

BIBLE CENTER CHURCH  
ARTICLES OF FAITH SERIES

[All Scripture quotes from the *New American Standard Bible 1995 edition* unless otherwise noted.]

WHAT DO WE BELIEVE ... ABOUT GOD'S CHARACTER

We studied the truth which is commonly described as "*The Trinity*" last week. Usually this is where most doctrinal statements stop in their discussion of God the Father. As a result most Statements of Faith do not tell anyone anything about who they believe God is.

We think that knowing God is vitally important. *Why do you think it is important for people in a church to worship God by His true character?*

To remind ourselves of this importance, the committee is proposing the addition of the following statement about God's character ...

We believe that God is the eternal Spirit who created all else and who has revealed Himself to be unchangeable in His being which is among other attributes wisdom and knowledge, power, presence, holiness, love, justice, goodness, and truth.
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Often the attributes of God are divided into those which are totally unique to God and those which human beings may share in some way with God, the *incommunicable* and the *communicable* qualities of God. While this is perhaps an artificial division, it does give us some idea of who God is.

*What qualities do you discover about God in these verses?*

"Before the mountains were born Or You gave birth to the earth and the world, Even from everlasting to everlasting, You are God." (Psalm 90:2)

"God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth." (John 4:24)

"By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things which are visible." (Hebrews 11:3)

*Our belief in God as the Creator is declared in Hebrews 11:3 as well as in Genesis 1-2 and Exodus 20:11. How would you answer those who say life began with the material things of this universe?*

“Every good thing given and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shifting shadow.” (James 1:17)

*Are these attributes unique to God or is there a way in which we share them?*

*In what way are these qualities essential for our faith?*

*What qualities about God are taught in the following verses?*

“I have filled him with the Spirit of God in wisdom, in understanding, in knowledge, and in all kinds of craftsmanship,” (Exodus 31:3)

*Does God know more about how to do your job than you do? Why or why not?*

“Then I heard something like the voice of a great multitude and like the sound of many waters and like the sound of mighty peals of thunder, saying, “Hallelujah! For the Lord our God, the Almighty, reigns.” (Revelation 19:6)

“Where can I go from Your Spirit? Or where can I flee from Your presence?” (Psalm 139:7)

*Considering these attributes of knowledge, power, and presence, in what way are they true of us and is that different from the way they are true of God?*

“This is the message we have heard from Him and announce to you, that God is Light, and in Him there is no darkness at all.” (1 John 1:5)

“The one who does not love does not know God, for God is love.” (1 John 4:8)

“The LORD is righteous in all His ways And kind in all His deeds.” (Psalm 145:17)

“And He said, “I Myself will make all My goodness pass before you, and will proclaim the name of the LORD before you; and I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show compassion on whom I will show compassion.”” (Exodus 33:19)

“May it never be! Rather, let God be found true, though every man be found a liar, as it is written, “THAT YOU MAY BE JUSTIFIED IN YOUR WORDS, AND PREVAIL WHEN YOU ARE JUDGED.”” (Romans 3:4)

*Looking over these attributes, would you want to know a person like this?*