

First Family Foundations

Building a foundation of Faith for Families.

Unit 1 — God

Lesson 1 — There is one God. He is spirit.

Introduction — Your task is to help yourself and your children connect with the *one true God*, rather than to make up your own spirituality by piecing together whatever religious ideas strike your fancy.

While we must be tolerant of other people's religious traditions, we have to recognize that unless a person meets the one real God, religion per se has little value and will eventually lead a person to confusion and despair.

God cannot be identified with an object, such as a metal or wooden idol, or with some aspect of nature, such as a star or a tree, or with a person, such as Japan's Emperor Hirohito in World War II. So your child needs to expect God to be invisible and not be fooled by other claims.

Here's the Activity:

Can You Tell Me About God?

Read and discuss these questions with your family.

Q. How was God created since He's the only God?

A. God was not created; He has always existed. This is impossible for us to understand because everything else we know about has a beginning and an end. But God had no beginning, and He has no end. He always was, and He always will be.

Imagine going on a deep-sea dive and being able to talk to the fish at the bottom of the sea. Imagine trying to explain to the fish what life is like for humans above the surface of the water and on land. The fish would not be able to understand, no matter how hard you tried to explain it. Everything the fish knows is in the water. *You* can breathe air and walk on the land, but the fish know nothing about that. So the fish think it's silly or impossible. That is the way it is with God. He created everything we know, including time. Beginnings and endings are limitations of our world, but not of God. That is one of the great things about Him. He is so much greater than we are!

Key verse: "[Jesus said,] You are My friends if you do whatever I command you. No longer do I call you servants, for a servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all things that I heard from My Father I have made known to you." (John 15:14-15, NKJV)

Q. Where does God live?

A. Sometimes we think of God as though He were another person like us. Just as we can only be one place at a time and we need a place to live, we think that God is the same way. But God isn't limited to a physical body or to one place at a time. In fact, God lives everywhere, especially inside people who love Him. We call church "God's house" because that's where people who love God gather together to worship Him. But no matter where we are, God is with us. We can never be lost to His love. God also lives in heaven. Eventually, we will live there, too.