



# What Do We Believe?

## Lesson 3

# What Do We Believe?

## Lesson 3: The Bible: It Tells Us About God

### Scriptures:

Jeremiah 15:16; Hebrews 1:1,2; 1 John 2:12-14; Psalm 19; Genesis 1:1-31

### Lesson Goals:

To show the learner that the Bible is about God  
To show the learner that God is Unique  
To show the learner that God relates to humanity through His Word

### Scripture Memory:

**I am the Lord; that is my name! I will not give my glory to another or my praise to idols. (Isaiah 42:8)**

### The Lesson:

Last week we talked about the Bible being God's word to us. We said that He used several methods to tell us about Himself. The written word of God, the Bible, begins by telling us that he is creator. According to Genesis 1:1, God created the heavens and the earth.

The Bible goes on to tell us that God is the one true God, He is holy, He is Spirit, He is eternal, personal, judge, our Heavenly Father, He is love, merciful, gracious, perfect, all-powerful, all-wise. He is everywhere. He is our Savior. He is over all things. And, He is so much more.

We read in the Bible that God is a shield, Genesis 15:1; He is the Mighty one, Genesis 49:24; He is the Most High, Numbers 24:16; He is our strength, Psalm 46:1; He is our fortress, II Samuel 22:2; He is the Holy One, Isaiah 29:23; He is a rock, Psalm 18:31; He is Father and Redeemer, Isaiah 63:16.

The Bible tells us many names for God. Among them are *Elohim*, the One to whom all power belongs; *El Shaddai*, the Almighty, Genesis 17:1; *El Elyon*, the most high God, Genesis 14:19; *Adonai*, God is our personal helper in time of need; *El Olam*, the everlasting God, Genesis 21:33; *Jehovah* or *Yahweh*, the personal name for God used by the people of Israel – used 6,823 times in the Old Testament. There are numerous places when Jehovah is used in combination with other words such as *Jehovah-jireh*, God will provide, Genesis 22:14; *Jehovah-rapha*, God the healer, Exodus 15:26; and *Jehovah-shammah*, God is there, Ezekiel 48:35.

Jehovah comes from the Hebrew word that means **to be**. God said to Moses, tell the people of Israel that "I AM" has sent you. (Exodus 3:13-15) God is the only being who can say that without limitations. The rest of us can say, "I am," but we must add that we are because we have parents, because we have food, because we have air to breath, because, because.

In Exodus 6:1-8, He tells Moses that he is the savior of the people of Israel.

The Bible does not tell us everything about God, because no one can know everything about God. He is too great, too far beyond our ability to understand.

The Bible tells us about how God relates to humanity. There are stories about how God talked to humans, like when He came to the Garden of Eden each evening and spoke with Adam and Eve. (Genesis 3:8a) There are stories about how God protected people, like when He helped the Children of Israel get out of Egypt where they were slaves. And, on the way out, He opened the Red Sea so that they could outrun the army of Egypt that was right behind them. (Exodus 13:17 – 14:31) It tells about how God called people to become His helpers, like when he called Samuel to become His representative. (1 Sam 3)

The Bible tells about how God helped people become stronger for a special task, like when he helped David kill Goliath. (1 Samuel 17:31-50) It tells about how God answered people's prayers, like when Solomon asked for wisdom, and God granted his wish. (1 Kings 3:6-12) It tells about how God called prophets to carry His message to the people, like when Isaiah had a vision of the Lord and answered God's call with, "Here am I, send me." (Isaiah 6:1-8) It tells about how God saved His servants from danger, like when he kept Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego from the wrath, and fiery furnace of Nebuchadnezzar. (Daniel 3) It tells us about how God ultimately sent Jesus to be His perfect revelation to us and provide salvation to us. (Hebrews 1:1-4)

The Bible tells us about where God lives. God's home is in Heaven. (Isaiah 66:1) And Jesus, when he finished his assignment on Earth, ascended into Heaven to be with His Father. (Hebrews 9:24)

The Bible tells us that God hates sin (Romans 1:18) and that He loves sinners. (Galatians 1:3-4) The Bible tells us that God is one, and yet three persons. (Matthew 3:16-17)

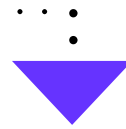
### Life Application:

How can God be so many things and have so many names? Well, those names, Elohim, Jehovah, Adonai, and the others, explain who God is. God's names describe His characteristics. God is Three-in-One and He is powerful. He is perfect and wise and merciful. God is our helper and He is so much more. He can be all of this because He is God. One of His names means "I Am," which is to say that He exists all on His own. No one created God or gave birth to God. Many times, you will find that one name of God or another will hold special meaning for you when God works through the difficult things that happen to you.

The most difficult circumstance we can find ourselves in is sin. The Bible tells us that the people who sin have made themselves slaves to sin. And the Bible tells us that everyone has sinned. So at one time or another, we have been slaves to sinful thoughts or actions. We have missed the mark of what God has planned for our lives. Would it help you to know that God is also a deliverer. What could you and I possibly need to be delivered from? That sin that enslaves us. God sent His One and Only Son to die in your place, for your sin. We don't deserve it, but He did it anyway. If you have never trusted God as your deliverer and Savior, think about your life, your thoughts, your actions. Are you still a slave to sin or are you free because God's Son has set you free? Will you give yourself today to the One who can deliver you and save you?



Planning for Lesson 4  
The Bible: It Tells Us How to  
Relate to God



- ◆ **Memory Verse Activity** - Practice the verse several times with your students. When they are very familiar with the verse, play Bible Verse Volleyball. Divide your area into two equal spaces, each of which should contain half of your students. Divide the two sides in some way. Volley begins, with a balloon, as the first team “serves” the balloon to the other side while saying the first few words of the verse. As the second side returns the serve, they must continue the verse by quoting another phrase. If volleying continues once the verse has been completed, repeat the verse as many times as necessary.
- ◆ Continue learning the books of the Bible. Make sure your students know how to find book, chapter, and verse. Don’t assume they know this - even if you are teaching adults! Practice with Bible drills.
- ◆ If you haven’t already done so, adopt a Bible reading plan to encourage your students in daily Bible reading. There are plans available on-line that begin at various times during the year, so don’t feel discouraged about the date that you begin - just begin! Hold each other accountable as you meet each week.
- ◆ Make a “Me Book.” Each page should include sentences that read “I am \_\_\_\_\_.” Prompt your students to illustrate each page.
- ◆ Before the lesson, open with an activity to prepare your students for the lesson. Write on the board, on a poster or simply say, “I am . . .” Prompt your students for phrases that complete the sentence like, “. . . tall.” or “. . . an Atlanta Braves fan.” When everyone has had a chance to respond, ask them to listen to a description (of God) which you will read. They are to guess who it describes. *“I AM a judge (Psalm 7:8), a king (Psalm 10:16), and a sheep herder (Psalm 23:1). I am honest (Psalm 25:8) and I always do what is right (Psalm 11:7). I see everything (Psalm 33:13) and I know what people think (Psalm 94:11). I am powerful (Psalm 98:2) and I can keep you safe (Psalm 91:9). I am tender and kind and I don’t get angry easily. I am full of love (Psalm 103:8). Who am I?”*
- ◆ Decorate a poster with the names of God and their meanings. Encourage your students to be very creative. Provide markers, colored pencils, glitter, etc.
- ◆ Dig Deeper: Provide concordances for your students. Many Bibles have concordances at the back. Use these to practice finding information in the Bible. Look up information about God and His characteristics.

**I AM THE LORD;  
THAT IS MY NAME!**

I will not give my glory to another  
or my praise to idols.

Isaiah 42:8

When you want to read about God, what book do you read?  
Trace the letters to find out.

BIBLE

# Word Search



Y	G	R	M	R	E	P	V	E	O	L	F
E	V	O	L	A	F	E	C	T	H	G	I
L	O	C	T	Y	A	B	I	B	R	T	P
O	V	K	I	G	T	L	E	I	D	S	E
S	A	Y	I	O	H	H	R	O	K	L	R
W	B	E	S	V	E	O	G	O	B	P	F
A	T	L	I	H	R	R	J	I	R	P	E
N	I	S	T	O	S	T	B	P	M	E	C
K	M	G	I	T	C	M	A	Y	E	J	T
V	I	V	A	S	M	Y	G	H	B	B	L
D	A	R	J	P	E	R	F	C	T	S	W
S	M	M	I	J	K	L	J	D	T	O	A

**love**

**I AM**

**Bible**

**Savior**

**mighty**

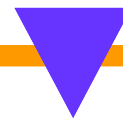
**God**

**rock**

**Father**

**perfect**

# Word Search



Y	G	R	M	R	E	P	V	E	O	L	F
E	V	O	L	A	F	E	C	T	H	G	I
L	O	C	T	Y	A	B	I	B	R	T	P
O	V	K	I	G	T	L	E	I	D	S	E
S	A	Y	I	O	H	H	R	O	K	L	R
W	B	E	S	V	E	O	G	O	B	P	F
A	T	L	I	H	R	R	J	I	R	P	E
N	I	S	T	O	S	T	B	P	M	E	C
K	M	G	I	T	C	M	A	Y	E	J	T
V	I	V	A	S	M	Y	G	H	B	B	L
D	A	R	J	P	E	R	F	C	T	S	W
S	M	M	I	J	K	L	J	D	T	O	A

**love**

**Savior**

**rock**

**I AM**

**mighty**

**Father**

**Bible**

**God**

**perfect**