13 Week
Sunday School Curriculum

The Character of God

Quarter 1

Elementary • Grades K-5

English Standard Version

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KNOW THE WORD

Recommended Resources

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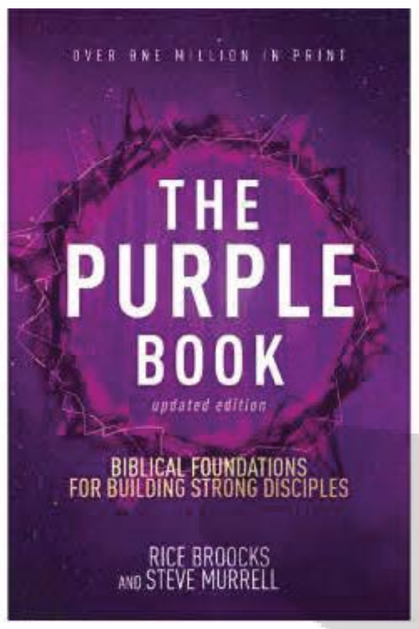

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Lesson 1

The What and Why of Character

Psalm 34:8

Memory Verse

"Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good! Blessed is the man who takes refuge in Him!" – Psalm 34:8

Whether we are talking about stories or real people, character plays a big role. Character is defined as the person you are according to the values you hold and the person you are when no one is looking. You can have the character traits of being kind or mean, responsible or irresponsible, respectful or disrespectful. God created all things, so He also created your character. But what about God's character? What are God's attributes, or His character traits, and why do we need to know them?

Psalm 34:8 gives us a simple reason for learning about God and His character. This verse gives us the command to look at who He is to understand His goodness so that we can trust Him in all situations. When we know His good character, we can love Him and put our hope in Him. In return, we can then reflect His goodness and character in our own character. To do this well, we must know and understand the many attributes of God.

Just as you know and trust your family members well, we are going to explore knowing God to be able to trust Him well.

Important Note

Your character is defined by your values and actions.



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Lesson 1 Questions

Fill in the blanks below.

1. Name one family member you trust. _____

2. What do you know about this family member that makes you trust him/her?

_____

3. What are some character traits that you would like to imitate in your own life that you have seen in this family member? _____

_____

4. Read **Proverbs 30:5** and write it down: _____

_____

_____

5. Proverbs 30:5 says that every word of God is true. What word is used to describe God to those who take refuge in Him? _____

6. In this list of character traits, circle the ones that you would want to work towards improving in your own life. Choose one or two to work on over the next month.

adventurous	courageous	gentle	loyal	rational
affectionate	courteous	generous	mature	reliable
ambitious	curious	good	nice	responsible
bold	dependable	graceful	nurturing	sensible
brave	determined	grateful	obedient	serious
calm	eager	happy	outgoing	thankful
cheerful	easygoing	helpful	peaceful	thoughtful
clever	faithful	joyful	pleasant	trustworthy
confident	fair	kind	polite	understanding
cooperative	friendly	loving	quiet	warm

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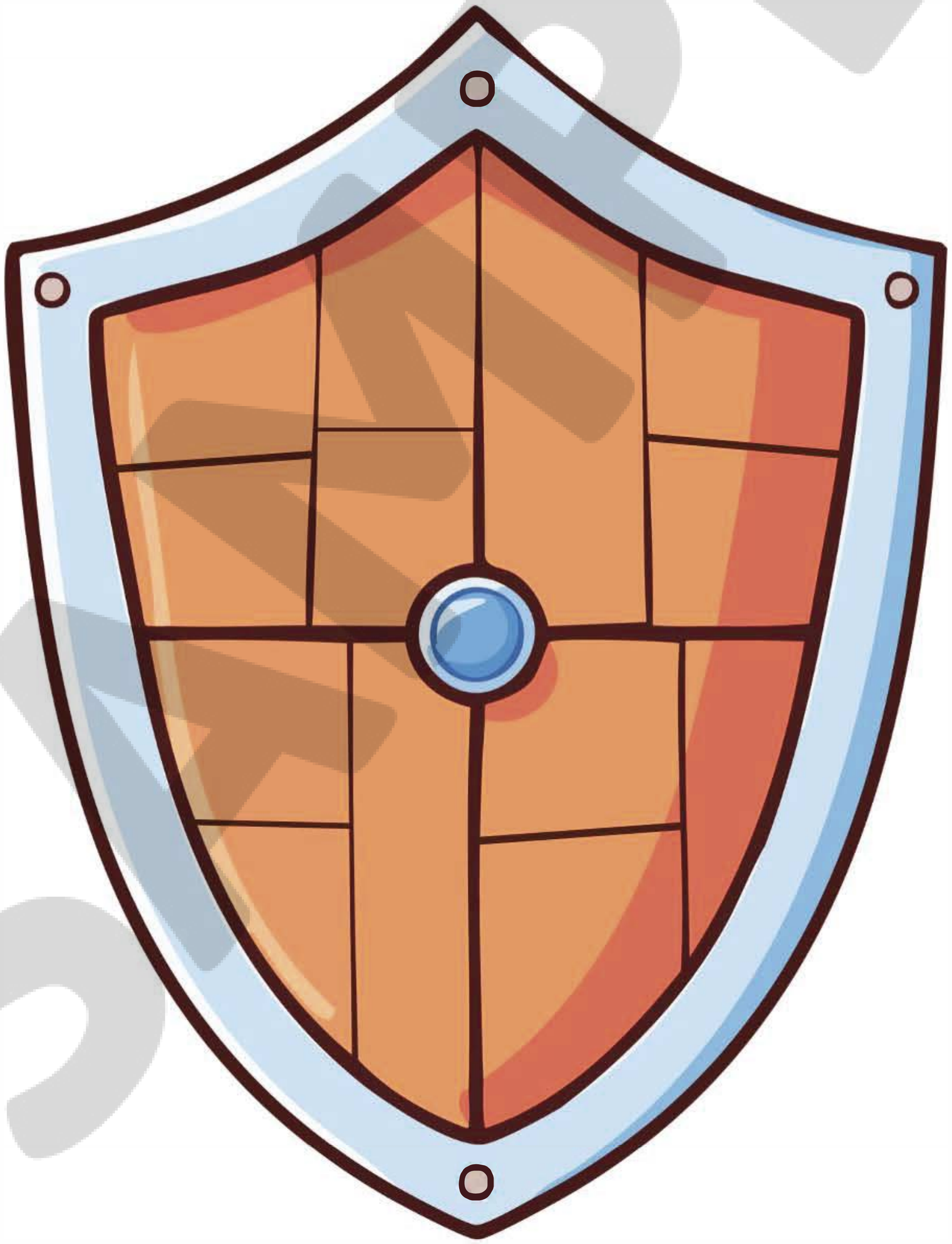
7. Read **Ephesians 6:16** and write it here: _____

_____

_____

Again, we read about a "shield." The shield protects us because we know the words and character of God, which creates in us the faith to fight off the darts of the evil one. As we learn about God's character, we will be filling in the shield provided to write down the attributes we learn about God that creates the shield of faith and protection.



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13 Week
Sunday School Curriculum

The Character of God

Quarter 1

Junior High • Grades 6-8

English Standard Version



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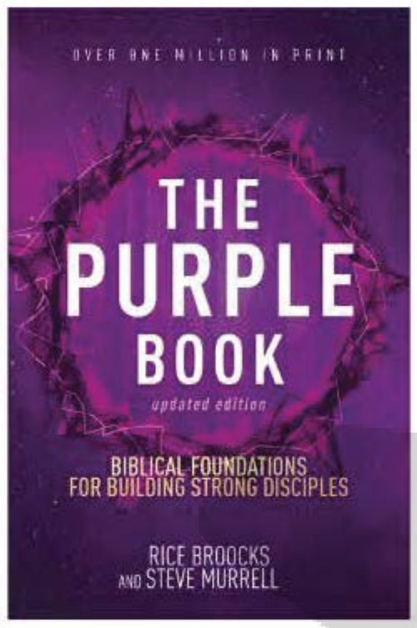

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Lesson 1

The What and Why of Character

Psalm 34:8

Memory Verse

"Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good! Blessed is the man who takes refuge in Him!" - Psalm 34:8

Everyone you know has character. You most likely are drawn to people who have certain character traits. Maybe you enjoy being around someone who is funny and makes you laugh. Or maybe you notice people who are a little quieter and more thoughtful. Whatever character traits a person possesses, as you get to know someone, you learn more about his or her character, good or bad.

In **Psalm 34:8**, King David tells us that the Lord is good. But how can we know that He is good? Just like with the people we meet and get to know, we need to learn about God's character to understand that He is good. Once we know more about Him, our love and trust in Him can grow.

1 Corinthians 15:49 says, "Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we shall also bear the image of the man of heaven." Bearing God's image means we take on the character of God. To do that, we need to study the traits of God. We will be working through some attributes of God in these lessons so we can draw closer to who God truly is and grow in love and trust in Him.

Important Note

Learning more about God is how we grow in our love for Him and our trust in Him.



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Lesson 1 Questions

Fill in the blanks below.

1. Think of a friend or family member you know well. What character traits does this person possess that appeal to you? _____

2. How do the qualities this person has cause you to trust and love him or her? _____

3. Have you ever met someone you thought had good qualities and then found out later their character did not match your first impression? Explain what happened. _____

4. How did that make you feel? _____

5. Read and write down the following verses:

Malachi 3:6 _____

Hebrews 13:8 _____

6. How does knowing that God and His character never changes help you to trust Him?

7. Read and write down the following verses:

Genesis 1:27 _____

Genesis 9:6 _____

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8. These verses say that we are made in the image of God. If you are made to reflect His character, how should that change the way you talk, treat people at home or at school or view yourself? ___

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13 Week
Sunday School Curriculum

The Character of God

Quarter 1

High School · Grades 9-12

English Standard Version

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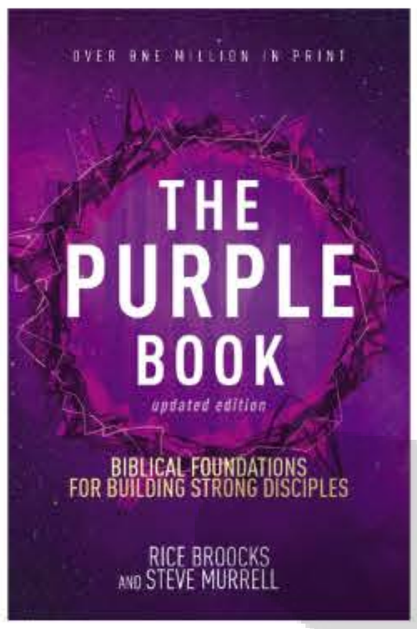

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Lesson 1

The What and Why of Character

Psalm 34:8

Memory Verse

"Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good! Blessed is the man who takes refuge in Him!" - Psalm 34:8

In a world inundated with information, you can find the answer to just about any question in a matter of seconds. Amidst all that information, different opinions and slants start to arise on just about every topic. It becomes hard to decipher what is the real truth. "My truth" has become a popular catch phrase. But in the life of a believer, the only truth that should matter is God's truth.

If God's truth is most important, we must trust His Word and what He tells us. Knowing God and his character is what draws us closer to trusting Him and His word. Without knowing His character, we can easily question what He has told us in the Bible and be led astray by the truth others in society proclaim.

Our goals in studying and observing through God's Word the attributes of God are to, first, define our personal identity through Jesus, not through our peers, social media or even our performance. We are created in God's image, as 1 Corinthians 15:49 says, "Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we shall also bear the image of the man of heaven." Our identity can be found in the One we are created to mirror.

Second, knowing God's character shows us how to be moral, how to make good decisions and how to respond in a Christ-like manner. We learn that the "rules" in the Bible are not just random but have a purpose to instruct us in a Christian life of relationship with God and others.

Finally, building trust in God grows as we learn about who He is, which in turn, helps us to deflect misconceptions as they arise in our lives. Much like the wealth of information can lead us astray, not knowing His character can cause us to doubt when confronted with differing opinions and thoughts. Colossians 2:8 warns, "See to it that no one takes captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy, which depends on human tradition and the elemental spiritual forces of this world rather than on Christ." Being grounded in the character of God provides the confidence to know what the truth of the world says versus what the truth of God tells us.

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Lesson 1 Questions

Fill in the blanks below.

1. Look up and read the following verses. Then write a response to this question: What does each reference tell us about knowing and undersanding God?

Psalm 9:10 _____

_____

Jeremiah 9:23-24 _____

_____

2 Peter 1:2 _____

_____

1 John 4:1-6 _____

_____

1 John 4:7-8 _____

_____

2. Do we learn about God to avoid getting in trouble, or to know who He is? How does your primary motivation change your relationship with Him? _____

_____

_____

3. What do you believe are the "false narratives" of God currently promoted in media, music, and culture today? How do these misconceptions negatively affect how people treat one another? _____

_____

_____

4. If you do not understand the character of God, how do you think that affects the way you are able to love God and others? _____

_____

_____

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5. Read these verses and answer write a response to this question for each reference: What attribute of God does this reference speak of that will help you deal with problems in your life, in your church and/or in your social circles?

Psalm 46:1 _____

_____

John 16:33 _____

_____

Romans 8:38–39 _____

_____

James 1:17 _____

_____

As we go through this study on God's character, we pray that your understanding of God's character expands and becomes grounded in your walk with Christ. The next question will be asked again of you at the end of the study to see if and how your answer changes from beginning to end. Answer truthfully what you know and understand right now before going through this study.

6. If you had exactly one minute on an elevator to explain who God is and what He is like, how would you describe Him? _____

_____

_____

_____

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