

GOD IS OUR FATHER

1. *God is our Creator.* He made the world and everything in it. He is Lord of heaven and earth, and made the sky, sea, mountains, sun, moon, stars, trees, flowers, fish birds, animals and finally he created man and woman.
2. God not only created everything we see, but also the spiritual beings, which we do not see. He created the angels who are God's helpers. These angels are under God's control and do what God says (**Hebrews 1:14**). However, some angels rebelled and disobeyed God, so they were thrown out of heaven. The leader of this group is called Satan or the devil; he is the leader of evil spirits. Satan fights against God and his purposes. Satan also tries to deceive us, tempt us, and tries to make us do sinful things in our life (**Ephesians 6:12**).
3. *God is our Protector.* The power of God is much, much greater than all the evil powers. Christians are in God's hand. We can pray and ask for God's protection against all the evil forces. **John 10:29** says, "No one can snatch them away from my Father's care." **1 John 4:4** says, "But you belong to God ...The Spirit who is in you is more powerful than the spirit in those who belong to the world." We do not need to be afraid of sorcery, witchcraft and evil spirits. God is all-powerful and he protects us when we look to him, trust him, stay close to him and ask him for his protection.
4. God is our Father and wants us to stay close to him, pray to him and obey his words. God looks after us, strengthens us, and gives us guidance in life. He does not want harm come to us. God wants to protect us (**Psalms 121**). God also promises in **Isaiah 41:10** that his powerful right hand will always take care of us.
5. *God is our Provider.* In **Luke 12:22-31**, Jesus tells us that God cares about us and provides for our needs. He said to his disciples that they must not worry about food and clothes, God our Father feeds the birds of the air and makes flowers beautiful. If God does that for birds and flowers, he will do much more for us, because we are even more important. God wants us to put him first in our lives and he will give us all that we need.
6. God is our Father and he always wants to help us and provide for us. In **Matthew 7:9-11**, Jesus tells the story of how earthly fathers want to do the best they can for their children and provide for them. Jesus says that our heavenly Father is even more concerned about our needs. We can come to God in prayer and talk to him at any time, day or night, at home, in church, or walking along the road, or while we are working. God is right there and ready to listen to his children when they speak to him.
7. God created us, protects us, provides for us. He *wants us to worship him*, love him and obey his commands. He wants to have first place in our lives and the life of our family. Our desire should be to learn more about God and teach our children what the Bible says. This strengthens our Christian lives. "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength. Never forget these commands that I am giving you today. Teach them to your children" **Deuteronomy 6:5-7**.
8. God is our Father, our desire is to worship and praise him. A long time ago, God gave a command to his people, telling them that they should work for 6 days in the week but on day 7 they should rest. Sunday is a special day to worship God, have fellowship with other believers, and listen to the pastor preach God's Word. If Christians do not get together to worship, pray, study God's Word, and encourage each other, they often become weak in their Christian lives and go back to sinful ways. **Hebrews 10:25** says, "Let us not give up the habit of meeting together ...instead let us encourage one another all the more. . ."
9. **Psalm 150.** When God forgives our sins and we become his followers, we are filled with joy and thankfulness. Our hearts want to praise God our heavenly Father. We thank God for his blessings in our lives, for food, clothes, family, friends, and for giving us strength and encouragement in difficult times. God is our creator, our protector, and our provider. God is all-powerful and there is no one, or anything greater than God, our Father. We praise God and worship him.

