

COURSE 1 - 2025
Basic Discipleship

The
JOURNEY
STEP ONE



HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

We are so glad you're here! As you step into this journey of discipleship, know that you are entering a path designed to deepen your relationship with God and build a firm biblical foundation. This material is meant to guide you, no matter where you are on your faith journey. The tools and lessons you'll find here are adaptable to many settings—whether you're meeting one-on-one, gathering with a small group, or sharing in a larger community. It can be simplified to nurture the hearts of youth and children or enriched to challenge and inspire mature believers to grow even further.

Discipleship is a journey, not a race.

Our prayer is that this journey will help you engage with Scripture, build meaningful relationships, and discover how God is working in and through your life. Let's take this next step together with faith and intentionality as we grow closer to Him. Trust the process of growth and transformation that occurs over time as you walk with God.



01 WHO IS GOD THE FATHER?

One important tip when learning about God is that His attributes do not contradict, nullify, or diminish one another.



I. THE "OMNIS"

GOD IS OMNIPOTENT (*All-Powerful*)

This means God is all-powerful and can do anything. God's decisions are always in line with His character, and He has all the power to do whatever He decides to do.

MATTHEW 19:26 | *"Jesus looked at them and said, 'With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.'"*

JEREMIAH 32:27 | *"I am the Lord, the God of all mankind. Is anything too hard for me?"*

*Additional
Scripture
References*

GENESIS 18:14

JOB 42:1-2

ROMANS 1:20

HEBREWS 6:18

EPHESIANS 3:20

GOD IS OMNIPRESENT (*Always Near*)

God created everything, but He is not part of His own creation. He exists outside His own creation. However, He is near all of His creation at all times. He is always near us and will never be far away.

ACTS 17:27 | *"God did this so that they would seek him and perhaps reach out for him and find him, though he is not far from any one of us."*

HEBREWS 4:13 | *"Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account."*

*Additional
Scripture
References*

PSALM 139:7-10

JEREMIAH 23:23-24

1 KINGS 8:27

PROVERBS 15:3



GOD IS OMNISCIENT *(All-Knowing)*

God knows everything: past, present, and future. He never sleeps and has no gaps in His knowledge. He knows the beginning and the end. Nothing takes Him by surprise or happens while He isn't watching.

PSALM 147:5 | *“Great is our Lord and mighty in power; his understanding has no limit.”*

MATTHEW 10:30 | *“And even the very hairs of your head are all numbered.”*

*Additional
Scripture
References*

1 JOHN 3:20
ISAIAH 46:9-10
ACTS 1:24
ROMANS 11:33

NOTES

II. GOD'S ATTRIBUTES THAT PRODUCE THE GOSPEL

GOD IS HOLY.

God's holiness literally means that God is "separate." God's holiness means He is unlike us and in a category of His own.

Holy also means He is pure, clean, right, good, wholesome, morally supreme, and altogether worthy of our praise and worship. God's holiness means He cannot participate in sin and is not compatible with sin. Therefore, when God's holiness encounters sin, it requires God's wrath and creates a separation between us and Him.

ISAIAH 6:3 | *"And they were calling to one another: 'Holy, holy, holy is the Lord Almighty; the whole earth is full of his glory.'"*

ISAIAH 59:2 | *"But your iniquities have separated you from your God; your sins have hidden his face from you, so that he will not hear."*

*Additional
Scripture
References*

LEVITICUS 11:45
1 SAMUEL 2:2
1 JOHN 1:5
REVELATION 15:4
REVELATION 4:8

GOD IS LOVE.

God is Love, and He loves us. This means that not only is God by nature love, but He actively seeks the blessing and well-being of His image-bearing creatures (us!).

This means that God is deeply and genuinely interested in our well-being and cares about the details of our lives. He even knows the very number of hairs on each of our heads (Matthew 10:30). Even His discipline is an act of love and concern for us.

1 JOHN 4:8 | *"Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love."*

JOHN 3:16 | *"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."*

*Additional
Scripture
References*

PSALM 119:64 **1 JOHN 3:1** **ROMANS 8:15**
1 JOHN 4:16 **HEBREWS 12:5-6** **ISAIAH 40:11**
COLOSSIANS 3:12 **MATTHEW 6:29-30** **ISAIAH 49:15**
1 JOHN 4:10 **LUKE 12:7** **EPHESIANS 5:25**

HOLY + LOVE = GOSPEL

God is 100% love and 100% holy at the same time, which presents a unique challenge. Because God is love, He desires to extend mercy, grace, and forgiveness to sinners. However, because He is also holy, He must address sin with wrath, and the wages of sin is death (both physical and spiritual).

So how can God fulfill the requirements of both His love and His holiness at the same time?

God's solution was to come to earth as a human, live a perfect life, and become a perfect sacrifice on the cross for our sin. This perfectly satisfies both God's love and His holiness. This is the one and only Gospel, the Good News!

ROMANS 6:23 | *“For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.”*

1 THESSALONIANS 5:9 | *“For God did not appoint us to suffer wrath but to receive salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ.”*

*Additional
Scripture
References*

ROMANS 11:22
1 THESSALONIANS 1:10

III. OTHER IMPORTANT ATTRIBUTES

GOD IS CREATOR.

God is the Creator, and everything that exists is His creation. Before God began to create, nothing existed except God Himself: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. By an act of sheer creative power, God brought matter and the spiritual world into existence.

As Creator, God gives the universe a purpose and a goal. It also means human life has purpose, meaning, and a benchmark for what is right and wrong.

GENESIS 1:1 | *“In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.”*

JOHN 1:3 | *“Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made.”*



GOD IS RULER.

God rules over all of His creation. As ruler, God continually sustains us (even the very breath we breathe!) and everything else in existence as well.

Importantly, His rulership does not mean that God causes everything to happen, which is part of how God self-limits Himself. For instance, God created humans with free will, and He is not the author of human sinful choices or their consequences.

ACTS 17:25 | *“And he is not served by human hands, as if he needed anything. Rather, he himself gives everyone life and breath and everything else.”*

PSALM 103:19 | *“The Lord has established his throne in heaven, and his kingdom rules over all.”*

*Additional
Scripture
References*

ACTS 17:28

MATTHEW 5:45

ACTS 10:29

ACTS 14:17

COLOSSIANS 1:17

PSALM 22:28

DANIEL 5:21

EPHESIANS 1:11

GOD IS SPIRIT.

God is not made up of physical matter, has no physical body as we have, and is not made up of the same stuff as the observable universe around us. He does not have any of the limitations of physical things or creatures. He is also by nature invisible to us, which means that His true essence cannot be seen by the eyes of created beings.

However, God is not an impersonal force but rather a spiritual being with rational self-consciousness, free will, and relationships with others.

JOHN 4:24 | *“God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in the Spirit and in truth.”*

1 TIMOTHY 6:16 | *“who alone is immortal and who lives in unapproachable light, whom no one has seen or can see. To him be honor and might forever. Amen.”*

*Additional
Scripture
References*

PSALM 42:2

HEBREWS 3:12

1 TIMOTHY 1:17

COLOSSIANS 1:15

EXODUS 3:14

GOD IS THREE IN ONE.

There is only one God, and no others. Our purpose is to worship and glorify Him as the one true God. God exists in three persons who share one essence (or substance). This is called the Trinity. We call these three persons God the Father, God the Son (Jesus), and the Holy Spirit.

DEUTERONOMY 6:4 | *“Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one.”*

JOHN 10:30 | *“I and the Father are one.”*

<i>Additional Scripture References</i>	1 CORINTHIANS 8:4	1 PETER 1:2
	1 TIMOTHY 1:17	ROMANS 15:30
	ISAIAH 45:5	2 CORINTHIANS 1:21-22
	GENESIS 1:26	JUDE 20-21
	GENESIS 3:22	MATTHEW 3:16-17
	MATTHEW 28:19	JOHN 8:58-59
	2 CORINTHIANS 13:14	JOHN 10:37-38
	1 CORINTHIANS 12:4-6	

GOD IS GOOD.

God’s goodness means He is absolutely perfect and morally good, desiring to bless His people. God could have been powerful but not good, which would be reason to be terrified of Him. Or God could have been good but not powerful, which would have left Him unable to help. But He is powerful and good at the same time, making Him completely worthy of our trust.

PSALM 100:5 | *“For the Lord is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations.”*

ROMANS 8:28 | *“And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.”*

<i>Additional Scripture References</i>	ROMANS 16:27	PSALM 25:8
	DANIEL 2:20	MATTHEW 10:29
	ROMANS 11:33	PSALM 145:9
	PROVERBS 3:19	1 TIMOTHY 6:17

GOD IS SELF-EXISTENT, ETERNAL, AND UNCHANGING

God is self-existent, meaning He exists independently and does not originate from anything else. He is also eternal, which means He is unlimited with regard to time. He is the “everlasting God,” meaning He has always existed in the eternal past and will always exist in the eternal future. He is unchanging in His nature and is forever faithful.

HEBREWS 13:8 | *“Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.”*

2 PETER 3:8 | *“But do not forget this one thing, dear friends: With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day.”*

Additional Scripture References

JOHN 5:26

1 TIMOTHY 6:16

ACTS 17:24-25

ROMANS 16:26

ISAIAH 40:28

PSALM 93:2

PSALM 41:13

PSALM 90:2

REVELATION 1:8

HEBREWS 6:18

MALACHI 3:6

PSALM 100:5

Want to dive deeper into your journey?

Scan the QR code for an in-depth exploration of Step 1: Who Is God the Father?



NOTE: All verses are quoted from the NIV translation. The Bible remains the ultimate authority for understanding who God is.

*For further insights into who God is, refer to Dr. Jack Cottrell's *The Faith Once for All*, especially chapters 3 and 4.*

NOTES

BASIC DISCIPLESHIP STEP ONE

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Ice Breaker Questions

Growing up, who was God to you? How did these ideas change as you got older?

When were you baptized under the water?

What was going on and what was that like for you?

Question 1 - *God is Omnipotent*

Is there anything God can't do? Why or why not?

Question 2 - *God is Omnipresent*

What does God always being near to everywhere, including you, make you think about?

Question 3 - *God is Omniscient*

Does the fact that God even knows the thoughts in your head blow your mind in any way?

Question 4 - *God is Holy*

If a friend asked you, "What's up with God's 'wrath'? That doesn't sound much like a good God to me!" how would you respond?

Question 5 - *God is Love*

If God loves us so much, why doesn't He give us what we want?

Question 6 - *God's Holiness and Love (at the same time) Produce the Essence of the Gospel*

Could there have been another way for salvation besides Jesus dying on the cross for me?

Question 7 - *God is Creator*

Why did God create us in the first place?

Question 8 - *God is Three in One*

How would you explain the concept of the Trinity to a friend who didn't know much about Jesus?

Question 9 - *God is Self-Existent, Infinite, Eternal, and Unchanging*

What do you think time is like for God?



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