

Basic Theology

What Is God Like?

Discussion A (at tables):

Read aloud Deuteronomy 6:4. What basic truth does this verse teach about God?

God is one.

Look up and compare the following verses. How do these verses agree with Deuteronomy 6:4?

Romans 3:30a

“God is one”

1 Timothy 2:5

“There is one God...”

James 2:19

“God is one...”

What do these verses add to what you have found so far?

Deuteronomy 4:35

“There is no other besides him.”

Isaiah 45:5-6

“There is no other...”

Put what you have found into a simple answer to our main question:

God is one God.

Discussion B (together):

Read aloud Matthew 28:19.

What from this verse agrees with the answer you came up with above?

“the name” implies one God

What sounds different?

“Father, Son, and Holy Spirit” implies more than one person

Read Genesis 6:5-8. Write down any verbs (action words) that the LORD does, thinks, or feels.

v.5 – saw

v.6 – regretted, grieved

v.7 – said, will blot, have created, am sorry, have made

v.8 – grants favor

Read John 1:1. This verse makes three statements about the Word. Write them below:

1. He was in the beginning
2. He was with God
3. He was God

Which of these statements shows how the Word and God are *one*? *The Word was God*

Which of these statements shows something *different* between the Word and God?

The Word was with God

Read John 1:18.

What in this verse speaks to the unity of God? “The only God...”

What speaks to distinctions? “Who is at the Father’s side...”

Also the process of making God known by the only God

Read John 16:7-15. Write down any verbs that the Holy Spirit does, thinks, or feels.

he convicts, v.8

he guides, v.13

he speaks, v.13

he hears, v.13

he discloses, v.13

he glorifies Jesus v.14

v.15 all three persons at work or in play

Put what you have found into a simple answer to our main question:

God is three persons.

Discussion C (at tables):

Compare Genesis 1:1 and Malachi 2:10.

What do these verses together confirm about the Father? The Father is the creator God

Compare Isaiah 6:5 and John 12:41.

Whom did Isaiah say he had seen in Isaiah 6:5? The Lord (YHWH) of hosts

Whom did John say Isaiah had seen in John 12:41 (check surrounding verses carefully)?

Pronouns he/him/his in passage refer back to Jesus in v. 36

What do these verses together confirm about the Son? Jesus is YHWH from Isaiah 6:5

Compare Acts 5:3 and 5:4

Whom did Peter say Ananias had lied to in verse 3? the Holy Spirit

Whom did Peter say Ananias had lied to in verse 4? God

What do these verses together confirm about the Spirit? The Holy Spirit is God

Put what you have found into a simple answer to our main question:

Each person is fully God.

Summary: Put the three answers together into one complete answer to our main question.

God is one God in three persons, and each person is fully God.

For further reflection: Isaiah 9:6; Matthew 3:16-17; Romans 8:1-11; 2 Corinthians 13:14