LESSON ONE: GOD

THE Perfect PRESENT

Have you ever had questions about God's goodness, Jesus, or your purpose on earth? Maybe you have wondered what Christianity is really all about? Welcome to **The Perfect Present** where you will be able to answer these questions about faith, discover your gifts, and develop a deeper understanding of Jesus. Using the acrostic G.I.F.T. , each lesson will teach you more about God, You, Jesus, Sin, and the Holy Spirit. Today's present is God. You will discover that He is **G**ood, the great **I** AM, the **F**ather and the **T**ruth. Let's get started!

G GOD IS GOOD

"GIVE THANKS TO THE LORD, FOR HE IS GOOD; HIS LOVE ENDURES FOREVER."

PSALM 107:1

Open your Bible and read Psalm 107:1 and Psalm 145:9.

• What do these verses tell you about the character of God?

1. God is _____ 2. God's love _____ _____

3. God is _____ to all and has _____ on all He has made.

What defines **good** and what defines bad? How is God good? How long does God's love last, and who receives His goodness and compassion? According to Psalm 107:1, how should you respond to God's love? How can you "give thanks" for God's goodness when things are not "good" in your life?

I GOD IS THE GREAT I AM

"IN THE BEGINNING GOD CREATED THE HEAVENS AND THE EARTH."

GENESIS 1:1

The Lord God says, "I am the Alpha and the Omega. I am the One who is and was and is coming. I am the Almighty." Revelation 1:8

How many I AM statements are in this one verse? _____

I am the _____ and the _____. **I am** the _____. **I am** _____. Alpha means the beginning.

Read Genesis 1:1. What was God doing in the beginning?

It's hard for our little minds to think about —but God has always been and will always be. There is no other. He IS the great I am!

"I AM THE LORD, AND THERE IS NO OTHER. APART FROM ME THERE IS NO GOD."

ISAIAH 45:5

F GOD IS THE FATHER

Read Matthew 6:9-13. How is Jesus telling you to pray? Jesus is teaching you that while God is holy and majestic, He is also a loving and kind **father.**

List some ways the loving Father takes care of you in verses 11-13: _____

T GOD IS TRUTH

Because God is **good**, everything about Him is **true.** In fact, the Bible says that GOD cannot lie (Titus 1:2).

What FIVE words describe God's character in 2 Samuel 22:31-34, John 17:17, and Hebrews 6:18?

"AS FOR GOD, HIS WAY IS PERFECT; THE LORD'S WORD IS FLAWLESS."

2 SAMUEL 22:31

1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____

4. _____ 5. _____

Key: Perfect, Shield, Rock, Truth, Impossible for Him to lie.

What a lesson! You have learned that God is **good,** compassionate, and His love is never ending. He is the great **I AM** who was in the beginning and will always be. He is your good **Father** who provides for you, protects you, and forgives you. He ALWAYS tells the **truth** because it is ***impossible*** for Him to lie. Using the space below, read Psalm145:3, 8-10 and write a prayer of THANKSGIVING. List all the ways God is described and thank Him for His **goodness.**

"HE SHOWERS COMPASSION ON ALL HIS CREATION." PSALM 145:9 (NLT)

"GREAT IS THE LORD! HE IS MOST WORTHY OF PRAISE!

NO ONE CAN MEASURE HIS GREATNESS. THE LORD IS MERCIFUL AND COMPASSIONATE, SLOW TO GET ANGRY AND FILLED WITH UNFAILING LOVE. THE LORD IS GOOD TO EVERYONE.

HE SHOWERS COMPASSION ON ALL HIS CREATION.

ALL OF YOUR WORKS WILL THANK YOU, LORD, AND YOUR FAITHFUL FOLLOWERS WILL PRAISE YOU."

PSALM 145:3,8–10 (NLT)