**#2. GOD'S PERSONALITY**

Exodus 20:4-6 (pg. 54); Psalm 139 (pg. 444)

1. **Omnipresent:** Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence? If I go up to the heavens, you are there; if I make my bed in the depths, you are there. *– Psalm 139:7-8*
2. **Omniscient:** For the word of God is living and powerful. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart. Nothing in all creation is hidden from God’s sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account. - *Hebrews 4:12-13*
3. **Timeless:** But do not forget this one thing, dear friends: With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day.The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance. - *2 Peter 3:8-9*
4. **Provider:** Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? Can any one of you by worrying add a single hour to your life? – *Matthew 6:26-27*
5. **Promise Keeper:** God is not human, that he should lie, not a human being, that he should change his mind. Does he speak and then not act? Does he promise and not fulfill? – *Numbers 23:19*
6. **Compassionate:** The Lord is compassionate and gracious; slow to anger, abounding in love. He will not always accuse, nor will he harbor his anger forever;he does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities. – *Psalm 103:8-10*

**UNDERSTANDING THE TRINITY**

**The Trinity concept** (that God is 3 persons but each person is God still—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit) is so imbedded in the New Testament that the early church saw it as a clear test for separating true Christianity from the imitators and cults. The “what” of the Trinity is clear but the “how” remains a mystery to be accepted by faith. But the Bible's definition of faith isn’t believing what is unreasonable but believing beyond our current knowledge base because God said it—which is ultimately reasonable.

**The word Trinity** doesn’t actually occur in the Bible because it is an English word that means “unity of three.” Some of the Biblical passages that contain the three persons of the Trinity in the same context are: John 1:1-14 (Jesus as the Word of God), Luke 3:21-22 (the descending dove), Matthew 28:19 (the baptism formula), Ephesians 1:3-14 (the division of labor for our salvation), Romans 8:1-9 (the daily-life power of all 3 persons). If we want to get to know God and show respect, we’ll be interested in how he self-identifies and explains his own nature.

**The roles** (assigned responsibilities) of the 3 persons of the Trinity are given in the Bible—God’s favorite self-revelation method:

1. The Father is revealed to us as the over-all authority of both the Trinity and the Universe. He’s also the final judge of the world. He planned the salvation method that Jesus came to reveal.
2. The Son, Jesus is the Logos (Word), the one who expresses and acts out God's word and will. As God he created the world but as man he brought God down to our level.
3. The Holy Spirit applies God's will and relationship in our hearts and minds. He is the one sent by the Father and the Son to change us from the inside out and to be the presence of God in us.

* In prayer we are taught to go to the Father in the name of Jesus by means of the Holy Spirit.
* The church is all those adopted by the Father, redeemed by the Son, and regenerated by the Holy Spirit.
* Baptism, as taught by Jesus, is to be in the name of The Father, The Son, and The Holy Spirit.
* We are taught and led in daily life by the will of the Father, by the Lordship of Jesus, and by the communication of those things from the Holy Spirit.