

## God the Father

The purpose: To help your students understand who God the Father is and the role He plays in the Trinity. Although a lot of time is spent on Jesus, knowing more about God the Father is vital because Jesus was doing His Father's will and is the connection point back to relationship with God the Father. If Jesus is pointing us to God, we should know more about Him.

Helpful Scriptures: Gen 1, Moses sees God's back - Ex 33:18-23, God the Father ~ Psalm 68:5, God the Judge ~ Romans 2:16, God the Provider ~ Matthew 6:25-34, God at Jesus' baptism - Matthew 3: 13-17

### Discussion Questions:

- Why do you think we need to study God the Father if we have Jesus as an example? – You don't have to give the answer here, but listen to their response and then go to Scripture. Answer: we are to have a relationship with God the Father just like Adam & Eve did, and so we should know what He is like, His heart, His will, and how that relationship should look. Also Jesus is always pointing humanity to God the Father. In John 14:9-11 Jesus tells us that if we've seen him, we've seen the Father.
- What are some of the ways they would describe a great father?
- Our earthly father or our lack of one affects our image of a heavenly father, but scripture shows us that the best example of a truly great father is God.
- So what does Jesus say about God the Father? Read the following passages together and talk about all of the characteristics of God the Father they reveal.
  - John 4: 34 - The One who sent Jesus
  - Matthew 6:25-34 – Our Provider
  - John 8:28 - The one who gave Jesus the words to teach.
  - John 5:17 – The healer and caretaker for all of creation, especially humans.
  - John 5:26 - The source of life.
  - John 3:16 - The One who loves the world and sent Jesus.
- Follow up the last passage by going back to Gen 1, read verses 1-8, and then ask what is God the Father's role in creation? – He is the one who spoke creation into existence, named it, and assigned its purpose/function.
- End by reading Romans 2:16, Then ask who is God here? Judge.

Conclusion - The reason you want to end on this point is you are creating that in the Beginning, God was the one who spoke and gave life it's purpose and function. Then he spends all of Scripture desiring a relationship with us and working to our benefit and then sends Jesus to die for us. Who better to judge us and know what's really in our hearts than the one who created us, gave us purpose, and did everything possible to be in relationship with us.