

To begin our walk with God we must first have a basic belief in Jesus and the salvation he provided for us. In order to be secure in our understanding, we must determine in our minds who it is we worship as God. Note though, that there are some things about God that are inscrutable – they are shrouded in mystery. For example: the trinity; the virgin birth and certain aspects of the future.

1. God is personal

God is not a ‘thing’, power or influence. He thinks, feels and desires just like us. He is a living *personal* being. We read throughout the Bible that he talked with people. He has emotions just like us; in fact He has created us to be like him in many ways (Genesis 1:26).

2. God is knowable

Despite all His power and majesty we can still know Him, not just know about Him. John 10:14. We can each have a personal relationship with God. WOW. 1 John 5:20.

3. What does God look like?

John 1:18 tells us that no one has ever seen God, but will we ever get to see him? Despite us not seeing him now, He still has an appearance and one day we will see him “face to face” (1 Corinthians 13:12). We can therefore conclude God is not a spirit guide (i.e. Hinduism).

4. God is eternal

Some people ask: “*If God created the world then who created God?*” There is no answer for that and even if there was you know what the next question would be! God has no beginning. There will never be a time when he doesn’t exist. Psalm 90:1-2, Revelation 22:13.

5. God is the one and the only true god.

There are not gods in the plural sense but rather one God. Isaiah 44:6 “*I am the true God, apart from me there is no other God*”

6. God is three and yet one – the trinity, a mystery of God.

Matthew 28:19. Even though we know there is only ONE God, as you have just read God is a ‘trinity’ of three persons – the Father, the Son (Jesus Christ) and the Holy Spirit, each of whom is truly, fully and equally God. Genesis 1:26 “let us”. This is a mystery and we cannot fully comprehend it in our present state.

The three parts of God:

Father: What do you think a Father’s function is or should be? (Creator, initiator of life, controller, holds everything together etc.). Well God the Father can be all those to us. Romans 8:14-15, Ephesians 1:3.

Son: That is, Jesus Christ – he has always been God and always will be and yet came to earth (Colossians 2:9). He was God revealed as a man.

Holy Spirit: The part of God on the earth today. He is the invisible presence of God acting as our empowerer, teacher, guide and comforter (John 16:12-15).

7. God is omnipotent, omnipresent, omniscient – He is sovereign and in control.

Here is a lesson in Greek: *omni* = all, *potent* = powerful, *present* = existing here & *scient* = to know. So God is everywhere, is all-powerful, and knows everything. Nothing gets past Him (Job 42:2). He can do anything He wishes according to His character (that is he can’t lie, sin, cheat etc.)

8. God is the Creator

God created the heavens and the earth and everything in them. Genesis 1:1-2:3.

1. Write out and memorise Colossians 2:9.

2. Read Genesis 1:1 and Genesis 1:26. What do you think about the pronoun "us" in verse 26?

3. Is God one, or three? 2 Corinthians 13:14. Matthew 28:19.

4. Is God therefore a unity? John 1:1.

5. What does Psalm 90:1-2 say about Gods' existence?

6. Could God be both visible and invisible? 1 John 1:1-3 and Colossians 1:15.

7. List descriptions of the infinite God from the following scriptures:-
 - Genesis 21:33,
 - Genesis 17:1
 - Exodus 34:6-7.
 - Exodus 22:27.
 - Leviticus 19:2.
 - Deuteronomy 32:4.
 - Psalm 5:4-6
 - Psalm 145:9.
 - Jeremiah 23:24.
 - Malachi 3:6.
 - 1 John 3:20.
 - 1 John 4:8.
 - 2 Timothy 2:13.

What is the most important truth you have learned from this lesson?

Do you have any more comments or questions?