

**FACETS**  **OF GOD**

**2024 SMALL  
GROUPS GUIDE**

# WEEK 1 | FEBRUARY 18 - 24



FACET OF GOD: CREATOR

## OPENING PRAYER

*(read together by one member of the group)*

Lord, you are the maker of all. Through you, all things were created and held together. We pray that as we start this journey together you will use this time to form us more and more into your image. Holy Spirit, please guide our time, conversation, and hearts as we learn more about your nature and how it impact our lives. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

## SCRIPTURE READING

**Genesis 1:1-4**

***In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters. And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. God saw that the light was good, and he separated the light from the darkness.***

**2 Corinthians 5:17**

***Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!***

**Ephesians 2:10**

***For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.***

## REFLECTION QUESTIONS

1. Do you struggle to view God as the Creator? If so, how come?
2. When was the last time you stopped to admire God's creation?
3. What seems to connect with you the most about God's created world?
4. According to the Genesis passage we just read, how did God create?
5. How has sin or brokenness affected all of God's creation?
6. How have you experienced, or long to experience, God's creative power in your life?
7. Do you see yourself as God's handiwork? How come?
8. According to the verse in Ephesians, what were we created for?
9. How is God still creating something in and around you?

## CLOSING PRAYER

*(read together by one member of the group)*

"Creator God, we pause and reflect on your awesome power. You created the heavens and earth. Your Spirit was present in creation and we know you still impart life today. You are the source of all life and that's why we yield our lives to you. We invite you, during this Lenten season, to create something new in us. We are your creation so we pray that you will form and fill us as you see fit. We belong to you. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen."

# WEEK 2 | FEBRUARY 25 - MARCH 2



FACET OF GOD: REVEALER

## OPENING PRAYER

*(read together by one member of the group)*

"We come before you, Creator and Author of life, seeking to know more of you. We long to experience your presence in deeper ways, to be filled with your revelation, and to live in fellowship with you and others. Open our hearts and minds to receive your word, to understand your guidance, and to live obediently. Let your presence overflow, pouring out your Holy Spirit over us as we seek a deeper understanding of who you are. In Jesus' name, Amen."

## SCRIPTURE READING

*Isaiah 40:5*

*And the glory of the Lord will be revealed, and all people will see it together. For the mouth of the Lord has spoken.*

*John 10:25-30*

*Jesus answered, "I did tell you, but you do not believe. The works I do in my Father's name testify about me, but you do not believe because you are not my sheep. My sheep listen to my voice; I know them and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one will snatch them out of my hand. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all; no one can snatch them out of my Father's hand. I and the Father are one."*

## REFLECTION QUESTIONS

1. What moments in your life have you felt the presence of God?
2. Has there ever been a time you longed for God's presence and didn't feel it?
3. How does God reveal himself to his sheep?
4. The Holy Spirit is God's presence in us. How does this change the way we listen and respond to those around us?
5. How do you recognize God's voice?
6. Have there been times in your life you thought you were following God's voice but weren't?
7. God's desire to be fully known is continually revealed throughout scripture. How does this create intimacy with him?
8. In what ways are you hiding yourself from God? In what ways are you making yourself known?
9. How does the understanding that we are fully known by God affect our response to him through prayer and worship?

## CLOSING PRAYER

*(read together by one member of the group)*

"Heavenly Father, we thank you for the gift of revelation through your Word and your Spirit. As we seek a deeper understanding of your ways, grant us clarity of mind and purity of heart. Strengthen our desire for intimacy with you, that we may abide in your presence continually. Grant us the wisdom to discern your voice alone amidst the chaos of the world. May our lives be a living testimony to your goodness and grace, drawing others into your kingdom. In Jesus' name, Amen."

# WEEK 3 | MARCH 3 - 9



FACET OF GOD: PRIEST

## OPENING PRAYER

*(read together by one member of the group)*

“Father, as we come into your presence today, we recognize that we cannot do that on our own standing. It is by the life and sacrifice of Jesus, our Great High Priest, that we have access to you today. Jesus, you who stood in the gap for us — speak words on our behalf to the Father and let us receive what the Father is speaking to us through you by the Holy Spirit. Thank you for allowing us to hear a word from the place where you dwell and are worshipped with all the company of angels and the heavenly host, as well as us on the earth, Lord. Amen.”

## REFLECTION QUESTIONS

1. When you hear the word “priest”, what images or thoughts come to mind?
2. What are the primary responsibilities of a priest according to the scriptures referenced above?
3. Do you easily identify with God’s revealing of himself as a Great High Priest? Why or why not?
4. In what ways does Jesus fulfill the role of High Priest? What was accomplished in his time on earth and what is still being accomplished in heaven?
5. How does God revealing himself as Priest through Jesus help us to understand his nature more completely and his desires for us as his people?
6. At the throne of God, we boldly approach to receive mercy and find grace. Have you experienced the goodness and weight of this statement in your life?
7. What key takeaway did you gain from this week’s study on the facet of God as Priest?

## CLOSING PRAYER

*(read together by one member of the group)*

“Lord Jesus, you are both High Priest who enters into the presence of the Father for us and speaks a better word from the throne back to us. Your life and sacrificial death on the cross means that you both our great High Priest and the once-and-for-all sacrifice for the sins of all. We thank you, Father, for the empowerment of the Holy Spirit to be a royal priesthood that stands between a lost, hurting world and the One who wants to be brought close to them in prayer, presence, service and witness. Amen.”

## SCRIPTURE READING

**Hebrews 5:1**

***Every high priest is selected from among men and is appointed to represent them in matters related to God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins.***

**Hebrews 4:14-16**

***Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has ascended into heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are — yet he did not sin. Let us then approach God’s throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.***

**Hebrews 9:15**

***For this reason Christ is the mediator of a new covenant, that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance — now that he has died as a ransom to set them free from the sins committed under the first covenant.***

# WEEK 4 | MARCH 10 - 16



FACET OF GOD: FATHER

## OPENING PRAYER

*(read together by one member of the group)*

"Lord God, as we gather in your presence today, we come with hearts filled with gratitude and reverence, acknowledging you as our Heavenly Father. We are humbled by the privilege of being called your children, and we invite your Spirit to guide us in this time of fellowship and study. Open our minds to the depths of your fatherly love, and nurture us with your wisdom. In the name of your Son, Jesus, we pray. Amen."

## SCRIPTURE READING

**Romans 8: 14-15**

***For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God. The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by him we cry, "Abba, Father."***

## REFLECTION QUESTIONS

1. How does viewing God as a father affect how you relate to him?
2. Tell of a time when you have come to God as a child. How did this impact your relationship with him?
3. Reflect on the idea of adoption in this passage. What insight does this word give you as to how we come into the family of God and the kind of relationship God wants to have with us?
4. The Aramaic word, "Abba" is used in this passage to address God. It was first used by Jesus (Mark 14:6) and later picked up by the early church (Gal 4:6). Have you ever spoken of God as your "Abba"? If so, what dimension does this word add to your understanding of the nature of God?
5. What other insights does understanding God as Father bring to your understanding of who God is, how he desires to relate to us, and his desires for us as his children?
6. What key takeaway did you gain from this week's study of the facet of God as Father?

## CLOSING PRAYER

*(read together by one member of the group)*

"Heavenly Father, as we conclude this time of fellowship, we rest in awe of your boundless love and grace. You, Abba, our Father, have graciously unveiled your divine nature as the compassionate and guiding presence in our lives. We thank you for the assurance of being called your children and heirs to eternity in your presence. As we step into the world, may the magnificence of your character shine through us, drawing others into a loving acceptance of your gift of grace. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen."

# WEEK 5 | MARCH 17 - 23



FACET OF GOD: JUDGE

## OPENING PRAYER

*(read together by one member of the group)*

"Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, we invite you to speak a good word to us again. We thank you that you are a good Father, who loves us and judges us according to the merits of Jesus' righteousness, death and resurrection. Our hope and trust today is in your heart, your character, and your desire that the whole world would bow their knees, heads, and hearts to you. We plead mercy, that you will look favorably on us, as brothers and sisters of Jesus. Holy Spirit, advocate for us, plead the finished work of Jesus on our behalf and free us for joyful obedience. Amen"

## REFLECTION QUESTIONS

1. When you hear the word "judge", what images or imagery comes to mind? What setting?
2. What are the primary responsibilities of a judge according to the first two scriptures referenced above?
3. Do you easily identify with God's revealing of himself as Judge? Why or why not?
4. In Romans 5:6-11 above it says that we, who "while we were God's enemies," have been "justified by his blood." What does that mean, and how does it shed light on God's nature as Judge?
5. How does justice and mercy given for our own exoneration from sin lead us to deal with others? Talk about how you have experienced God's mercy from sin. Also, how have you shown mercy to others. In what ways?
6. At the end of all things, Revelation tells us that Jesus will judge the living and the dead. How are Christians judged and is it different from the rest of the world? How?
7. How does the facet of God as Judge reveal his righteousnesses?

## SCRIPTURE READING

**Isaiah 5:16**

***But the Lord Almighty will be exalted by his justice, and the holy God will be proved holy by his righteous acts.***

**Isaiah 33:22**

***For the LORD is our judge, the LORD is our lawgiver, the LORD is our king; it is he who will save us.***

**Romans 5:6-11**

***You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die. But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him! For if, while we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life! Not only is this so, but we also boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.***

# WEEK 5 | MARCH 17 - 23 CONTD.



FACET OF GOD: JUDGE

## CLOSING PRAYER

*(read together by one member of the group)*

Just Judge, in moments of turmoil and confusion, may we find solace, mercy and perfect wisdom in you. May your righteousness be a pillar of strength, bringing peace to our troubled hearts. As we surrender our concerns to you, let your judgment prevail, and may your grace and mercy be our constant refuge. May the blood of Jesus speak a better word on our behalf and the Advocate defend us from the attacks of Satan, until we see you face-to-face. Amen.



# WEEK 6 | MARCH 24 - 30



FACET OF GOD: KING

## OPENING PRAYER

*(read together by one member of the group)*

"Lord, we gather today knowing that you are on the throne, and we are so thankful. Open our hearts and minds to your word today so that we may fully understand what it is to call you King. Let us see the radiance of your glory and majesty as we study, discuss and pray together. In your holy name we pray... Amen."

## SCRIPTURE READING

**Psalm 93**

*The Lord reigns, he is robed in majesty; the Lord is robed in majesty and armed with strength; indeed, the world is established, firm and secure. Your throne was established long ago; you are from all eternity. The seas have lifted up, Lord, the seas have lifted up their voice; the seas have lifted up their pounding waves. Mightier than the thunder of the great waters, mightier than the breakers of the sea—the Lord on high is mighty. Your statutes, Lord, stand firm; holiness adorns your house for endless days*

**Hebrews 1:1-4**

*In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets at many times and in various ways, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom also he made the universe. The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word. After he had provided purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven. So he became as much superior to the angels as the name he has inherited is superior to theirs.*

## REFLECTION QUESTIONS

1. Make a note of all of the "royal" language used in the two scripture passages above. Circle or highlight them and share with your group what words stood out to you and why.
2. For us who live in a democratic society, do you think relating to God as King is an easy or difficult thing?
3. What are some of the attributes of a king that you think God has?
4. How is an earthly king or ruler limited in ways that God is not?
5. What kind of King do you think God's people were expecting as they awaited the Messiah's arrival? How was Christ different than those expectations?
6. Psalm 93 says, "the world is established, firm and secure" (v. 1) and Hebrews 1 says that the Son is active in "sustaining all things by his powerful word" (v. 3). What does it mean to say that we have a King that establishes and sustains us? How has God done this in your own life?
7. What key takeaway did you gain from this week's study of the facet of God as King?
8. How does understanding God as King relate to the other facets we've discussed during this series (Creator, Revealer, Priest, Father, Judge)? Which one has been most meaningful or challenging to you?



# WEEK 6 | MARCH 24 - 30 CONTD.



FACET OF GOD: KING

## CLOSING PRAYER

*(read together by one member of the group)*

Lord, we have so many ideas of how life should go and how things should run and operate. We have ideas for leaders and rulers, priests, judges, fathers. Thank you for the time you've given us to consider these things on your terms. Forgive us for the ways we have limited our understanding of who You are because of our earthly experiences and help us to lean on your Word to see who you truly are to us, for us and within us. As the Psalm reminds us, "your throne was established long ago" but you speak to us still, through Your Son and Your Spirit. Continue to speak to us as we leave here today. Amen.

