

For Children

What is God?

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Do you ever think about God and wonder what He is like? Do you and your friends sometimes talk about God? Do you ask each other questions because you want to know what God is?

Finding out about God and what He does is very important. For instance, God is Love and He loves us very much. He is always taking care of us. Because we are His children, nothing can hurt us or make us afraid. If we're having a hard time in class, God is there to help. If we're not feeling well, God is there to heal. If we're feeling scared, God is there keeping us safe. We can turn to God in prayer anytime, anyplace, about anything at all. He is with us all the time.

Sometimes we might hear things about God that aren't true. These may make us feel unhappy, even confused. This happened to me. A girl at school told me that God wasn't real. Another said that God is a big old man living up in the sky somewhere and that He makes us sick when we're naughty. This was scary. It didn't sound or feel right, but I didn't know what else to think. At that time I didn't really know much about God.

Then my grandmother and I went away on a special holiday. When we got to the place we were visiting, she asked me if I would go with her to a Christian Science church. We'd never been to one before. The Church of Christ, Scientist, was started in Boston, Massachusetts, by Mary Baker Eddy after she learned about God's healing power. Before she started her Church, she wrote a book about what she had learned and called it *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures*. My nana, who had been ill for many years, read this book and was healed.

I was so happy about this healing. Nana had been taking medicine for as long as I could remember. Now she was well and had thrown all her medicine away. She said she wouldn't need it again because *Science and Health* told her what God is and how she could rely on Him for healing.

I wanted to know about God, too. That Sunday I went along to the Sunday School. When the lesson time started, the first thing the teacher asked was did I know what God is? I told her I didn't, but I hoped she'd be able to tell me. She said the answers were in the Bible and *Science and Health*.

So we looked up where the Bible tells us that God is Love and that God is Spirit (see I John 4:16 and John 4:24.) We also looked in Genesis. Its first chapter says that God created us good, just like Himself (see Gen. 1:26,27,31).

Then we looked up the question "What is God?" in *Science and Health* (see p. 465). I found that the answer gives **seven** important **synonyms**, or names, for God. These helped me understand better what the Bible teaches us about God.

For example,

God is **Spirit**, and He makes us spiritual, not material.

God is **Love**, and He causes us to be kind toward others.

God is **Truth**, and He enables us to be honest.

God is **Life**, and so we are full of energy.

God is **Soul**, and He keeps us healthy and happy.

God is **Mind** and **Principle**. He helps us understand that His laws guide and guard us.

I was so pleased to learn all this about God that I asked Nana if I could keep going to the Sunday School. When we got back home, she asked my mum, who said yes. Shortly after, my mother, brother, and little sister came with us. We all started to read the Bible and *Science and Health* each day. Soon Mum was healed of a bad neck. My brother and sister had healings, too.

I've had lots of healings as well. These healings prove to me that God is good and real. God is ever-present Love, not a person in the sky. He made each of us to be like Him. I know that He never makes us sad or sick. He keeps us safe and well. I'm glad I found out what God is. I'm still learning more and more about Him.

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