

God and Jesus 101

(Adjust language and the level of detail to fit the class)

1

God

There is one God. He is not created, but the Creator of everything else.

He is one because...

...there is only one of him.

...everything about him is whole. He is *not* made up of parts of anything.

- No parts of anything that takes up space. He's a spirit who is everywhere at once.
- Not limited to one part of time. He's eternal—always has been and always will be.
- Not partly what he will be some day (like you—you're still growing). God doesn't change or grow.
- Not partly good. *Everything* about him is good—and perfectly good.

What are some ways God is perfectly good? Let's make a list of some things you know about him that are good about him.

Make sure the following are included in the list of answers:

Perfectly powerful—can do *anything*.

Perfectly caring—takes care of everything and keeps it together.

Perfectly loving

Perfectly fair

Perfectly faithful

Perfectly wise

Perfectly holy—won't have anything to do with what's bad (we call that *sin*).

God is also personal. Not just a force you can use like in Star Wars. Personal means:

- He *decides* what he wants (always what's good) and does it.
- He can have *relationships* with others.

But how could God have relationships and love others before he created anyone else?

3

Persons

Although there is only one God, he is three persons.

Father. Son (who become Jesus). Holy Spirit. Just like any persons, they can agree together, love each other, enjoy each other's company—and they always have.

These three tend to take different roles, especially in saving us:

- The Father plans and gives the orders
- The Son accomplishes the work (like when Jesus died for us)
- The Spirit completes the work (like when he changes our hearts so we will believe)

But even with those particular characteristics, each person is all the way, completely God, not just part of God. Each is equally great. Everything we said about God is true of each person. And God is still just one God.

Does that blow your mind?

It is hard for us to understand. But God is so special it blows your mind to think of what he's like.

Each is
**ALL
THE
WAY**
God

1

Person

The second person, the Son, is Jesus.
He is one person.

2

Natures

But he's different from any of us or any other person because he has two natures.
Your nature means: The way you naturally are. (Like a dog has a dog nature. It means the dog has fur, barks, likes to chase squirrels... because it's a dog with a dog nature. You don't have fur or love to chase squirrels the way a dog does because you have a human nature, not a dog nature.)

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GOD

Jesus has a God nature. He's all the way God, just like the Father and the Holy Spirit. He's not half God, but completely God.

This means everything we said about God is true of him as a person, like:

- He's eternal.
- He's always the same.
- He's perfectly good, powerful, fair, loving, wise, holy, etc.

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MAN

But Jesus also has a human nature. He's all the way a man, just like we are human beings. He's not half human, but completely human.

This means some things are true of the person Jesus that wouldn't be true of God otherwise, like:

- He had a beginning and was born. About 2000 years ago God the Son became a human being and was born as a baby to his human mother, Mary.
- He has a body and lives in one place.
- He grew and became stronger and wiser.
- To do his work, he got help through prayer and the power of the Holy Spirit.
- He got hungry and tired and sad and frustrated—but in a way that he didn't sin!

He's like us in *every way*—he even was tempted to sin—except that he never did sin like all of us have.

This gets interesting when you ask a question like “Where is Jesus now?” because in his human nature he's only in one place. His body is in heaven. But in his God nature his spirit is everywhere, including with us now.

Does that blow your mind, too?

It should, because Jesus is *that* special.