



GREAT TRUTHS OF THE BIBLE

Cover artwork by Scott G., former Crossroads student

LESSON 1

What the Bible Teaches Us about God



CROSSROADS

Notes, Prayer Requests and Comments

Copyright © 1996, 2003, 2015 by the Publishing Center at Crossroads Prison Ministries. All rights reserved. No part of this lesson may be reproduced in any form without permission from the publisher.

Scriptures taken from the Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV®. Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.™ Used by permission of Zondervan. All rights reserved worldwide. www.zondervan.com. The “NIV” and “New International Version” are trademarks registered in the United States Patent and Trademark Office by Biblica, Inc.™

v.1118

International Office:
Crossroads | PO Box 900 | Grand Rapids, MI 49509-0900

GREAT TRUTH ONE

There Is Only One True God

Some people argue about whether or not God exists. The Bible doesn't! It starts right out by telling us that God does exist and that we can know Him. If there were no God, life would have no meaning and our world would make no sense. But since the God of the Bible does truly exist, then life does have meaning and our own lives do make sense. The key to living is knowing God!

1. What are the very first words of the Bible? Read Genesis 1:1.

*“In the beginning _____ created the _____
and the _____.”*

2. Read Isaiah 45:5 and see what God says about Himself.

*“I am the LORD, and there is _____ ; apart
from me there is _____ .”*

3. Because the God of the Bible is the only true God, all the world should worship Him and Him alone. Read what Psalm 96:4-9 teaches us about this.

Verse 4 *“For great is the LORD and most worthy of _____ .”*

Verse 5 *“For all the gods of the nations are _____ , but the
LORD made the heavens.”*

Verse 8 *“Ascribe to the LORD the _____ due his name.”*

Verse 9 *“Worship the LORD in the splendor of his _____ ;
tremble before him, _____ the earth.”*

GREAT TRUTH TWO

God Is Our Creator and the Creator of the Entire Universe

God is the One who has made us. He has also created the world in which we live. We will never understand who we are or where we are going unless we know who our Creator is. When we truly understand that, we will have a new sense of awe and wonder—not only about God, but also about ourselves and the world we live in.

1. Read the story of creation in Genesis 1:1-31.

Check when done.

2. Read what Nehemiah 9:6 tells us about our wonderful Creator and His work of creation.

“You alone are the LORD. You made the _____, even the highest heavens, and all their starry host, the _____ and all that is on it, the _____ and all that is in them. You give life to _____, and the multitudes of heaven _____ you.”

3. Is there anyone who can exist without God? Read what Acts 17:24-25 says about this.

“... He himself gives everyone _____ and _____ and _____ else.” (verse 25)

4. There are many good arguments we could use to show that God created the world. However, we begin where the Bible itself begins. Read Hebrews 11:1-3 and see where our starting point should be. Circle A or B or C.

- A. We don't know how our world got here.
- B. It doesn't matter how our world got here.
- C. By faith we accept the fact that God created the world.

5. Hebrews 11:6 says: *“Without faith it is _____ to please God.”*

6. God not only created the world and everyone in it, but He knew everything about us even before we were born. Read Psalm 139:13 and 16.

“For you created my _____; you knit me together in my mother's womb ... All the _____ ordained for me were written in your book before _____ of them came to be.”

GREAT TRUTH THREE

Our God Is an Awesome God

The Bible teaches us that the God who created us is truly an awesome God. He is wonderful beyond anything we can imagine or understand. He is eternal, holy, loving, just and perfect in every way. He knows all things, can do all things and rules over all things. He is exalted far above everything else in the universe.

1. Read I Timothy 1:17. Circle the words which are used in **this text** to describe God.

Eternal Gentle Immortal Happy Distant Invisible

2. Although we cannot understand the eternity of God, the Bible teaches us that God has neither a beginning nor an end. Read Psalm 90:2 and Psalm 102:27 and fill in the blanks from these passages.

a. Psalm 90:2 “From _____ to _____ you are God.”

b. Psalm 102:27 “You remain the _____ , and your years will never _____ .”

3. What wonderful things do we learn about God from Psalm 103:8?

“The LORD is _____ and _____ , slow to _____ , abounding in _____ .”

4. Since we are surrounded by sin and unholiness, it is hard for us to understand the perfect holiness of God. That may be one reason why the Bible emphasizes God’s holiness as much as it does.

a. Isaiah 6:3 “And they were calling to one another: ‘ _____ , _____ , _____ is the LORD Almighty; the whole earth is full of his _____ .’”

b. Revelation 15:4 “Who will not fear you, Lord, and bring _____ to your name? For you alone are _____ .”

c. Psalm 99:9 “Exalt the LORD our God and worship at his _____ mountain, for the LORD our God is _____ .”

5. God does not have a body as we do. Although the Bible sometimes speaks of God's hands or feet or eyes, this is just a way to help us understand that God is a God of action who sees all that takes place on the earth. Read John 4:24 and fill in the blank.

“God is _____, and his worshipers must worship in spirit and in truth.”

6. Although we can learn much about God, God is so much greater than we are that we will never fully understand Him. Read Romans 11:33-36 and *circle* the letter of **each** statement that **is** true.

- A. God's judgments are unsearchable.
- B. God's paths are beyond tracing out.
- C. All things are from God, through God and for God.
- D. God relies on humans for counsel.

7. In Psalm 145:17 we read that “The Lord is _____ in all his ways.”

8. Daniel 4:37 tells us what it means that God is righteous. Here we read that:

“... everything he does is _____ and all his ways are _____.”

9. Read Psalm 139:1-4. According to this passage, each of the following statements is true except one. *Circle* the **one** which is **not** true.

- A. God knows when we sit down and when we get up.
- B. God is familiar with all our ways.
- C. God knows what we think and what we say.
- D. God knows what we say but He doesn't know what we are thinking.

10. Read Psalm 135:6 and Daniel 4:35 and then choose which of the following statements is correct. Circle A or B.

- A. God is King over the whole earth and in control of all that happens in this world.
- B. God is King, but there are some forces that are more powerful than He is.

11. I John 4:8 and I John 4:16 tell us something about God which many people think is the most wonderful of all. Read the two verses, fill in the blank below and then remember this truth as long as you live.

“God is _____.”

GREAT TRUTH FOUR

Though There Is Only One True God, This God Exists in Three Persons—the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit

Many people in the world believe there is only one true God. However, the Bible teaches us something about this God that we cannot learn anywhere else. The Bible teaches that this one God has existed from all eternity in three “persons” known as God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit. This teaching of one God in three persons (called the Holy Trinity) is very difficult for us to understand or explain. However, we accept it as the way God has made Himself known to us.

In Lesson 5 we will study about God the Son who came to earth as Jesus Christ. In Lesson 8 we will learn more about God the Holy Spirit. In this lesson we simply note that the Father is God, the Son is God and the Holy Spirit is God—and that these three are the one true God.

1. Read Deuteronomy 6:4. What does this verse teach us about God?

“Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is _____.”

2. How is God referred to in 2 Timothy 1:2?

“Grace, mercy and peace from God _____ . . .”

3. In John 1:1 Jesus Christ is called “the Word.” What does this verse say about Him?

“In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God and the Word was _____.”

4. What does 1 Corinthians 2:10b-11 teach us about the Holy Spirit?

*“The Spirit searches all things, even the deep things of God . . . no one knows the thoughts of God except the _____
_____.”*

5. Into whose name are believers baptized? Read Matthew 28:19.

“... Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of _____ and of _____ and of the _____ . . .”

6. Which of the following statements do you think best explains what the Bible teaches us about God? Circle A or B or C.

- A. There are three gods: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.
- B. There is only one true God who exists as the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.
- C. There is one great God called the Father and two lesser gods called the Son and the Holy Spirit.

IN THIS LESSON WE LEARNED THAT . . .

- ▶ God truly exists and we can know Him by faith.
- ▶ God has created us and the world by His almighty power.
- ▶ God is eternal, invisible, all-powerful, all-knowing, everywhere-present, holy, merciful, loving, sovereign, righteous and just. He is perfect in every way.
- ▶ God has made Himself known to us as the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

3. In this lesson we learned about many different qualities of God, such as His justice, mercy, wisdom, love, etc. In the space provided below, state what each one means to you.

God's Justice:

God's Mercy:

God's Wisdom:

God's Love:

God's Other Qualities:

4. Do you find it hard to believe in a God you cannot see? Please explain your answer.

Great Truths from Lesson 1:

1. There is only one true God
2. God is our Creator and the Creator of the entire universe
3. Our God is an awesome God
4. Though there is only one true God, this God exists in three persons—the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit

Please print your full name and address. (Please do not remove the covers. The information you provide below is the only way we can track your lessons accurately.)

FIRST

LAST

ID#

INSTITUTION

HOUSING

STREET ADDRESS / PO BOX

CITY

STATE

ZIP