Seventh-day Adventist FUN-da-MENTALS 3

GOD the Father

God the Father is one of the three Beings in the Godhead (see FUN-da-MENTAL #2).

FATHER OF EVERYONE

God the Father is in charge of the universe. He is the only true God.

- "For us there is but one God, the Father, from whom all things came and for whom we live" (1 Corinthians 8:6).
 - "There is . . . one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all" (Ephesians 4:4, 6).
 - "[Jesus said,] My Father . . . is greater than all" (John 10:29).

WHAT GOD THE FATHER IS LIKE

Do you look like your dad? We all look like our heavenly Dad. At Creation, God said, "'Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness' " (Genesis 1:26). When we look at each other, we see a little bit of what God the Father is like.

We don't have a photo or painting of God the Father. No sinful human being has ever seen His face. If we were to look at Him as we are now, with our sinful nature, we would die. "'You have never heard his voice nor seen his form'" (John 5:37).

Is anyone perfect? The Son of God said, "Your heavenly Father is perfect" (Matthew 5:48).

Our Father in heaven is a loving Parent, "the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort" (2 Corinthians 1:3). He cares about you even more than your parents do! "I will be a Father to you, and you will be my sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty" (2 Corinthians 6:18).

Even the Holy Spirit calls Him Dad. "God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, 'Abba, Father' " (Galatians 4:6).

y Father is perfect"

GOD THE FATHER HAS A SON

"God [is] the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ" (Colossians 1:3).

The Father introduced His Son this way: "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased" (Matthew 3:17).

He loves His Son with perfect love. " 'The Father loves the Son and shows him all he does' " (John 5:20).

The Father gave up His Son to fix the sin problem in this world. "God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life" (John 3:16).

How much does the Father love you? " 'My Father's will is that everyone who looks to the Son and believes in him shall have eternal life' " (John 6:40).

What we know of God the Father comes from us knowing the **Son**, who said, " 'If you really know me, you will know my Father as well' " (John 14:7).

God the Father was the One who brought the Son back to life after He died on the cross. "Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father" (Romans 6:4).

The Father sent the Holy Spirit to be with all of us after the Son left this world and returned to heaven. "The Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things" (John 14:26)

SHOULD WE FEAR GOD?

The Bible says, "Fear the LORD your God" (Deuteronomy 6:13) many, many times. What does that mean? The fear of the LORD God is respect for Him and recognition that He is in charge of us and that He is perfect and right. "Fear the LORD" does not mean we should have panicky terror and sweaty palms.

No one should be afraid of God unless they are rebelling against Him. "Your Father is merciful" (Luke 6:36).

WE PRAY TO THE FATHER

He hears our prayers and answers them. His Son told us to "pray to your Father, who is unseen" (Matthew 6:6). We pray, "Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name" (Matthew 6:9).

He forgives the sin of people who repent and confess. "Your Father in heaven forgive[s] you your sins" (Mark 11:25).

OUR ETERNAL REWARDS COME FROM THE FATHER

We do not have to die forever. "'The Father raises the dead and gives them life' " (John 5:21).

The Father loves to reward
the people who believe in
Him and His Son. "Come,
you who are blessed
by my Father; take
your inheritance, the
kingdom prepared for
you since the creation
of the world" (Matthew
25:4). "Your Father has
been pleased to give you the
kingdom" (Luke 12:32).

GOD THE FATHER deserves to be worshiped

As the one true God, the Father can and must be worshiped by His created beings. " 'The true worshipers will worship the Father in the Spirit and in truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks' " (John 4:23).

WHAT GOD THE FATHER DOES

God the Father creates all things and puts life into them. "'The Father has life in himself' (John 5:26). He shared the work of this world's creation with Jesus, the Son of God.

Everything and everyone alive came from God the Father.

- "Do we not all have one Father? Did not one God create us?" (Malachi 2:10).
- "You, LORD, are our Father. We are the clay, you are the potter; we are all the work of your hand" (Isaiah 64:48).

God the Father is working for our good ALL the time. The Son of God said, "My Father is always at his work to this very day" (John 5:17).

What is the Father's work, anyway? He keeps the universe going. "Look at the birds of the air . . . your heavenly Father feeds them" (Matthew 6:26). God provides for every person's needs. "Your Father knows what you need before you ask him"

God the Father sees everything that is happening. Nothing escapes His attention. "Your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you" (Matthew 6:6). "Abba, Father," [the Son] said, "everything is possible for you" (Mark 14:36).

(Matthew 6:8).

is 14:36).

Is He Your Father?

Since you know Jesus, then yes! Jesus said, "No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him" (Matthew 11:27).

We keep on learning about our Father in heaven. "The glorious Father [gives] you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better" (Ephesians 1:17).

Where Is The Father?

Jesus called the temple in Jerusalem "my Father's house," but the Father lives in heaven: "You have one Father, and he is in heaven" (Matthew 23:9). Our "Father's house has many rooms" (John 14:2).



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