Making God Real - Part II
*Who and What Is God?*  
(Family Study Guide)

**Objectives:**  
Help your children identify who God is.  
Help your children identify what God looks like.  
Help your children describe God’s personality.  
Help your children explain that we can know who and what God is by what He does.

1. **Review what your family learned about the existence of God and where He is from last month’s study.**  
   a. God has always existed.  
   b. God lives in the third heaven.  
   c. God is everywhere.

2. **God is spirit.**  
   a. A spirit is something we can’t see, feel or hear. We can’t see God because He is spirit, but we can see the things He has done.  
   b. *John 4:24* “God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.”

3. **God is love** *(1 John 4:7-8, I John 4:16).*

4. **Man looks like God.**  
   a. We are created in God’s image *(Gen. 1:26).*  
   b. God has arms, hands, face and eyes *(Ex. 33:18-23, 2 Chron. 16:9, Job 40:9, Isa. 59:1).*

5. **God is omnipotent** – He is the supreme ruler.  
   a. Omnipotent means all-ruling or almighty *(Job 38:1 – 39:30).*  
   b. God has ruler ship and authority over all creation *(Isa. 46:10-11).*  
   c. God rules over men *(Ps. 66:5-7, Dan. 4:17).*  
   d. God cannot go against His own nature *(2 Tim. 2:13, Titus 1:2).*

6. **God has personality** - He is a powerful being with emotions.  
   b. God laughs *(Ps. 37:13, Ps. 59:8).*  
   c. God feels deep compassion *(Luke 15).*  
   d. God gets angry *(Deut. 9:8, 20).*  
   e. God can change His mind *(Deut. 9).*  
   f. God smiles – He has a sense of humor *(Numbers 22:28).*  
   g. God is patient *(Romans 15:5).*

7. **God is . . .**  
   a. **God is a father** *(Rom. 8:15, Gal. 4:6).*  
      • God is older and wiser. He has always been.  
      • God loves us very much and is concerned about us. He wants us to succeed. He is kind, generous, and understanding.  
      • God loves His sons and corrects them *(Prov. 3:12, Heb. 12:6).*  
      • God is merciful and forgives us when we sin *(Ps. 103:8-14).*
b. **God is a provider.**
   - God provides us with food, clothing, home, a bed to sleep (Matt. 6:8).

c. **God is a friend.**
   - Abraham was called a friend of God (James 2:23).

d. **God is generous.**
   - God provides us with not only things but time and of Himself.
   - God wants to share His kingdom with us (Luke 12:32).

e. **God is a teacher.**
   - God gives us rules to live by. He gave us the Ten Commandments (Ex. 20, Deut. 5).
   - God teaches us how to love one another (John 13:34-35, John 15:12, 1 Thess. 4:9).
   - God teaches us from our youth (Ps. 71:17-18).

f. **God listens to us** (Job 22:27, Ps. 6:9, Ps. 66:19, Prov. 15:29, 1 John 5:14).
   - God listens to our prayers. Our prayers go before Him (Ps. 88:1-2).
   - Prayers are a delight to God (Prov. 15:8).
   - God wants us to pray (Phil. 4:6).

g. **God is a creator and planner.**
   - God appreciates beauty. This is demonstrated by the variety of flowers, trees, birds, insects and other creatures He made.
   - God created the world in which we live (Gen. 1:1 – 2:7).
   - God created the Sabbath and Holy Days to reveal His plan for mankind.

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**QUESTIONS FROM UCG FUNDAMENTAL BELIEFS**

These questions are intended to check parent understanding of the topic. There is one best answer to each question; select that best answer:

1. The word "God" in the Bible can, depending on the context, refer to
   a. the Father.
   b. the Holy Spirit.
   c. Christ.
   d. all of the above.
   e. "a" and "c"

2. The Hebrew word Elohim, used in Genesis 1:1,
   a. is a plural noun, showing that there is more than one member of the God plane.
   b. is a singular noun.
   c. is used with a singular verb.
   d. shows that there was communication between the Father and the Word from the beginning.
   e. all but "b" are true.

3. God is "one" in what sense of the word "one"?
   a. There is only one Trinity — the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
   b. There is one God family — presently consisting of the Father and the Son (Jesus Christ).
   c. There is only one divine being — the Father.
   d. There is only one Spirit — shared by the Father and the blessed virgin Mary.
   e. There is only one divine being — Melchizedek.
4. The Creator is
   a. the Father, who spoke the words "let there be light."
   b. the Son, who spoke the words "let there be light."
   c. the Father, acting through the agency of the Son.
   d. the Holy Spirit.
   e. "b" and "c."

Additional resources you can use for your family studies:

- Booklet: *Fundamental Beliefs of the United Church of God* – “God the Father, Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit” (page 4-7)
  

- Booklet: *Who Is God?* – “God the Father, Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit” (page 7-10)
  

- Sermon: “Four Views of God”
  According to a recent survey, there are four common views of God. What is your view of God? Distant, Critical, Authoritarian or Benevolent?
  
Instructor’s Notes and Resources

This chart can be used partially or in its entirety. Encourage students to make connections between scriptures, pictures, and characteristics of God. Children can work individually, in pairs, or in small groups to connect to assigned verses or simply choose one row to make an individual connection at the end of the summary lesson. If there are varying age ranges, older children can complete this task while younger children can simply use the picture and the sentence starter in the activity document and give verbal answers instead of written ones. Instructors are encouraged to complete one or two of these for students as a model for how to do this activity. Emphasize that there is not one right answer, but encourage children to summarize characteristics of God that they learned with their families. Children should have an opportunity to share some of their thoughts with a partner or the class.

Who and What Is God?

I can describe who and what God is by connecting my learning about God to pictures and Bible verses.

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This picture makes me think of God because_______________. The Bible says God ________________