



Lesson One: God is...We are

Opening Video

Opening discussion: "Except for God, everything has a starting point." Discuss

²⁸ Do you not know?

Have you not heard?

The LORD is the **everlasting** God,
the Creator of the ends of the earth.

He will not grow tired or weary,
and his understanding no one can fathom.

²⁹ He gives strength to the weary
and increases the power of the weak.

³⁰ Even youths grow tired and weary,
and young men stumble and fall;

³¹ but those who hope in the LORD
will renew their strength.

They will soar on wings like eagles;

they will run and not grow weary,
they will walk and not be faint. (Isaiah 40:28-31)

“I am the Alpha and the Omega, says the Lord God, who is and who was, and who is to come. The Almighty.” (Revelation 1:8)

¹³I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End. (Revelation 22:13)

Before the mountains were born
or you brought forth the whole world,
from everlasting to everlasting you are God. (Psalm 90:2)

God is...

→ The _____ God, the beginning and the end, the Alpha and the Omega!

Note: Even though we have a beginning, God has placed eternity into our hearts.

¹¹ He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the human heart; yet no one can fathom what God has done from beginning to end. (Ecclesiastes 3:11)

Declare what is to be, present it—
let them take counsel together.
Who foretold this long ago,
who declared it from the distant past?
Was it not I, the LORD?
And there is no God apart from me,
a righteous God and a Savior;
there is none but me (Isaiah 45:21)

So, God is ____.

Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. (Deuteronomy 6:4)

God is _____.

“As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and lighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, ‘This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased.’” (Matthew 3:16-17)

“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.(Matthew 28:19)

God is three distinct _____.

God is...

→ _____, **three distinct persons yet one God.**

The Persons of the Trinity love and glorify each other.

At that time Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. 10 Just as Jesus was coming up out of the water, he saw heaven being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. 11 And a voice came from heaven: “You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased.” (Mark 1:9-11)

And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Son may bring glory to the Father.(John 14:13)

Jesus replied, "If I glorify myself, my glory means nothing. My Father, whom you claim as your God, is the one who glorifies me. (John 8:54)

I have brought you glory on earth by finishing the work you gave me to do. 5 And now, Father, glorify me in your presence with the glory I had with you before the world began. (John 17:4-5)

"In Christianity, God is not a static thing but a pulsating activity. A life. Almost a kind of drama. Almost, if you will not think me irreverent, a kind of dance."

- C.S. Lewis



The doctrine of the trinity is that God is eternally existent in three. Trinitarianism is the doctrine that there is only one God who is three persons who know and love one another. He is not more fundamentally one than three or three than one.

²³ On their release, Peter and John went back to their own people and reported all that the chief priests and the elders had said to them.²⁴ When they heard this, they raised their voices together in prayer to God. “**Sovereign Lord,**” they said, “you made the heavens and the earth and the sea, and everything in them. (Acts 4:23)

- **Sovereign God** Call God “Sovereign Lord” = *Despotes* = Boss, the ruler of the rulers, autocrat of the universe!
- **Creator**

→ When you pray, recognize to whom you are praying, the Sovereign Lord, the Creator with whom nothing is impossible.

→ God is the _____ of the heavens and the earth.

- Genesis 1-2 Summary
- Hubble and Pastor Paul Schultz photos
- Why so big?

For the director of music. A psalm of David.

¹ The heavens declare the glory of God;
the skies proclaim the work of his hands.

² Day after day they pour forth speech;
night after night they reveal knowledge.

³ They have no speech, they use no words;
no sound is heard from them.

⁴ Yet their voice goes out into all the earth,
their words to the ends of the world. (**Psalm 24:1-4**)

In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord seated on a throne, high and exalted, and the train of his robe filled the temple. ² Above him were seraphs, each with six wings: With two wings they covered their faces, with two they covered their feet, and with two they were flying. ³ And they were calling to one another: "Holy, holy, holy is the LORD Almighty; the whole earth is full of his glory." (Isaiah 6:1-3)

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קָדוֹשׁ *qadowsh = holy = set apart, distinct, perfect*

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כְּבוֹד *kabowd = Glory =* – weighty; substantial; real; _____

→ God is intensely _____ and _____!

¹⁷ Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory for ever and ever. Amen. (1 Timothy 1:17).

¹⁵ The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. (Colossians 1:15)

²⁴ God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in the Spirit and in truth.” (John 4:24) (NIV)

→ God is _____.

Why?

God is _____.

The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands. ² Day after day they pour forth speech; night after night they reveal knowledge. ³ They have no speech, they use no words; no sound is heard from them. ⁴ Yet their voice goes out into all the earth, their words to the ends of the world. (Psalm 19:1-2)

"To whom will you compare me? Or who is my equal?" says the Holy One. ²⁶ Lift your eyes and look to the heavens: Who created all these? He who brings out the starry host one by one, and calls them each by name. Because of his great power and mighty strength, not one of them is missing.

(Isaiah 40:25-26)

➤ **God is detectable through _____ !**

Romans 2:14-16 ¹⁴ *(Indeed, when Gentiles, who do not have the law, do by nature things required by the law, they are a law for themselves, even though they do not have the law. ¹⁵ They show that the requirements of the law are written on their hearts, their consciences also bearing witness, and their thoughts sometimes accusing them and at other times even defending them.) ¹⁶ This will take place on the day when God judges people's secrets through Jesus Christ, as my gospel declares.*

➤ **God is detectable through our _____ !**

⁸Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. (1 John 4:8)

For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him; ¹² as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us. (Psalm 103:11-12)

⁸Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. ⁹This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. ¹⁰This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. (1 John 4:8-10)

1 Corinthians 13 (summary)

➔ **God is _____ !**

14 “Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God^[a]; believe also in me. ²My Father’s house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you?³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. ⁴You know the way to the place where I am going.”

Jesus the Way to the Father

⁵ Thomas said to him, “Lord, we don’t know where you are going, so how can we know the way?”

⁶ Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷ If you really know me, you will know^[b] my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him.”

⁸ Philip said, “Lord, show us the Father and that will be enough for us.”

⁹ Jesus answered: “Don’t you know me, Philip, even after I have been among you such a long time? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father. (John 14:1-9)

We are... Living Faith Lutheran Church

- We are convinced there is One God who has revealed himself to us and the world through his word as three distinct persons, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
- We are convinced that God is almighty and powerful and glorious, yet He cares for us deeply and is mindful of us.
- Living Faith Lutheran is part of a larger church body.
 - We are part of the WELS which stands for Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod.
 - Synod is a Greek word that basically means “walking together” of fellowship.
 - We are a conservative church body meaning that we take the Word of God seriously and believe the Bible not only contains the Word of God but is the Word of God and is the means that God communicates to us.
 - We are also compassionate about the gospel of Jesus.
 - As we study what God says about humanity in the Bible based on his law I realize that I am a far worse sinner than I ever thought.

- As I look at the Gospel – or what God has done to save me and the world I am far more loved by God than I could ever hope for.
- And so are you!

Homework:

1. Listen to the voice of creation this week!
2. Listen to your conscience this week!
3. Consider the glory of God, be humbled by it.