

Knowing God Truly - What is God Like?

June 14, 2026

Characteristics of God: What is God Like?

There's a difference between believing in God and actually knowing who he is. Our ideas about God often come from past experiences, cultural messages, or feelings from difficult times. These ideas can distort who God is, leaving us with an image that seems distant or unreliable.

That's why it matters to pause and ask an honest question: What is God actually like?

Jeremiah 9:23-24

This is what the Lord says: "Don't let the wise boast in their wisdom, or the powerful boast in their power, or the rich boast in their riches. But those who wish to boast should boast in this alone: that they truly know me and understand that I am the Lord..."

These verses challenge us to value something greater than wisdom, strength, or success: truly knowing God and understanding his character.

Really knowing God means knowing his heart, not just facts.

Misunderstanding God shapes how we relate to him. If our view is unclear, we may keep our distance or doubt his goodness. But seeing God for who he truly is transforms our trust and the way we live.

Over the course of this series, we're inviting you to discover God's true character each day through stories in Scripture. As we dig deeper into his characteristics, like compassion, justice, patience, and love, you'll meet the God who reveals himself, not a version formed by circumstances.

Because the more clearly we see him, the more confidently we can trust him.

In a world with many voices about God, nothing is more grounding or life-giving than discovering the truth behind his name.

Discussion Questions:

Ice Breaker: What are some ways your past experiences have shaped how you see God?

When people outside of the church think about what God is like, what do you think they usually picture—and why?

Read Isaiah 6:1-8: What is God revealing to you about his nature in this passage?

In what areas do you find it hard to trust God's character?

Reflect and Respond: Commit to reading the Daily, each day, and devote this season to knowing God more. Be prayerful and ask God to reveal himself to you in new ways.

Prayer:

God, I want to know you as you truly are. Clear away anything that distorts my view of you. Help me seek you with my whole heart. Reveal your character to me in this season, and lead me closer to you. I love you, I trust you, and I worship you. Amen.

Series Theme Verse:

Jeremiah 9:23-24a

This is what the Lord says: "Don't let the wise boast in their wisdom, or the powerful boast in their power, or the rich boast in their riches. But those who wish to boast should boast in this alone: that they truly know me and understand that I am the Lord..."

Written by Lori Tuckerman, Director of Content at CedarCreek Church.

Enough in His Holiness - What is God Like?

June 15, 2026

Bible in a Year: Judges 4-6 | Ephesians 4

Characteristics of God: God is Holy

I used to think following God meant trying harder to be "enough." Enough faith. Enough discipline. Enough goodness to somehow measure up. When I fell short, which was often, I felt like I was always behind and always had to do more just to keep up.

But over time, I've come to realize something freeing: I was never meant to be enough.

Because when we put our faith and trust in God, he is all the *enough* we'll ever need.

The striving, constantly measuring ourselves against an impossible standard, was never the point. Instead, we are invited to let go of proving ourselves and rest in the reality that God's sufficiency covers every gap. There's beauty in recognizing our limits, not as failure, but as the place where we can receive the fullness of who God is.

Exodus 15:11

Who is like you among the gods, O Lord—

glorious in holiness,

awesome in splendor,

performing great wonders?

Verses like this reveal what makes God unique. The answer to Moses' question, "Who is like you?" is, of course, no one.

God's holiness means he is completely set apart and unmatched in his character, power, and worth.

And that matters more than we realize.

We often measure our value by our performance, but God's holiness shifts the focus from us to him. His perfection isn't ours to achieve—it's ours to rest in.

In fact, our weakness plays a part in that.

2 Corinthians 12:9-10

Each time he said, "My grace is all you need. My power works best in weakness." So now I am glad to boast about my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ can work through me. That's why I take pleasure in my weaknesses, and in the insults, hardships, persecutions, and troubles that I suffer for Christ. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

When we admit where we fall short, things shift. Surrender creates space. In that space, God's holiness, his otherness and supreme value, becomes our foundation. We stop striving and trust the One who is already perfect.

God's holiness is more than distance from sin; it's the fullness of his goodness. His love, mercy, and justice are holy. Everything he does is pure, right, and trustworthy.

So today, if you feel pressure to prove yourself, remember: the weight isn't on you.

You don't have to carry it all.

He is everything you need.

Questions:

Where do you notice yourself striving to be "enough" in your relationship with God?

How does God's holiness challenge or comfort you as you think about your own limitations?

Next Steps:

Spend a few moments in prayer, honestly naming the areas where you feel pressure to measure up and inviting God to meet you there with his holiness and sufficiency.

Commit to memorizing a verse about God's holiness, such as Exodus 15:11, Isaiah 6:3, or 1 Peter 1:16, and let it remind you daily of how God is holy. Reflect on a different aspect of God's holiness and what makes him "glorious in holiness."

Prayer:

Lord, thank you for your perfect holiness and for covering every gap I cannot fill. Help me let go of striving and rest in your sufficiency today. Teach me to trust your goodness and to receive the fullness of who you are. I love you, I trust you, and I worship you. Amen.

Series Theme Verse:

Jeremiah 9:23-24a

This is what the Lord says: "Don't let the wise boast in their wisdom, or the powerful boast in their power, or the rich boast in their riches. But those who wish to boast should boast in this alone: that they truly know me and understand that I am the Lord."

Written by Lori Tuckerman, Director of Content at CedarCreek Church.

Our Advocate, Our Friend, Our God - What is God Like?

June 16, 2026

Bible in a Year: Judges 7-11 | Ephesians 5

Characteristics of God: He is our advocate.

Romans 8:34

Who then will condemn us? No one - for Christ Jesus died for us and was raised to life for us, and he is sitting in the place of honor at God's right hand, pleading for us.

From the very beginning, God has shown himself to be on our side. He is a loving defender who stands with us even when we fall short. In Christ, this advocacy becomes deeply personal: Jesus not only bore our sins on the cross, but now, risen and glorified, sits at the right hand of the Father, pleading our case and interceding for us every moment. Our greatest comfort is knowing that our Advocate is both our Savior and our friend.

When he rose from the dead to go and prepare a place for us, he did not leave us alone; he sent us another advocate who now lives within us - the Holy Spirit.

John 14:16

“And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, who will never leave you.”

Because of what Jesus did for us, we are not only forgiven and saved, but we are also never alone. Now, the Holy Spirit, who is within us, advocates for us through all of life's circumstances. All glory, honor, gratitude, and praise go to God!

As I reflect on my life, I think about when I first started developing my spiritual faith. I am now able to see how much Jesus' advocacy, so generously provided through the grace of God, has impacted my life. This draws me close to him, most especially when I am at my weakest. He, too, lived in this weak state of the flesh, so he knows exactly what it feels like.

Hebrews 4:14-16

So then, since we have a great High Priest who has entered heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to what we believe. This High Priest of ours understands our weaknesses, for he faced all of the same testings we do, yet he did not sin. So let us come boldly to the throne of our gracious God. There we will receive his mercy, and we will find grace to help us when we need it most.

There is no better leader and advocate to follow than one who knew our sins in advance and still loved us enough to die, so that we may live. What better friend and advocate than one who would lay his life down for us (John 15:13)?

Questions:

When things aren't going well in your life, is prayer your immediate response, or do you only turn to God after every other option has failed?

Do you see God as your advocate?

Next Steps:

Prayer is having a conversation with God, so set aside time every day to talk to God. Remember, as in any good conversation, listening is imperative, so open your heart and listen to him as well. Then, throughout the day, talk to him and listen for his quiet whispers.

Study 1 Thessalonians 5:17 and Romans 8:26.

Prayer:

Dearest Jesus, you are my advocate as you plead my case to our Father, God. Help me to be more forgiving and help me to understand the power forgiveness has in my life. Mark my lessons personally so that I can not only understand, but also gain the wisdom that comes with it, so I am able to back up what I have learned by my words, thoughts, and actions. Thank you for winning the victory over death for me so that I will be able to enjoy life with you for all eternity as the forgiven child of the King of Kings and Lord of Lords. Thank you for your forgiveness through your Son, Jesus Christ, as I pray in his most holy name. Amen.

Series Theme Verse:**Jeremiah 9:23-24a**

This is what the Lord says: "Don't let the wise boast in their wisdom, or the powerful boast in their power, or the rich boast in their riches. But those who wish to boast should boast in this alone: that they truly know me and understand that I am the Lord...."

Written by Linda Repka, a Whitehouse attendee and a contributor to the Daily.

Your Wisdom is Greater Than Mine - What is God Like?

June 17, 2026

Bible in a Year: Judges 12-16 | Ephesians 6**Characteristics of God: He is wise.****Isaiah 55:8-9**

"My thoughts are nothing like your thoughts," says the Lord. "And my ways are far beyond anything you could imagine. For just as the heavens are higher than the earth, so my ways are higher than your ways and my thoughts higher than your thoughts."

This truth that Isaiah shares is both comforting and humbling. Comforting, because it means I don't have to have everything figured out. Humbling, because even when I feel confident in my understanding, I'm still seeing only a small part of what God sees fully.

I go through seasons when I hold tightly to a vision that makes complete sense to me. It is organized, thought out. It feels right. But slowly, things start shifting. The doors I expected to open don't. Conversations go sideways. Plans unravel in ways I

cannot understand. And if I'm honest, I feel frustrated because things are not lining up the way I think they should.

Life doesn't always follow the plans I work so hard to build.

But in the middle of all that, God begins to redirect my steps in ways I don't expect, and in ways I don't necessarily like at first. What felt like disruption was actually protection. What felt like a delay was actually a direction. And over time, I can see his wisdom at work in ways I never could have orchestrated on my own.

That's the thing about God's wisdom. It doesn't always look like clarity in the moment. Sometimes it looks like closed doors, changed plans, or unexpected turns. Sometimes it looks like silence when you desperately want answers.

But his wisdom is never absent.

He is not confused about your situation. He is not reacting to your life as it unfolds. He is not trying to figure things out as he goes.

He sees the whole picture - the past, present, and future. And he is guiding you with wisdom higher than anything you can see right now.

And now, some of the things I once begged God for are the very things I thank him for protecting me from. His perspective is eternal, while mine is immediate. His vision is complete, while mine is partial.

So when someone asks me, "What is God like?" my answer is, "He is wise."

And because he is wise, you can trust him even when you don't understand.

Questions:

Where in your life are you struggling to trust God's wisdom over your own understanding?

Can you look back on a disappointment or closed door and now see God's protection or direction in it?

Next Steps:

Write down one situation you have been trying to control or fully understand. Then spend a few minutes surrendering it to God in prayer, asking him to help you trust his wisdom even before you see the outcome.

Prayer:

God, thank you for seeing what I cannot see. When life feels confusing, delayed, or different from what I expected, help me trust that your wisdom is still leading me. Remind me that you are never absent, never uncertain, and never caught off guard by my circumstances. Teach me to loosen my grip on my own understanding and rest in the truth that your ways are higher, wiser, and better than mine. Amen.

Written by Monique Myers, a regular contributor to the Daily.

God is Omnipresent - What is God Like?

June 18, 2026

Bible in a Year: Judges 17-21 | Philippians 1

Characteristics of God: He is omnipresent.

How does the idea of God always being with you make you feel?

It can be simultaneously comforting and unnerving. On one hand, knowing that God is with us during trials gives us strength to endure; however, it can also bring shame when we realize that God is an ever-present witness to our behaviors.

The idea of God's constant presence is known as omnipresence. "Omni" is Latin for *all*, so by definition, God is "all present." He is not only with us now but also is present with every person at every time, past, present, and future. It's the kind of conception that messes with our time and location-bound brains.

However, just because God is everywhere at every time, he is not "in" everything - that is, *pantheism*. Unlike Christianity, many eastern religions claim that God is in all things - dog, dirt, and tree - so therefore, everything must be sacred. Christians believe God is separate from his creation.

Psalms 139 is one of the most beloved Psalms in the Bible. In it, David marvels at how intimately God knows him. He is comforted by the idea that no matter where he goes, God's Spirit is always there, guiding and supporting him.

Psalm 139:7-10

I can never escape from your Spirit! I can never get away from your presence! If I go up to heaven, you are there; if I go down to the grave, you are there. If I ride the wings of the morning, if I dwell by the farthest oceans, even there your hand will guide me, and your strength will support me.

The God who intimately knows me is present throughout the universe. He is intimately involved in the affairs of my life, and also equally present in the lives of every other person in the world, no matter what we are struggling with.

Jeremiah 23:23-24

“Am I a God who is only close at hand?” says the Lord. “No, I am far away at the same time. Can anyone hide from me in a secret place? Am I not everywhere in all the heavens and earth?” says the Lord.

The nearness of God should bring his children peace. Whether we are honoring or dishonoring him, his presence comforts us with the knowledge that we are never alone. But, it should also make us pause and remember ... God is present.

Questions:

Does it comfort you to know that God is always with you? Does it depend on the situation?

Do you sometimes wish God would leave you alone?

How can you welcome him into your life and rest in his presence this week?

Next Steps:

Read Psalm 139 and meditate on what it means to be fully known by God.

Prayer:

Heavenly Father, thank you for promising to always be with me. Thank you for the assurance that no matter what happens to me, you are with me and know me. Thank you for seeing me as I am and still loving me. I am humbled that you know me so intimately. I pray that I always take comfort in your presence and never fear your nearness. Amen.

Series Theme Verse:

Jeremiah 9:23-24a

This is what the Lord says: “Don’t let the wise boast in their wisdom, or the powerful boast in their power, or the rich boast in their riches. But those who wish to boast should boast in this alone: that they truly know me and understand that I am the Lord....”

Written by Julie Mabus, a regular contributor to the Daily.

The Lord is My Shepherd - What is God Like?

June 19, 2026

Bible in a Year: Proverbs 1 | Philippians 2

Characteristics of God: He is a shepherd.

Written by King David, Psalm 23 is my favorite. As an experienced shepherd himself, David eloquently compares God to a good shepherd in this beautiful Psalm.

Psalm 23:1

The Lord is my shepherd; I have all that I need.

This Psalm goes on to tell us more about how God, our shepherd, loves us so much that he gives us everything we need, providing for so much more than our physical needs. He would do anything to save us - even willingly sacrifice the life of his Son.

Jesus said in **John 10:11**:

"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd sacrifices his life for his sheep."

God could have stopped there. Jesus' sacrifice would have been more than enough. But, praise God, he loves us so much that he wants to do more than just save us. He wants us to live a life of abundance, filled with love, peace, joy, and hope.

He longs to renew and rejuvenate us. He wants to lead us along the right paths and give us the strength to accomplish his plans for our lives. Unfortunately, we have a tendency to act like unruly sheep, stubborn and not always wise in our ways.

Yet God, our good shepherd, loves us so much that he never stops trying to bring us back under his care. He not only values his whole flock but dearly loves every single sheep. He would leave the 99 sheep and stop at nothing to rescue the one that is lost (Matthew 18:12).

But our shepherd will never actually leave us - he is with us always. Through good times and bad, we can trust him to be faithful. He will protect and comfort us.

As Psalm 23 says, our God, the King of kings, prepares a feast for us and honors us in front of our enemies. His blessings for us overflow, and his goodness and unfailing love will pursue us every day of our lives.

One day, his sheep will be with him in heaven for all of eternity, but the choice is yours.

Will you follow our good Shepherd so that you can spend your eternity with him?

Questions:

How are you like a sheep?

Why do you need a Shepherd?

Next Steps:

Read and meditate on Psalm 23. Read each verse, and praise God for the blessings within. Discuss with your Group or journal about what really stood out to you.

Prayer:

God, I am so thankful you are my Shepherd. My heart is filled with deep joy, peace, love, and gratitude because of you. You are amazing and deserving of my reverence and praise. Thank you for loving me and saving me. Amen.

Written by Marsha Raymond, an Oregon attendee and regular contributor to the Daily.

The Great Comforter - What is God Like?

June 20, 2026

Characteristics of God: He is a comforter.**2 Corinthians 1:3-4**

All praise to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is our merciful Father and the source of all comfort. He comforts us in all our troubles so that we can comfort others. When they are troubled, we will be able to give them the same comfort God has given us.

Comfort is something everyone longs for, especially in moments when life feels heavy, uncertain, or overwhelming. Scripture tells us that God is the *source* of all comfort - not just a source, but the source. That means the comfort he gives is unlike anything the world can offer. It reaches deeper, lasts longer, and meets us exactly where we are. It steadies us when nothing else can.

I can personally testify to this truth. The first time I experienced God's comfort in a way that changed me forever was the night my father died. The grief hit me like a wave I couldn't stand under. I cried out to God in complete agony, unsure how to breathe through the pain. In that moment, I opened my Bible without thinking, and it fell open to John 14.

John 14:1-2a

"Don't let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God, and trust also in me. There is more than enough room in my Father's home."

As I continued in John 14, reading Jesus' promise that he was preparing a place for us, peace washed over me in a way I still struggle to describe. It wasn't denial or distraction. It was the comfort only he can give us, and it reached into the deepest part of my heart.

From that night on, the passing of loved ones became something sacred to me. A holy transition. A moment where heaven feels close enough to touch. I began to see it as a privilege to witness, and sometimes, even help facilitate.

Jesus' promise that "*my Father's house has many rooms*" became more than a verse - it became an anchor. A reminder that death is not an ending but a doorway. A reminder that God keeps his promises.

If you find yourself in a hard place where words are falling short, and your heart aches for this comfort, know that you are not left alone. He draws near to the brokenhearted, offering not just the hope of eternal life, but his very presence and comfort to sustain us in the here and now.

Questions:

Where do you look for comfort when you're in need?

Next Steps:

Read, and meditate on John 14:1-21.

Prayer:

Lord, thank you for loving us enough to address the discomfort we feel in this world. You are the source of all comfort and the one who promises we will be given and can, therefore, give comfort. I find comfort in your Word, and I am glad to share that comfort with others when you provide the opportunity. I praise and worship you now and forever. In Jesus' name, amen.

Series Theme Verse:

Jeremiah 9:23-24a

This is what the Lord says: "Don't let the wise boast in their wisdom, or the powerful boast in their power, or the rich boast in their riches. But those who wish to boast should boast in this alone: that they truly know me and understand that I am the Lord..."

Written by Julie Estep, a Perrysburg attendee and regular contributor to the Daily.