**Who is God?**

**Introduction**

1. We read in Genesis of a God who created everything in 6 days.
2. We find the evidence of His existence in creation (**cf. Romans 1:19-20** – without excuse). If there is a creation, there is a Creator.
3. **However, the creation only reveals so much about the Creator.**
	1. **He has to reveal the rest concerning WHO HE IS.**
	2. **Acts 17:26-27** – God has shown He exists in an unequivocal way, and has done so that we may seek after Him to know Him more intimately.
	3. **Matthew 7:7-8** – If we seek, we will find. But we have to seek in the right place 🡪
4. God’s word reveals the rest.
	1. **1 Corinthians 2:11-13** – The wisdom of God, the mind of God, the things about God, are all disclosed through the revelation of the Holy Spirit – **found in God’s inspired word**.
	2. **Titus 2:11-12a** – The revelation is a product of His grace bestowed upon us. This grace not only has appeared to all, **but it teaches us – about how to live because of who is our Creator.**
5. **What does God’s word reveal about Him, and then following, about us – His creation?**
6. Three in One (Father, Son, Holy Spirit)
7. THEY are ONE
	1. Trinity – a group of three.
		1. Group is a plural noun – one group, but group constitutes several units.
		2. **Trinity is ONE GROUP, of THREE UNITS.**
		3. God is referred to sometimes as the Trinity – not specifically in the Bible, **but a term which denotes a plurality, yet unity.**
	2. **Genesis 1:1** – God is introduced in the scripture.
		1. ***“God”*** – appears singular.
		2. **(v. 26)** – ***“let us,” “our.”*** (Plurality)
		3. **(v. 1)** – ***“God”*** – *el-o-heem'* – gods (Plural noun.)
		4. Thus, ***“In the beginning God,”*** refers to One in unity, but with multiple Persons.
	3. **Genesis 1:1-3** – We see the three.
		1. ***“God”*** – Father.
		2. ***“Spirit”*** – Holy Spirit.
		3. ***“said”*** – Word – Son **(cf. John 1:1)**.
	4. Three distinctive Persons:
		1. Authority in baptism for the remission of sins – **Matthew 28:18-19**
			1. Jesus said He had ALL authority.
			2. **However, the baptism is not just in His name, but the Father and the HS.**
		2. Presence of the three at Jesus baptism – **Matthew 3:16-17**
			1. **Jesus** – out of the water.
			2. **HS** – descended LIKE a dove.
			3. **Father** – spoke about beloved Son.
		3. Jesus’ prayer for unity among believers – **John 17:20-23**
			1. In the same way we are to be one.
			2. **One in the sense of unity.**
	5. Unified and equal in Divine nature, yet distinctive roles:
		1. **John 14:28** – Father is greater than the Son.
		2. **Mark 13:32** – Father knows more than the Son.
		3. **John 7:16-18** – Son speaks from Father’s authority.
		4. **John 16:12-15** – HS speaks what Jesus gives, and what Jesus gives is the Father’s.
	6. **What are their roles in a nutshell? 🡪**
8. Father
	1. Scheme of Redemption – **2 Timothy 1:8-9** – ***“His own purpose.”***
	2. The Father made the plan.
9. Son
	1. Carrying out the plan – **John 6:38; Hebrews 5:8** – Jesus submitted to His Father’s plan, or will.
	2. Jesus – the Son – carried out the plan.
10. Holy Spirit
	1. Revealed the plan, and will of God the Father, and Son – **1 Corinthians 2:9-12** – revealed through ***“His Spirit.”***
	2. The Holy Spirit revealed the plan.
11. ***These three are unified in every way. They are unified in character, which we must know for the sake of our souls 🡪***
12. God’s Character
13. Holy
	1. **1 Peter 1:15-16** – God is holy.
	2. Has implications for us. We are to be holy.
	3. **James 1:13** – Morally perfect. Can’t be lured by sin.
	4. ***“Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness” (Genesis 1:26 – includes morals, and the call to purity).***
	5. What happens when we fall short of this? (**cf. Romans 3:23**) 🡪
14. Just
	1. **Romans 6:23** – Sin has its wages, for God is just.
	2. **Romans 2:5-11** – God’s judgement is righteous, and impartial.
	3. **ALL HAVE SINNED! GOD MUST BE JUST, BUT HE HAS ANOTHER QUALITY WHICH CAN BE USED AS WELL WITHOUT CONTRADICTING JUSTICE 🡪**
15. Merciful
	1. **Isaiah 30:18-19** – God wants to show mercy.
	2. He is just, but does not want our destruction.
	3. ***“not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance” (2 Peter 3:9).***
	4. This attitude of mercy is shown in the gift He bestows. 🡪
16. Gracious (Also, does not contradict His justice in the bestowing of this favor.)
	1. **Romans 3:21-26** – God is holy, but we fall short. God is just, but also merciful.
	2. **He made a plan that would not contradict His holiness, would satisfy His justice, but also His mercy – the death of Jesus.**
	3. **(cf. 5:1-2)** – We gain access into that gift, grace, by faith in Jesus.

**Conclusion**

1. There is a God, and He is revealed in the Bible.
2. We must understand His nature, and His character.
3. We must know His will in order to be saved.
4. We must believe and obey.