



## **GOD:** His Divine Nature

### Social Media Component Instructions

The social media component has been created to help you communicate with your class daily and to interact with them and encourage them to interact with each other in discussing topics from the week's lesson.

Each day focuses on a small passage from the Scripture used in that week's lesson to reinforce what they learned in class and a few options are given for suggested social media posts. The day's Scripture passage is included as well as questions and things to think about.

When using the questions, we recommend using the hashtag for the God study lesson number that we have included (ex. #God\_L1) so that your class can interact on these questions with learners from other churches, as well as using a specific hashtag for your group, so that you and they can specifically interact with others from your church. (ex. #TrinityYA)

We hope that these will be very useful to you in interacting with your class on a platform where they are comfortable and that it will encourage them to engage with the lesson text during the week.

*Though you can post to each social media platform each day if you'd like, we'd recommend using the social media and texting service inside the Bible Study Manager or Hootsuite™ to schedule your posts ahead of time and make it possible for you to have just one website to open to see your students responses from multiple social media platforms.*



# **GOD: His Divine Nature**

Biblical Passage: Genesis 1:1-5; Acts 17:22-28

Week  
One

## **DAY 1:**

- Genesis 1:1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earths. (NASB)
- God existed before creating heaven and earth.
- "The heavens" convey various meanings in Hebrew: everything from earth's atmosphere, to the entire cosmos, to all things visible or invisible.
- This narrative suggests that God began with the universe before moving on to address His specific creative action on earth.

## **DAY 2:**

- Genesis 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. (NASB)
- Formless and void = the earth could not sustain life at this point in its development.
- Darkness = the original chaos of the earth that God subdues and shapes into an inhabitable world for humanity: not evil
- The movement of the "Spirit" creates a picture of God's paternal care in creation.

## **DAY 3:**

- Genesis 1:3-5 Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light day, and the darkness He called night. And there was evening and there was morning, one day. (NASB)
- Good = fits its purpose or without flaw
- The naming of day and night show God's ownership and control over His creation.
- The Hebrew word for day is "yom." It can refer to a 24-hour period or an unspecified period of time.

## **DAY 4:**

- Acts 17:22-23 So Paul stood in the midst of the Areopagus and said, "Men of Athens, I observe that you are very religious in all respects. For while I was passing through and examining the objects of your worship, I also found an altar with this inscription, 'TO AN UNKNOWN GOD.' Therefore what you worship in ignorance, this I proclaim to you. (NASB)
- The Areopagus was a place in Athens where intellectuals gathered to discuss philosophy and religion.
- Greek mythology centered on a group of 12 deities known as "The Olympians" and included many others.
- Paul utilized a common practice and belief of his audience in order to present the truth of the Gospel.

## DAY 5:

- Acts 17:24-25 The God who made the world and all things in it, since He is Lord of heaven and earth, does not dwell in temples made with hands; nor is He served by human hands, as though He needed anything, since He Himself gives to all people life and breath and all things; (NASB)
- Greeks believed that matter and the spirits of deities were co-eternal. The Jews had the first opportunity to repent because they were the original recipients of the revelation of God.
- Paul argued that there is one God who created everything.
- Why does it matter that God existed before anything else? #God\_L1

## DAY 6:

- Acts 17:26 The Lord is compassionate and gracious, Slow to anger and abounding in lovingkindness. He will not always strive with us, Nor will He keep His anger forever. He has not dealt with us according to our sins, Nor rewarded us according to our iniquities. (NASB)
- God directs and orchestrates all things.
- Since God made all people, how should we treat others? #God\_L1
- If God orchestrates all things, are our decisions important? #God\_L1

## DAY 7:

- Acts 17:27-28 That they would seek God, if perhaps they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us; for in Him we live and move and exist, as even some of your own poets have said, 'For we also are His children.
- Grope = searching blindly because of darkness and confusion
- God is near enough to humanity that He can be known personally and worshipped truthfully.
- What does it mean to personally know God? #God\_L1



# GOD: His Divine Nature

Biblical Passage: Exodus 3:13-14; Psalm 139:7-10, Romans 11:33-36

Week  
Two

## DAY 1:

- Exodus 3:13 - Then Moses said to God, "Behold, I am going to the sons of Israel, and I will say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you.' Now they may say to me, 'What is His name?' What shall I say to them?" (NASB)
- Moses was concerned that the Israelites would not accept his authority to make demands for them.
- Moses worried that the Israelites would question which god had supposedly sent him.
- When have you felt inadequate to perform an important task? #God\_L2

## DAY 2:

- Exodus 3:14-15 - God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM"; and He said, "Thus you shall say to the sons of Israel, 'I AM has sent me to you.'" God furthermore said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the sons of Israel, 'The Lord, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you.' This is My name forever, and this is My memorial-name to all generations." (NASB)
- God had not personally revealed His name to any individual to this point in history.
- God declared to Moses that "He was, He is, and He will be."
- "I AM WHO I AM" is the translated proper name of God—Yahweh.

## DAY 3:

- Psalm 139:7-8 - Where can I go from Your Spirit? Or where can I flee from Your presence? If I ascend to heaven, You are there; If I make my bed in Sheol, behold, You are there. (NASB)
- The psalmist used parallelism, using two lines to say the same thing in a different way, to demonstrate the scope of God's presence.
- Sheol=Hades/Realm of the dead, not necessarily=hell
- When have you tried to run from God to find out that you can't? #God\_L2

## DAY 4:

- Psalm 139:9-10 If I take the wings of the dawn, If I dwell in the remotest part of the sea, Even there Your hand will lead me, And Your right hand will lay hold of me. (NASB)
- Wings of dawn = infinite eastward direction
- Remotest part of the sea = from the sunrise to the sunset, infinite westward direction.
- Even during the tough times when it's hard to feel or trust God, He is there lovingly leading you.

## DAY 5:

- 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! (NASB)
- This is a spontaneous doxology (hymn of praise) claiming the superiority of God's knowledge.
- The human mind simply does not possess the capability to fully understand or comprehend a being as wise and knowledgeable as God.
- Who is the smartest person you know? #God\_L2

## DAY 6:

- Romans 11:34-35 For who has known the mind of the Lord, or who became His counselor? Or who has first given to Him that it might be paid back to him again? (NASB)
- Paul quoted Isaiah 30:34. Why?
- God has no equal.
- Paul loosely cited Job 35:7 or 41:11 to say that there is nothing that doesn't already belong to God.

## DAY 7:

- Romans 11:36 For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things. To Him be the glory forever. Amen. (NASB)
- When was the last time you were overwhelmed by the scope of God's plan for your life?
- God possesses all wisdom and knowledge.
- God is worthy of all glory.



# **GOD: His Divine Nature**

Biblical Passage: Exodus 19:10-11, 16-25; Daniel 2:19-23

Week  
Three

## **DAY 1:**

- Exodus 19:10-11 The Lord also said to Moses, "Go to the people and consecrate them today and tomorrow, and let them wash their garments; and let them be ready for the third day, for on the third day the Lord will come down on Mount Sinai in the sight of all the people. (NASB)
- Consecrate = dedication to service and loyalty to God through resolving to observe proper conduct
- The washing of clothes was symbolic of the people's reverence for God.
- God "came down" from heaven 4x: Tower of Babel (Gen. 11:5), Sodom (Gen. 18:21), Egypt (Ex. 3:8) & to reveal Himself to Israel (Ex. 19:11).
- God's action of "coming down" reveals His immanence; though removed and separate from His creation, He is still near & can interact with it.

## **DAY 2:**

- Exodus 19:16-17 So it came about on the third day, when it was morning, that there were thunder and lightning flashes and a thick cloud upon the mountain and a very loud trumpet sound, so that all the people who were in the camp trembled. And Moses brought the people out of the camp to meet God, and they stood at the foot of the mountain. (NASB)
- Thunder refers to God's voice.
- God revealing Himself through thunder and lightning recurs throughout Old Testament theophanies (appearances of God to humanity).
- Though fearful, the people accompanied Moses to meet God.

## **DAY 3:**

- Exodus 19:18-20 Now Mount Sinai was all in smoke because the Lord descended upon it in fire; and its smoke ascended like the smoke of a furnace, and the whole mountain quaked violently. When the sound of the trumpet grew louder and louder, Moses spoke and God answered him with thunder. The Lord came down on Mount Sinai, to the top of the mountain; and the Lord called Moses to the top of the mountain, and Moses went up. (NASB)
- Fire is a thematic element in Scripture associated with God's presence, holiness, judgment, and cleansing. God's being, essence, purpose, and promises never change.
- The sound of the trumpet announced God's presence.
- Moses waited on God's instructions, not presuming to come to God on his own terms.

## **DAY 4:**

- Exodus 19:21-25 Then the Lord spoke to Moses, "Go down, warn the people, so that they do not break through to the Lord to gaze, and many of them perish. Also let the priests who come near to the Lord consecrate themselves, or else the Lord will break out against them." Moses said to the Lord, "The people cannot come up to Mount Sinai, for You warned us, saying, 'Set bounds about the mountain and consecrate it.'" Then the Lord said to him, "Go down and come up again, you and Aaron with you; but do not let the priests and the people break through to come up to the Lord, or He will break forth upon them." So Moses went down to the people and told them. (NASB)
- Moses set boundaries around the mountain; those who crossed them died.
- Priest = head of household at this point in Israel's history.
- Aaron was called up with Moses to demonstrate his leadership role with the people.

## DAY 5:

- Daniel 2:19 Then the mystery was revealed to Daniel in a night vision. Then Daniel blessed the God of heaven. (NASB)
- King Nebuchadnezzar had a troubling dream that no one could interpret.
- Mystery = to hide or keep secret
- What is the most troubling dream you've ever had? #God\_L3

## DAY 6:

- Daniel 2:19 Then the mystery was revealed to Daniel in a night vision. Then Daniel blessed the God of heaven. (NASB)
- Sovereignty = God's possession of all power and status as ruler of all things
- God's sovereignty brought about the king's dream & Daniel's interpretation so God could gain renown and Daniel could receive prominence.
- Times and epochs=God is able to govern both generally and in specific instances to bring about His purpose

## DAY 7:

- Daniel 2:22-23 "It is He who reveals the profound and hidden things; He knows what is in the darkness, And the light dwells with Him. "To You, O God of my fathers, I give thanks and praise, For You have given me wisdom and power; Even now You have made known to me what we requested of You, For You have made known to us the king's matter." (NASB)
- All human knowledge about God's purpose is but speculation unless God reveals it to man.
- God has revealed His purpose for us through His dealing with His people, His prophets, and ultimately Jesus.
- Daniel expressed thanks for God's actions in this particular situation.



# **GOD: His Divine Nature**

Biblical Passage: Psalm 102:24-28; Deuteronomy 32:1-4

Week  
Four

## **DAY 1:**

- Psalms 102:24-25 I say, "O my God, do not take me away in the midst of my days, Your years are throughout all generations. Of old You founded the earth, And the heavens are the work of Your hands. (NASB)
- This is a lament Psalm that follows this structure: appeal to God, describe problem, and appeal for deliverance.
- Even in the midst of suffering, God's power and goodness give hope.
- How do we find hope and trust in God when we are suffering? #God\_L4

## **DAY 2:**

- Psalm 102:26 "Even they will perish, but You endure; And all of them will wear out like a garment; Like clothing You will change them and they will be changed. (NASB)
- God endures forever.
- The psalmist chose to place his faith in God, who, unlike creation, is eternal.
- Creation is ever-changing and subject to change. God is the same forever.

## **DAY 3:**

- Psalm 102:27 "But You are the same, And Your years will not come to an end. (NASB)
- Immutability = God is unchanging
- God's being, essence, purpose, and promises never change.
- Why is it important that God never changes? #God\_L4

## **DAY 4:**

- Psalm 102:28 "The children of Your servants will continue, And their descendants will be established before You." (NASB)
- The psalmist expressed hope for the future of Israel.
- What is your hope for the future? #God\_L4
- How can we learn from suffering? #God\_L4



## DAY 5:

- Deuteronomy 32:1-2 "Give ear, O heavens, and let me speak; And let the earth hear the words of my mouth. Let my teaching drop as the rain, My speech distill as the dew, As the droplets on the fresh grass And as the showers on the herb. (NASB)
- Moses called earth & heaven as witnesses b/c 2 witnesses were needed to establish the truth of one's testimony in the Law.
- Moses used 4 different words for rain to emphasize his desire for his words to bring life like water.
- Moses desired to instruct his audience in the way of God.

## DAY 6:

- Deuteronomy 32:3 "For I proclaim the name of the Lord; Ascribe greatness to our God! (NASB)
- Names described an individual's character in the minds of the ancient Hebrews.
- Humanity's proper response to a loving, eternal, life-giving God is to rightly awe at His greatness.
- Moses used 2 different names for God. Yahweh=timelessness, without beginning or end; Elohim= creator, sustainer & producer of all life.

## DAY 7:

- Deuteronomy 32:4 "The Rock! His work is perfect, For all His ways are just; A God of faithfulness and without injustice, Righteous and upright is He. (NASB)
- The Rock = God = refers to His strength, stability, and unchanging nature as well as might
- Perfect = blameless
- God is faithful, just, and deserving of our trust.



# GOD: His Divine Nature

Biblical Passage: Isaiah 13:6-11; Romans 2:1-11; Psalm 103:8-13

Week  
Five

## DAY 1:

- Isaiah 13:6-8 Wail, for the day of the Lord is near! It will come as destruction from the Almighty. Therefore all hands will fall limp, And every man's heart will melt. They will be terrified, Pains and anguish will take hold of them; They will writhe like a woman in labor, They will look at one another in astonishment, Their faces aflame. (NASB)
- Wailing = howling-like expression that typically occurred in the context of grieving
- The coming "day of the Lord" produces a variety of fearful responses.
- The "day of the Lord" is nothing for Christians to fear.

## DAY 2:

- Isaiah 13:9-11 Behold, the day of the Lord is coming, Cruel, with fury and burning anger, To make the land a desolation; And He will exterminate its sinners from it. For the stars of heaven and their constellations Will not flash forth their light; The sun will be dark when it rises And the moon will not shed its light. Thus I will punish the world for its evil And the wicked for their iniquity; I will also put an end to the arrogance of the proud And abase the haughtiness of the ruthless. (NASB)
- Isaiah's message would have seemed cruel to its intended audience.
- Isaiah was speaking of the destruction of Israel that was to come at the hands of the Assyrians.
- Why does the concept of God's judgment make us uncomfortable? #God\_L5

## DAY 3:

- Romans 2:1-2 Therefore you have no excuse, everyone of you who passes judgment, for in that which you judge another, you condemn yourself; for you who judge practice the same things. And we know that the judgment of God rightly falls upon those who practice such things. (NASB)
- No excuse = no legal defense
- Paul pointed out that neither Jews or Greeks could live up to their own impossible standards.
- When have you judged someone only to realize you then behaved similarly? #God\_L5

## DAY 4:

- Romans 2:3-8 But do you suppose this, O man, when you pass judgment on those who practice such things and do the same yourself, that you will escape the judgment of God? Or do you think lightly of the riches of His kindness and tolerance and patience, not knowing that the kindness of God leads you to repentance? But because of your stubbornness and unrepentant heart you are storing up wrath for yourself in the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God, who will render to each person according to his deeds: to those who by perseverance in doing good seek for glory and honor and immortality, eternal life; but to those who are selfishly ambitious and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, wrath and indignation. (NASB)
- Paul's accusation was that his readers had taken advantage of the kindness of God by neglecting to show a repentant attitude.
- God's Wrath ≠ rage; God's wrath = God's final judgment against sin
- Selfish ambition = originally was someone who worked for hire but came to describe an individual who desired to be better than someone else.

## DAY 5:

- Romans 2:9-11 There will be tribulation and distress for every soul of man who does evil, of the Jew first and also of the Greek, but glory and honor and peace to everyone who does good, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. For there is no partiality with God. (NASB)
- Tribulation = trouble; difficult circumstances involving restrictions
- The Jews had the first opportunity to repent because they were the original recipients of the revelation of God.
- Partiality="to lift the face"=Hebrew judges were not allowed to look at an accused person's face in order to remain impartial

## DAY 6:

- Psalm 103:8-10 The Lord is compassionate and gracious, Slow to anger and abounding in lovingkindness. He will not always strive with us, Nor will He keep His anger forever. He has not dealt with us according to our sins, Nor rewarded us according to our iniquities. (NASB)
- God's grace and compassion are not contradictory to His judgment or His wrath.
- The fact that God righteously judges sinners only after giving them sufficient opportunity to repent and avoid His wrath demonstrates His grace.
- God is always willing to relent His judgment when humanity repents.

## DAY 7:

- Psalm 103:11-13 For as high as the heavens are above the earth, So great is His lovingkindness toward those who fear Him. As far as the east is from the west, So far has He removed our transgressions from us. Just as a father has compassion on his children, So the Lord has compassion on those who fear Him.
- Fear = respect and awe
- Who are people that cause others to "fear" them? #God\_L5
- God's mercy extends higher than the heavens and extends farther than anyone could conceive.



# **GOD: His Divine Nature**

Biblical Passage: 1 John 4:7-14

Week  
Six

## **DAY 1:**

- 1 John 4:7 Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. (NASB)
- A lifestyle characterized by love ought to be shared by all believers in Christ.
- God is the source of love.
- Love=purposeful action, ≠ just a “warm, fuzzy” feeling.

## **DAY 2:**

- 1 John 4:8 The one who does not love does not know God, for God is love. (NASB)
- Love is a verb, not a feeling.
- Individuals whose lifestyles are not characterized by love have obviously never experienced the love of God in Christ.
- Followers of Christ are loving people.

## **DAY 3:**

- 1 John 4:9-10 By this the love of God was manifested in us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world so that we might live through Him. In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins. (NASB)
- God's love is best demonstrated by sending His Son Jesus to die for sinful humanity.
- God's entire purpose in sending Jesus to die for our sins was to grant new life to those who place their faith in Jesus.
- The God of Scripture seeks after man in spite of mankind's stubbornness and sinfulness.

## **DAY 4:**

- 1 John 4:11 Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. (NASB)
- As a result of the extravagance of God's love, believers ought to show the same type of love to one another.
- Why can it be difficult to love others? #God\_L6
- How can we demonstrate God's love? #God\_L6

## DAY 5:

- 1 John 4:12 No one has seen God at any time; if we love one another, God abides in us, and His love is perfected in us. (NASB)
- Seen = gazing intently
- Abide = to remain in place; to dwell
- The possibility of God abiding “in us” is only accomplished through Christ who makes a reunion b/t God and His fallen creation possible.

## DAY 6:

- 1 John 4:12 No one has seen God at any time; if we love one another, God abides in us, and His love is perfected in us. (NASB)
- The presence of the Holy Spirit in a believer’s life is the ultimate evidence of salvation.
- Upon a true confession of faith, the Spirit takes up residence in a believer.
- How do you know if you have God’s Spirit? #God\_L6

## DAY 7:

- 1 John 4:14 We have seen and testify that the Father has sent the Son to be the Savior of the world. (NASB)
- John established himself and the apostles as eyewitnesses to Jesus’ life, death, and resurrection.
- John’s emphasis on the physical being of Jesus is in response to heretical teachings that Jesus was only spirit b/c matter is evil.
- Savior of the world=phrase used in Roman Empire as title for both gods and Caesar.