelation of who God is and how to have a relationship with Him.

Part 4 — God Revealed Through Jesus

John 14:8–9 — “Anyone who has seen Me has seen the Father.”

If you want to know: How God treats sinners → look at Jesus. How God responds to broken people → look at Jesus. How God loves → look at Jesus. How God confronts sin → look at Jesus. Jesus is the clearest revelation of who God is.

Jeremiah 29:13–14 teaches that God reveals Himself to those who seek Him wholeheartedly.

Part 5 — What Is God Like?

1. God Is Holy

Isaiah 6:3 — “Holy, holy, holy is the Lord Almighty.”

Holy means completely pure and set apart. God is perfect and unlike anyone else. God's holiness means sin matters, but holiness does not mean God is cold or distant.

2. God Is Love

1 John 4:8 — “God is love.”

Love is not just something God does. Love is who He is.

Examples: Jesus dying on the cross Patience with us Mercy Forgiveness Pursuing us even when we run God’s love is not weak love. Real love tells the truth and calls people higher.

3. God Is Father

Romans 8:15 — “By Him we cry, ‘Abba, Father.’”

One of the greatest things Jesus revealed is that God is a Father—not just ruler or judge.

Good Father Characteristics: Present Protective Loving Correcting Providing Patient **Part 6 — God Wants Relationship**

John 17:3 — “Now this is eternal life: that they know You...”

God’s goal was never just religion. He desires relationship.

From Genesis to Revelation: God walked with Adam and Eve. God spoke with Abraham. God led Israel. Jesus came near to humanity. The Holy Spirit now lives in believers. The story of the Bible is God pursuing people.

Part 7 — What Separates Us From God?

Romans 3:23 — “For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.”

Sin separates humanity from God. Sin is rebellion against God, but God did not leave us separated.

Part 8 — Jesus Makes a Way

Romans 5:8 — “While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.”

The cross reveals: God’s justice God’s mercy God’s love Christianity is not people trying to reach God. It is God reaching people through Jesus.

This Week’s Challenge

Spend 10 minutes each day: Reading one Gospel passage about Jesus. Asking: “What does this show me about God?” Writing down one thing you learn each day. Suggested Readings: John 1 Mark 2 Luke 15 Matthew 5 John 8