

# Who Is God?

## Lesson 1

### Genesis 1 & John 1

#### Memory verse

God is love. I John 4:8

#### Opener

Turn to the very first book in the Bible. It is called Genesis. The word Genesis means beginning. It tells us what happened in the beginning of the world. John 1 also tells us about the beginning. Genesis chapter 1, verse or sentence 1, says that God created the heavens and the earth. That means God was there. The Bible tells us that God made or created all the things on earth and in heaven. Many people wonder where God came from. That's a good question.

#### Scripture

**Genesis 1:1**

**In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.**

**John 1: 1-3**

**In the beginning the Word already existed. He was with God, and he was God. He was in the beginning with God. He created everything there is. Nothing exists that he didn't make.**

#### Discussion

**Ask: Have you ever wondered where God came from?**

The Bible tells us that He was present at the beginning of the world. Lots of people try to explain where He came from. Well, if you look at the Bible, all God tells us is that He was there in the beginning and is always there. We have to trust Him and believe that what He says is true.

**Genesis 1:27**

**So God created people in his own image; God patterned them after himself; male and female he created them.**

Many people think of God in different ways. One way is to think of Him as a best friend that helps out in time of need. God created us, just like it says in Genesis 1:27, so He cares about us and loves us so much.

God is definitely different from us. He can create something out of nothing. He also knows all things. God knows what you are thinking right now! Nothing is hidden from God. He knows it all.

He is also present everywhere. Whether you are in Arlington, TX or New York City, God is there too. That's how He can hear my prayers and your prayers at the same time—because He is everywhere.

### **Genesis 1: 3-26**

Then God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light.... “Let there be space between the waters, to separate water from water.” And God called the space, “sky.” God named the dry ground “land” and water “seas.”... “Let the land burst forth with every sort of grass and seed-bearing plant. And let there be trees that grow seed-bearing fruit.... “Let there be lights ... The greater one, the sun, presides during the day the lesser one, the moon, presides through the night. He also made the stars.” ... “Let the waters swarm with fish and other life. Let the skies be filled with birds of every kind.” “Let the earth bring forth every kind of animal.... “Let us make people in our image.”

**Ask: Have you ever thought about God’s power to create?**

God is powerful. He made the heavens and the earth. No one else can do this. Look in Genesis 1. Name some powerful things God did. He created the world. He also made light and dark, water and land, plants and animals, and us! God is so amazing. There is no one else that can do this.

### **I John 4:8**

**God is love.**

**Ask: Have you ever wondered about God’s love for you?**

God is perfect and pure. He always does what is right. The best quality about God is that He is love. God made us and loves us more than anything else in the world. He wants us to spend time with Him and love Him too.

Well, there is a problem. We are not perfect like God. In fact we goof up lots of times. So, there is a wall between us and God. God loves us so much that He made a way for us to come to Him. He did this through His Son, Jesus. Jesus lived a perfect life. He took our place when He died on a cross. He took the punishment for all the wrong things we have done. Why did He do this? Jesus died so that we could be clean and pure before God. How? We become “clean” on the inside by believing in Jesus and asking Him to come into our lives. We tell Him we are sorry for all the wrong things we have done and ask Him to take over. Jesus comes into our lives and makes us new. We don’t want to do our old things anymore. We want to do what God wants us to do and we want to follow Him.

### **Application**

**Ask: What things have you discovered about God that you did not know?**

**Ask: Do you know God’s love?**

**Ask: Would you like to invite God to be a part of your life?**