

CLC Host's Personal Meeting Room

Overview

This Bible study session focused on understanding the attributes of God the Father, with an emphasis on His nature, power, and unchanging character. The group explored various scriptures that highlight God's omnipotence, omniscience, and omnipresence. The study was led by CLC (the pastor) who guided participants through "The Great Truths" book by Brian Wayman, examining how God relates to His creation and believers.

Key Concepts or Theories:

- God as a person with a personality who loves, grieves, hates, provides, and cares
- God's omnipotence (all-powerful) over nations, nature, angels, Satan, and death
- God's omniscience (all-knowing) - perfect knowledge of past, present, and future
- God's omnipresence (everywhere present) - dwelling in heaven but present with believers
- God's immutability (unchanging nature) - His consistent character and promises

Important Questions Raised:

- Can anyone see God the Father in His full essence?
- How does God maintain control over Satan while allowing him limited power?
- How does God's unchanging nature affect believers' salvation and security?
- How does the New Jerusalem relate to the concept of heaven and God's dwelling place?

Key Takeaways and Summary of Learning Objectives

- God is a person with a personality who relates to humans through love, grief, provision, and care
- God is omnipotent (all-powerful), having authority over nations, nature, angels, Satan, and death
- God is omniscient (all-knowing), with perfect knowledge of all things past, present, and future
- God is omnipresent (everywhere present), though He dwells in heaven and within believers

- God is immutable (unchanging), consistent in His character, promises, and covenant relationships
- God's attributes demonstrate His sovereignty and trustworthiness in all circumstances

Topic 1: God as a Person with a Personality

The study began by examining how God is a person with a personality, not merely a force or power. Scripture reveals that God experiences emotions and relates personally to His creation. Genesis 6:6 shows that God grieves, demonstrating His emotional response to human sin. Proverbs 6:16-19 lists things God hates, including pride, lying, and those who stir up conflict. Matthew 7:7-11 illustrates God as a provider who gives good gifts to those who ask, seek, and knock. 1 Peter 5:6-7 reveals God as one who cares for believers, encouraging them to cast their anxieties on Him. These attributes indicate that God has a personality and created love, giving humans free will to choose. Unlike the Jehovah's Witness belief that God is merely a force or power, Scripture shows God as a personal being who communicates with humanity. John 17:5-13 demonstrates Jesus (God the Son) praying to God the Father, showing their personal relationship and Jesus' role as an advocate for believers.

Relevant Q&A

CLC: Can anyone see the Father?

John: No.

14103228113: Jesus said, "If you have seen me, you have seen the Father." Also, "in him dwells the fullness of deity in bodily form." We have to understand that when we think of "person," we must think beyond just human form and include spiritual nature.

Topic 2: God's Omnipotence

The study explored God's omnipotence (all-powerful nature) through various scriptural examples. God has power over nations as demonstrated in 1 Kings 11:11 and Daniel 4:17, where God determines who rules and removes kings from power. The example of Nebuchadnezzar showed how God humbled a powerful king until he acknowledged God's sovereignty. God's power over nature was examined through Job 28:5-6, 25-26 and Psalms 33:6-9, which describe God's control over weather, water boundaries, and creation itself. Jesus demonstrated this power when He calmed the storm. God's power over angels was shown in Psalms 103:20 and 104:4, describing angels as God's messengers who serve Him day and night. Finally, God's power over Satan and death was illustrated through Job 1:12, 2:6 and Revelation 20:2, 10, 14, showing that Satan can only act with God's sovereign permission, and ultimately both Satan and death will be destroyed in the lake of fire. Matthew 19:26 reinforces that "with God all things are possible," particularly in the context of salvation, which is impossible for humans to achieve on their own but is God's gift.

Relevant Q&A

CLC: So who has the power, Satan or God?

Collean/John: God.

CLC: So why do we have to be fearful of the devil? Why do we have to be fearful of demons? God supersedes!

Topic 3: God's Omniscience and Omnipresence

The group examined God's omniscience (all-knowing nature) through scriptures like Job 37:16, which describes God as "perfect in knowledge." Isaiah 40:28 states that God's understanding is "unsearchable," beyond human comprehension. Psalms 147:4 reveals that God knows and names all the stars, demonstrating His intimate knowledge of creation. Matthew 10:29-30 shows God's awareness of even the smallest details, including the fall of sparrows and the number of hairs on each person's head. God's omnipresence (everywhere present) was explored through Jeremiah 23:23-24, which asks if anyone can hide from God who fills heaven and earth. Acts 17:23-28 explains that God is not confined to temples made by human hands but is near to everyone. The study also discussed the concept of the New Jerusalem coming down from the "third heaven" (God's dwelling place) as described in Revelation 21:1-3, representing God's future dwelling with His people. John 14:1-3 connects to this concept with Jesus' promise to prepare a place for believers in His Father's house.

Relevant Q&A

CLC: When you really step back and look at this, this is the second person of the Godhead talking to the first person of the Godhead about me and you.

Collean: Hmm. Yes.

John: That's right.

CLC: Interceding for me and you. Matter of fact, the disciples may not even knew that they were even talking about it.

Topic 4: God's Immutability

The final section focused on God's immutability (unchanging nature). James 1:17 describes God as having "no variation or shadow due to change," unlike humans who vacillate in their attitudes and behaviors. Hebrews 6:17 explains that God guaranteed His promises with an oath to demonstrate the "unchangeableness of his purpose." Romans 11:29 states that "God's gifts and calling are irrevocable," showing that salvation is secure because it is rooted in God's immutable nature. The

pastor emphasized that God's unchanging character means believers can trust His promises and covenant relationships. Unlike humans who may change their minds or feelings toward others, God remains consistent in His love and care for His people. This attribute provides assurance that God will fulfill His word and maintain His relationship with believers regardless of circumstances.

Relevant Q&A

CLC: Can you imagine, Colleen, if God did that [changed His mind about people like humans do]?

Colleen: Hmm.

Cynthia: Yes, we'd be in trouble.

CLC: We come with our stink attitude, don't want to pray sometime, don't want to get in the Word, want to fall back into sin sometime in your mind, but yet God's still there.

Actionable Next Steps / Assignments

- Read Romans 1, starting at verse 8, in preparation for the next sermon series
- Continue studying "The Great Truths" book by Brian Wayman
- Prepare for the next Bible study session on "God the Son, His Past"
- Look up and study the supporting scriptures mentioned in the lesson to gain deeper understanding

Supplemental Resources and Readings

- "The Great Truths" by Brian Wayman - the primary textbook being used for this Bible study series
- Various Bible passages referenced throughout the study, particularly focusing on God's attributes
- Suggested study of the concept of the three heavens (atmospheric, stellar/universe, and God's dwelling)
- Examination of covenant relationships in Scripture (Noetic, Adamic, Abrahamic covenants)

Personal Testimonies Shared

- Cynthia shared that a judge had ordered a stay on her lawsuit case, and there was nothing for the plaintiffs to garnish from her bank account
- Colleen reported that Jaden came through his surgery successfully and was home resting

- Brittany testified about returning to her previous job at a school with less pay but better work-life balance, following God's direction to enter a season of rest rather than pursuing career advancement

Prayer Requests

- For Jaden's continued recovery from surgery
- For CLC's daughter's spiritual growth and salvation
- For all the children in the church to come to saving knowledge of Jesus Christ
- For the youth ministry leaders to set godly examples
- For the church's finances, members, and overall ministry

Closing Thoughts

The pastor emphasized how encouraging it was to see everyone growing spiritually together. He noted that as a pastor, seeing this collective growth is deeply fulfilling, and that he grows alongside the congregation as they study God's Word together. The session concluded with expressions of love among the group members and anticipation for the next study on God the Son.

Next Meeting Topic

The next Bible study will focus on "God the Son, His Past" as they continue working through "The Great Truths" book.