

## Who is God?

"I've asked around and everyone seems to have a different opinion of who God is. Most say He was a good man who taught us how to live. Some say that He is like the Shiva god, others say that He is just a prophet or another god. Many wonder if there is a God. Who is right? I'm so confused. Who is God, really?"

Everyone has an opinion about who God is. We mold our opinions from experiences we've had, things we've read, conversations we've whispered, or a personal belief of someone we trust. But who is He, really? Who is God? We want to know Him. We want to know what He thinks of us. We want to know of His promises. We want to know if we can trust Him. The answer lies in looking into His Book, the Bible, to see how He describes Himself.

When we look into the Scriptures, we soon realize that God is much more than our finite human minds can possibly fathom. The Bible tells us that God created everything (Genesis 1:1). He is infinite (Hebrews 13:8). He is everywhere (Jeremiah 23:23-24). He goes beyond the thoughts of our minds and knows the deepest yearning of our hearts (1 John 3:20). He is all powerful (Jeremiah 32:17). He wants to take care of us (Matthew 11:28). He reveals Himself to us throughout all of creation (Psalm 8:1-5). He is all of this, and much more, all of the time!

Look around for a moment; look at the sky, trees and the flowers. They are spectacular. So is He! The most awesome quality of God is that, even in all His glory, power and splendor, He desperately wants us to have a personal relationship with Him. John 15:14-16 "You are my friends if you do what I command. I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you."

He loves all people (John 3:16; Ephesians 2:4-7). We receive His love by believing and living out the Truth; that Jesus, the Son of God, died for our sins and rose from the dead. We can be confident He will never leave; He will never turn away. How do we know this? He says so in His Word, and He confirms it as we live out our lives in Him. Hebrews 13:5-6 "Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said, 'Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you.' So we say with confidence, 'The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can man do to me?' "

To know the One True God takes time in Scripture, prayer and hopefully, small groups of friends who also are seeking Him. It takes patience to know God is working; it takes vulnerability and honesty. That's how we really get to know Him. God reveals Himself more and more to those who seek Him. When we find Him, we will not only experience new insight into life and people, but direction on how He wants us to live each day!

Matthew 7:7-8 "Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened."