



Blueprints: *Articulations*

The Weekly HouseNet Bible Study

Who is God?

Intro: Trying to pinpoint all the attributes of who God is in a single evening isn't going to be easy. On the other hand, unless you have a theology book or two at hand when your co-worker asks, "So, just *who* is God?" you're going to need to be ready to give a succinct answer that reflects what you understand about God—*succinct* being the key word.

It has been said that humanity has always created their understanding of God in their own image—but with a lot more power. It has also been said that God got tired of that and so He came to earth to dwell among us to put His attributes to rest. Nonetheless, Christianity often seems divided about our views on God. There's the God of the Old Testament and a seemingly new-and-improved God of the New.

In many ways, our attempts to define God is to create a God-In-The-Box, a practice frowned upon in the Scriptures (which is why the Ten Commandments prohibit the creation of any idol—image—of God). On the other hand, we cannot worship that which we cannot fathom, thus we are left with a paradox, which seems to be one of the attributes of God anyway! The other problem with our attempts at defining God is the eternal tendency to project what we *want* God to be like onto the Divine rather than looking at how God has chosen to reveal Himself. Thus, we turn to the revelation we have in order to understand God.

What the Bible Teaches: Break into Groups of Four, read the following Bible verses, and discuss the questions. You may want to jot down notes and thoughts on the back of this page.

Isaiah 40:28-31; Psalm 68:19-20; Isaiah 43:10-11; John 4:24; Acts 17:24-28. What do these passages teach about who God is?

Romans 1:20. What does creation reveal about who God is?

John 10:24-30; John 14:6-9; John 20:28-29. What does Jesus reveal about who God is?

What I Believe: Take ten minutes for silent reflection and thought. Ask yourself what you believe about who God is. Use the back of this page to formulate a response to the question:

“Who is God?”

Write your final response here: _____

Articulations: Pair up with one other person and share your response with one another. Take five minutes each. Try to *not* look at your written statement; instead, try to tell your beliefs from your heart. This will prepare you to share whenever you are asked about what you believe.

Therefore: Jesus said His followers should Go and make disciples (Matthew 28:19-20). One of the first steps in making disciples is being ready and able to share the reason for the hope we have (1 Peter 3:15), in other words, knowing what we believe, why, and then being able to share it. Sharing your faith is important. This week, find someone—it can be *anyone*—and articulate your belief about this issue. If you have an unchurched/unreached friend whom you can share with, all the better (you can always say you have a homework assignment from church and you'd like to share it with them). Be ready to talk about your experience next week over the meal at your House Church.