



Character of GOD STUDY



enTRUST⁴

Multiplying Leaders for Multiplying Churches

010.21.22



Multiplying Leaders for Multiplying Churches

P.O. Box 25520 • Colorado Springs, CO 80936-5520
info@entrust4.org • www.entrust4.org

Character of God Study
Copyright © 2010

Taken from *Discovery Bible Study* (Appendix A)
Copyright 1997, Entrust (formerly BEE International), revised 2000, 2010.

Unless otherwise noted all Scripture quotations are taken from the Holy Bible, New American Standard Version (NASB). Copyright 1960, 1962, 1963, 1971, 1973, 1975, 1977 by the Lockman Foundation.



Contents

Introduction: <i>God Has Revealed Himself to Us</i>	5
Lesson 1: <i>God is Unchanging</i>	7
Lesson 2: <i>God is Sovereign and All-Powerful</i>	13
Lesson 3: <i>God is Holy</i>	19
Lesson 4: <i>God is Love</i>	25
Lesson 5: <i>God is Good</i>	33
Lesson 6: <i>God is All-Present</i>	39
Lesson 7: <i>God is All-Knowing</i>	45
Lesson 8: <i>God is All-Wise</i>	51
Lesson 9: <i>God is Just and Righteous</i>	57
Lesson 10: <i>God is Faithful</i>	63

God Has Revealed Himself to Us

Through Jesus Christ, we have been reconciled to a relationship with the Living God! Because He is unique in the universe and in eternity, we could not know Him apart from His willingness to reveal Himself to us. Because He made us for a loving relationship with Him, He has generously chosen to show us who He is through the Scriptures. We can't guess it, we can't make it up, we can't even dream it. He is marvelous beyond description and imagination (Isa 40:13–14, 55:8–9; Rom 11:33). Yet, He has amazingly revealed Himself so that we can experience Him both profoundly and practically in meaningful ways that we can understand and enjoy. This knowledge impacts our experiences every day, freeing us into the relationship with Him and experience of life for which we were made. “Then you will know the truth and the truth will set you free” (Jn 8:32).

Sample Discussion Question: *How is knowing God's character practical?*

The philosopher Voltaire once said, “In the beginning God made Man in His image. Ever since that time, Man has been returning the favor.” Psalm 50:21 tells us that our tendency is to think that God is like us. But the truth is that He is the unique Creator, and we as His creatures were made to reflect Him. Having an accurate understanding of who God is allows us to live in reality, not in illusion. It allows us to fulfill what we were designed for and not live in futility. It allows us to relax into the Almighty One rather than struggle alone with burdens too big for us. It allows us to live by faith rather than sight. Though we will never completely plumb the depths of His infinite character, we can know and experience what

He has chosen to reveal about Himself in His Creation, His Word and through His Spirit (1 Cor 2:9–10).

Sample Discussion Question: *Describe God as you have understood Him to this point. Are there aspects that confuse you?*

In the following lessons we will begin to explore the character of God in the ways He wants us to know Him. We will identify and examine several of God's attributes. An attribute is defined as a basic, essential characteristic of an individual, a distinguishing trait, quality or property. Therefore we can surmise that an attribute is an intelligible or understandable feature by which God may be known. Even so, these attributes cannot be divided into separate compartments but are interrelated and interwoven, together revealing the character of the Triune God. His attributes are in perfect harmony with one another as God is always consistent with His character. And each person of the Trinity has all of these attributes.

God is Unchanging

Once we know God's character, we can depend on it because He is unchanging in His character and purposes. He is not arbitrary or capricious. He does not joke, tease or betray us regarding His identity. He is immutable—the same from eternity past to eternity future. In Exodus 3 we read that while tending his father-in-law's flocks, Moses came upon a burning bush that was not being consumed. As he stopped to investigate, God spoke to Moses from the burning bush. He gave Moses an assignment to lead the children of Israel out of Egypt. When Moses inquired as to whom he would say sent him, God responded with, "I AM WHO I AM." He told Moses to tell the children of Israel, "I AM has sent me to you." Who is this "I AM"? He is God, and His name is indicative of His eternal self-existence. He was, is, and always will be the dependable, reliable, unchanging I AM throughout the universe and eternity.

Sample Discussion Question: *How have you understood or experienced God as unchanging?*

It has been said that the one thing we can count on in our lives is change. From the cradle to the grave, each new day is exactly that—a new day. For some of us change is welcomed, embraced, and much sought after. We look forward to school, graduation, career, and/or marriage and family. For others change can be terrifying, unexpected—something to be avoided at all costs. Events such as the death of a loved one, the loss of a job, a relocation, a debilitating illness, or having to flee from one's home and country can certainly destabilize one's life. However, in experiencing the inevitable changes of life, we have the opportunity to learn to appreciate the "Changeless One."

c. Psalm 102:25–27

d. Hebrews 6:17–18

e. Hebrews 13:8

3. Which of these verses spoke most personally to you just now? Why? Is there a current situation in your life for which this verse gives you special hope, comfort, or courage? How?

f. 2 Peter 1:5–8

g. 1 John 3:2–3

7. Write out two thoughts based on this study that have impressed you in terms of how you understand God's immutability right now.