

# Connection Equipping Academy

## Biblical Foundation // God's Character, Nature, and Attributes

### Topic // *God is Personal*

---

#### OVERVIEW

Mission Statement

***Our goal is to help equip the saints to do God's work in the World.***

We will progress in the growth area of knowing God as we discuss another attribute of God. We are learning how each of God's attributes reveals the truth about our misconceptions, and how we grow in the grace of the Gospel when we are renewing our minds ***daily*** in light of Who He is and what He has done!

As we are being equipped by these truths, we are going to spend several weeks talking through *four growth areas*. We'll be looking biblical foundations for each of these:

#### ***Four Growth Areas***

- Knowing God
- Identity in Christ
- The Body of Christ
- God's Kingdom

In order to equip, we will practice each week looking at the Biblical passages on each topic. We will consider some of the common misconceptions and then ask four *application questions*:

- What does this tell us about God?
- What does this tell us about ourselves?
- What has God done?
- Who have we become?

#### INTRODUCTION

In Episode 4, we will see how God's nature is personal. He is personal within the Trinity, and He is personal to us in the way that He created and designed us to relate to Him. Fortifying ourselves with theological knowledge is not our chief goal. We pray that the means of doctrine and encouragement will lead to the ultimate ends - that we know God Himself intimately and enjoy Him throughout our whole lives.

## GOD IS PERSONAL

### Misconception - God is distant and impersonal.

1. From where do we get this misconception?
  - a. Our interpretation of \_\_\_\_\_.
    - We can't interpret a perfect God from our imperfect humanity or in our imperfect world. We need The *Word* of God and the *Spirit* of God to know the *Person* of God.
2. What strongholds can be built from this one misconception?
3. What gospel truth tells us otherwise?
  - a. **John 14** - the Helper comes to us and is personal in what He does in and through us.
  - b. **Matt. 6:25** - We see God's continuous involvement with all of Creation.
  - c. **John 16:7** - It is better that He is in us, not just with us.
  - Jesus is the express image of God and He related personally with people.
4. How does Scripture show you how to renew your mind and help you tear down those strongholds?
5. What would change in your life if this stronghold were completely uprooted in your thinking?
  - The Trinity points to His relational, personal Being. He is not lonely without people or dependent on people. He created us for His glory—not to accomplish great things *for* Him, but to be **in relationship with Him**.

### Misconception - All roads lead to the same God.

1. From where do we get this misconception?

2. What strongholds can be built from this one misconception?
  3. What gospel truth tells us otherwise?
  4. How does Scripture show you how to renew your mind and help you tear down those strongholds?
  5. What would change in your life if this stronghold were completely uprooted in your thinking?
- Christianity is the only faith where God comes to us, does the work to restore us, and calls Himself Father.

**Misconception - God will let me into heaven because I'm a good person.**

- He is a covenant-making God. You don't make a covenant of deep, life-altering promises with someone to whom you aren't close.
  - The obvious implication: if you don't know God personally—the same type of personal that you know a friend or loved one—then you also aren't abiding in God's covenant relationship offered through Christ.

## PERSONAL APPLICATION

### Application Question 1

What do we learn of God through His personal nature?

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

We see Him clearly because Jesus is the express image of God and He relates personally with people.

### Application Question 2

What do we learn of ourselves by knowing Him personally?

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

In Jesus, we see who we were intended to be and that we were created for relationship.  
**1 John 3:1** - We are pursued and loved.

### Application Question 3

What has God done through His nature and action as a personal God?

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

**1 John 4:8-10** - God's love just *is*, and it gives and shows us our value.

**Colossians 2:9** - He came to us in Christ, the fullness of His deity.

Jesus being fully God and fully man demonstrates that He can relate to us in our humanity.

### Application Question 4

Because of His personal love and faithfulness to me, who have I become?

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

I can trust Him. I can surrender what I see or believe about myself and I don't have to be a prisoner of my personality.

**Apply** this personally: instead of being insecure, how did Jesus model security?  
 Instead of pride and sensitive ego, how did Jesus model humility?  
 In what other ways can Jesus' example show you how to walk in love?

In what ways has this episode helped you see relationships differently?

How is God revealing your misunderstanding of how you are meant to relate to Him, yourself, and others?

Take the time to approach God personally and ask to receive His grace and for Him to heal you and restore you to Himself and to healthy relationships in all areas of your life.

## Recommendations

If you want more resources that stir your heart for Jesus on this topic as well as readings to continue to dig deeper, check out the two lists below!

### Songs

- [\*Run to the Father\*](#) — Cody Carnes
- [\*Dwell\*](#) — Connection Music
- [\*Jesus is Mine\*](#) — Jordan Kauflin

### Books

- *Prodigal God* — Tim Keller
- *The Gospel of Mark*