



WHO IS GOD?

52 PICTURES TO SHARE WITH YOUR FAMILY



BY KATE HOX • ILLUSTRATED BY JOE HOX

WHO IS GOD?

52 PICTURES TO SHARE
WITH YOUR FAMILY

BY KATE HOX • ILLUSTRATED BY JOE HOX

New Growth Press, Greensboro, NC 27401
newgrowthpress.com
Text Copyright © 2026 by Katherine Hoksbergen
Illustration Copyright © 2026 by Joseph Hoksbergen

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopy, recording, or otherwise, without the prior permission of the publisher, except as provided by USA copyright law.

All Scripture quotations, unless otherwise indicated, are taken from the Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV®. Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.™ Used by permission of Zondervan. All rights reserved worldwide. www.zondervan.com The “NIV” and “New International Version” are trademarks registered in the United States Patent and Trademark Office by Biblica, Inc.™

Scripture quotations marked ESV are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. ESV Text Edition: 2016.

Cover/Interior Design: Dan Stelzer

ISBN: 978-1-64507-574-5

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data on File

Printed in Colombia

30 29 28 27 26 1 2 3 4 5

FOR LEAH, JENNA, MICAH, AND ELIJAH

I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.

EPHESIANS 3:16-19

CONTENTS

Introduction	vi
1 God Is the Mighty Creator	1
2 God of Order	5
3 God of Gardens	9
4 God of Rainbows	13
5 God Is Jealous for His Own Glory	17
6 God Is Beyond Comprehension	21
7 God Almighty	25
8 God Sees Us	29
9 God Is Self-Existent, Unchanging Reality	33
10 God Is Our Banner	37
11 God of Law and Love	41
12 God of Covenant	45
13 God of Compassion, Grace, Love, and Faithfulness	49
14 God Desires to Dwell with His People	53
15 God Forgives and Carries Away Our Sins	57
16 God Disciplines Those He Loves	61
17 God Is Amazing	65
18 God Is a Mighty Warrior	69
19 God Is Peace	73
20 God Works Through His People	77
21 God Is Not a Magical Charm	81
22 God Crushes the Serpent	85
23 God Is Our Rock	89
24 God of Justice and Mercy	93
25 God Is Wise	97

26	God Cannot Be Contained.....	101
27	God Is the Only True God.....	105
28	God of Hosts.....	109
29	God Is Holy.....	113
30	God Is Like a Faithful Husband.....	117
31	God Delights in Kindness, Justice, and Righteousness.....	121
32	God Is a Potter.....	125
33	God Is in Control.....	129
34	God Reveals Mysteries.....	133
35	God Rescues Like No One Else.....	137
36	God Most High.....	141
37	God Will Not Be Mocked.....	145
38	God Is the Ancient of Days.....	149
39	God Makes Dry Bones Come Alive.....	153
40	God Is Beyond Time.....	157
41	God Sent His Son.....	161
42	God Alone Forgives Sin.....	165
43	God Is Our Abba Father.....	169
44	God Reverses the Curse.....	173
45	God Redeems and Restores.....	177
46	God Tore the Veil.....	181
47	God Raised Jesus from the Dead.....	185
48	God Transforms.....	189
49	God Welcomes.....	193
50	God Does Not Need Us, But We Need Him.....	197
51	God of Hope.....	201
52	God Is King and Builder.....	205
	Afterword.....	208
	“Reflect” Answers and Song Suggestions.....	210
	Endnotes.....	221
	Acknowledgments.....	222

INTRODUCTION

When you meet someone new, how do you get to know them? You might first ask their name and then perhaps what they're interested in. What are their likes and dislikes? What do they do for fun? As you spend more time together, you gradually discover more about them. You witness their character as you observe them in different situations and with different people. You learn what makes them smile, what bothers them, and what gets them excited. You might even discover a nickname or two.

It's similar with God. As we spend time with God in his Word, we get to know him better. We learn his names—and he has a lot of them! We discover his attributes and the different ways he reveals himself through stories and pictures in Scripture. We read what he says about himself and see that it's all true! God never lies, and his actions always reflect his character.

God, the mighty Creator of the universe, has an invitation for you. He wants you to know him. Yes, you! So let's dig into his Word, looking for stories, pictures, names, and attributes that will help us get to know him better.

Each of the following devotionals includes a key verse, Bible passages, and reflection questions. Choose whatever features are best for the various ages and attention spans in your family. Possible answers to most questions are included at the back of the book.

If your family enjoys singing, take note of the corresponding song suggestions in the back of the book. Consider adding new songs that your family enjoys. Free printable cards and song links can be found at <https://www.katehox.com/resources>.

Are you ready? Let's spend some time getting to know God through his Word.



GOD IS THE MIGHTY CREATOR

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

GENESIS 1:1



As we embark on a journey of knowing God, it makes sense to begin with the first book of the Bible and God's first act of creating. Genesis 1:1 says, "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth." The Hebrew word for God in this verse is *Elohim*, which means "mighty Creator," and the next verses share how our mighty Creator formed our world. Listen to what it says: "Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters" (1:2).

God the Father, God the Son, and God the Spirit were there, existing together as one God in three persons before time began, but there was nothing else.

Then God spoke into the void. "Let there be light!" he said, and suddenly there was light! And for six days, God continued creating the world simply by speaking! Has anyone else, in all of history, been able accomplish such a thing?

The answer should be obvious—no! God is not like us. He is different; he is "other." Only God can create something from nothing. Indeed, he created the whole world from nothing!

Can you create even *one thing* from nothing? Of course not! If you want to draw a picture, for example, you need materials. You can't create a picture without resources like a pencil and paper. Or suppose you want to bake a cake. You'll need ingredients like flour, sugar, eggs, butter, milk, and salt. You'll also need a pan, bowl, measuring spoons, etc. And don't forget an oven!

The point is simple: You cannot create something out of nothing, but thankfully God can, and he did! And not just one thing, but lots of things! Beautiful, intricate, and amazing things! Majestic mountains and deep caves, peaceful streams and mighty oceans, noisy rainforests and quiet deserts, tall oaks and delicate daisies, curious monkeys and shy sloths. And even with all this variety, there are things yet to be discovered! Scientists continue to find plants and creatures that astound them, pointing to our mighty Creator—the One who imagines, designs, and creates things that absolutely no one else could.

This idea that God is different from us is important to remember as we study the Bible. Only God is God. Nothing and no one compares to him—ever! No one is like him in all the universe. As the crown of his creation, we can reflect him, but we are not the same as him. We can create, but not out of nothing like he can. We can be merciful, wise, and truthful as God is, but not to the same degree. We can and should love others, but we cannot love as perfectly as God can.

We can never out-love God because God *is* love! God is just different from us.

In fact, God is so vastly different from us that we simply don't have many of his attributes. God is omniscient, omnipotent, and omnipresent, which means he is all-knowing, all-powerful, and everywhere present. We are not, and we never will be. God is self-existent, self-sufficient, infinite, and eternal. Did you exist before the world began? Nope! But God did. God is “other,” and he is worthy of our worship.

So when you think about God, remember that he is your mighty Creator. He can do things no one else can because he is God. He is like no one else, and nothing and no one compares to him. You can say with the prophet Jeremiah, “Ah, Sovereign LORD, you have made the heavens and the earth by your great power and outstretched arm. Nothing is too hard for you” (32:17).

Praise be to God, Elohim, our mighty Creator.



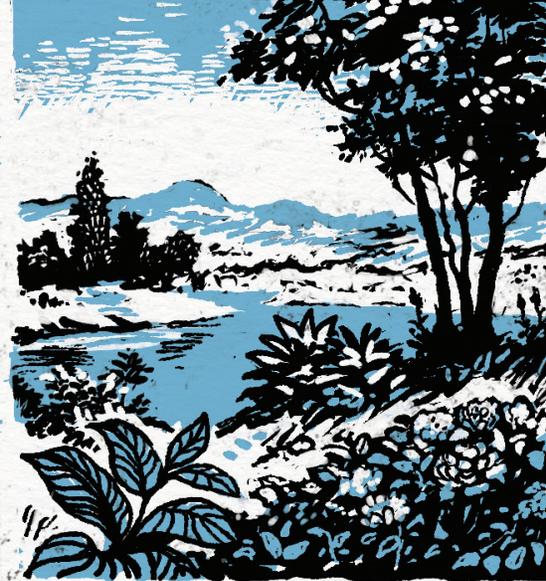
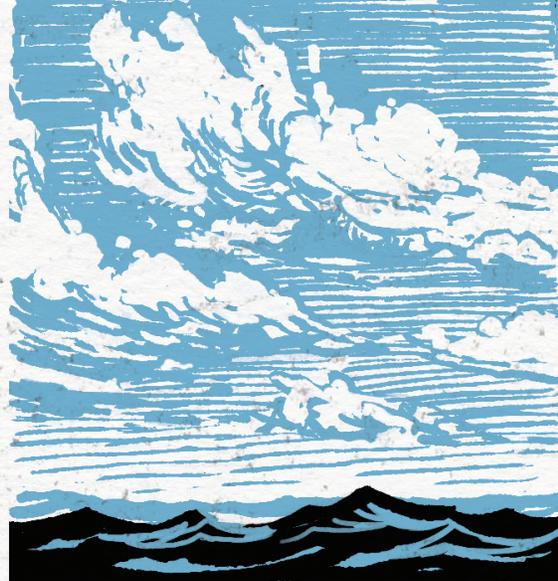
REFLECT

1. Choose an object and name all the “ingredients” that are required to make it. Can you think of anything that’s made from nothing?
2. Who is like God? See 1 Samuel 2:2; 1 Chronicles 17:20; Isaiah 46:9–10; Jeremiah 10:6.

3. Name some of the attributes of God that we reflect. What are some attributes that we don’t reflect? Pay close attention to these throughout the book. It might be fun to start a list or chart to add to along the way.
4. We can’t create something out of nothing, but we can create and be creative. Being creative is one way we reflect God. How can you reflect God’s creativity today?

BIBLE REFERENCE GENESIS 1:1–31

KEY VERSE GENESIS 1:1



GOD OF ORDER

Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters.

GENESIS 1:2



Close your eyes as we reread Genesis 1:2 and try to picture it: “Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters.”

What do you see? It’s hard to picture emptiness! Maybe a better question is, what do you feel? You might experience a swirly feeling in your belly—a mixture of instability, excitement, and anticipation.

But this formless, empty earth, and these dark, chaotic, boundless waters, were not a problem for God. They were not evil or sinful. Rather, we can think

of this formlessness as potential. God’s Spirit hovered over the waters, and something exciting was about to happen.

Then God spoke and began creating, bringing order out of chaos. He did so by first dividing, and then filling.

On day one, God created light and separated light from darkness. On day two, he separated the waters, creating the sky. And on day three, he created dry land, separating it from the seas.

Then God began to fill these spaces he had divided. On day four, he filled the heavens with the sun, moon,

and stars. On day five, he filled the waters with fish and the sky with birds. Then finally on day six, he filled the land with animals, as well as the best part of his creation—people!

Just as God is an orderly creator, so is his creation. Plants and animals were created according to their kinds, so that an apple seed always grows an apple tree, and a dog always has puppies, not kitties. God created people male and female, giving order to families and assigning them the role of caring for his good creation. We also see order in how our world is held together. We have just the right amount of oxygen we need to breathe and gravity so that we don't float away. We don't get too hot or too cold because God set the earth right where it needs to be in the solar system. The design and order of our world is astounding.

But sadly, the chaos of sin entered the world when Adam and Eve disobeyed by eating the fruit of the forbidden tree. And it caused all sorts of problems and distortions. Thorns, pain, and new difficulties probably made it feel like God's order was holding on by a thread. Was an orderly God still in control? Yes.

Throughout the Bible, God continued to remind his people of his control. In the flood, we see echoes of chaos in the deep, destructive waters. But then God sent a wind—and the word *wind* here is the same word translated “Spirit” in Genesis 1. Something exciting was about to happen! The waters subsided, dry ground appeared, and animals moved about. God once again divided and filled, restoring his glorious creation.

Then during the Exodus, God's people felt the chaos again when they found themselves trapped between the army of Egyptians and the waters of the Red Sea. They had just witnessed an undoing of creation with water turning to blood, animals dying, and the sun disappearing. Then God stepped in, separating the waters with wind and creating a path to safety. It was a new start, a kind of new creation, as they set out to subdue the land and fill it.

But these events are mere glimpses of the order and perfection we will one day experience if we believe in God. God sent his Son Jesus, a light shining in the darkness, to make us into a new creation. His sacrifice on the cross brings true order out of chaos. God gave the apostle John a vision of this perfect order, which he describes in the book of Revelation: “Then I saw ‘a new heaven and a new earth,’ for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea” (21:1).

Did you catch that? *No more sea*. Does this mean you won't be able to swim, fish, or water-ski in heaven? No, I don't think that's what John is trying to tell us. Rather, he wants us to know with certainty that there will be no more chaos—no more death, crying, or pain. Instead, there will be perfection and order in God's renewed creation. It's going to be very, very good!



REFLECT

1. Where do you see order in God's creation? Consider what you learn in science class about food chains, ecosystems, seasons, moon cycles, etc.
2. Where do you see order in the creation account?
3. What Bible stories demonstrate how God brings order out of chaos?
4. As image-bearers of God, we are called to bring order out of chaos. What are some ways we can do this? See Genesis 1:28-30.
5. Genesis 1 shows us God's order in the universe, and Genesis 2 shows us God's order in relationships. See Genesis 2:20-24. How does following God's design for relationships bring order? How does straying from God's design bring chaos?

BIBLE REFERENCE GENESIS 1:1-31

KEY VERSE GENESIS 1:2



GOD OF GARDENS

Now the LORD God had planted a garden in the east, in Eden;
and there he put the man he had formed.

GENESIS 2:8



Adam and Eve's home was the garden of Eden. *Eden* means "paradise," and its land was rich, containing gold, resin, and onyx. Here God planted a garden for his people, and he made all kinds of beautiful plants grow, including trees with delicious fruit. Two stood in the middle of the garden—the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

But do you know what the best part of the garden was? It wasn't the tasty fruit, flowing river, gold and precious stones, or even all the cool animals. The best part of the garden was that God was there! The garden

was also a temple, or sanctuary, where Adam and Eve could fellowship with him.

God charged Adam as the caretaker and guardian of the garden. He and Eve were to work it, care for it, and eat its fruit. They were to rule over the garden, including all the animals. God also wanted Adam and Eve to be fruitful, filling the earth. We can imagine this garden would expand as their family grew, covering the whole earth.¹

But as you may know, this is not what happened. Adam and Eve were tempted by Satan, who was disguised as a serpent, and they ate fruit from the tree

God had commanded them not to eat from. Adam and Eve brought sin and death into God's beautiful garden. They failed as caretakers and guardians. Instead of squashing the snake right away, they believed his terrible lies.

So Adam and Eve had to leave the garden. No longer could they eat from the tree of life. God banished them; he kicked them out. Cherubim and a flaming sword now blocked the way to the place where they had previously enjoyed God's presence.

Would they ever be able to return home? Was God giving up on his plan to fill the earth with his people? Would they ever again enjoy his special sanctuary?

We can imagine their deep sorrow. But there was hope! God knew this would happen, and he already had a plan in place. He promised Adam and Eve that one day one of Eve's offspring would crush the head of the serpent. God would have victory over Satan and restore his people to the garden.

The rest of the Bible tells the story of how this happens. As we read, we catch glimpses of the garden of God. God promises his people "a land flowing with milk and honey," which reminds us of the abundance of Eden. Then he has them make a tabernacle and later a temple, which are both like a miniature Eden. There are three parts: the outer courtyard like the lands around Eden, the Holy Place like Eden, and the Most Holy Place like the garden where God dwells.² We see cherubim guarding the way to God's presence both on the curtain and the ark. Carvings of gourds,

lilies, palm trees, and pomegranates cover the walls, doors, and pillars, reminding us of Eden's abundance. Even the lampstand looks like a tree, reminding us of the tree of life, and everything dazzles with gold. God is promising his people that he will make a way for them to rejoin him in the garden. Just not yet.

Then one day, the offspring of Eve is born—Jesus—who will crush the serpent. And where does Jesus like to go to pray? A garden. It is there that he is betrayed and taken away to be crucified. He is placed in a tomb in—you guessed it—a garden! From the garden tomb he rises, conquering death and securing our salvation. Mary sees Jesus and mistakes him for the gardener. But the funny thing is, he *is* the Gardener! Jesus is God, and by dying on the cross and rising from the grave, he accomplished exactly what the world had been waiting for. He made a way to bring us back to the garden.

The picture John gives us in the book of Revelation of the new heavens and a new earth is the picture of a grand garden filling the earth. A river flows from God's throne, and on either side is a magnificent tree bearing fruit every month—the tree of life! The streets are paved in gold, and precious stones are everywhere. This is not just Eden, but it is a place even more wonderful! Here we will enjoy fellowship with God the Gardener forever.



REFLECT

1. What do you think of when you hear the word *garden*?
How is a garden orderly, like God?
2. Consider the garden of Eden, the temple, and John's description of the new heavens and the new earth. What do these three places have in common?
3. How will the new earth be even better than the garden of Eden?
4. What did Jesus say to the thief on the cross, and how does it relate to today's story? See Luke 23:43.

BIBLE REFERENCE GENESIS 2:4-17; 3:1-24

KEY VERSE GENESIS 2:8



GOD OF RAINBOWS

Like the appearance of a rainbow in the clouds on a rainy day, so was the radiance around him.

EZEKIEL 1:28

M

any people wonder what God looks like. The Bible gives us some clues, but we won't fully understand until we get to heaven. No one on this earth has seen God in all his fullness and glory. If they did, they would die! Moses asked to see God's glory, and even he was only able to see God's back. God said to him, "You cannot see my face, for no one may see me and live" (Exodus 33:20).

We know that God is spirit (John 4:24). This means he does not have a physical body like we do. Yes, the Bible does mention his eyes and ears, as

well as his "mighty hand and an outstretched arm" (Deuteronomy 4:34). But God is not limited to a body like we are. The Bible mentions his eyes and ears to help us remember that God sees and hears us, and it speaks of his arms and hands to remind us of his power. But that doesn't mean God looks like us.

We can see glimpses of God in several places in the Bible. Listen as the prophet Ezekiel describes a vision he had of God. "[I saw] what looked like a throne of lapis lazuli, and high above on the throne was a figure like that of a man. I saw that from what appeared to be his waist up he looked like glowing metal, as if full of

fire, and that from there down he looked like fire; and brilliant light surrounded him. Like the appearance of a rainbow in the clouds on a rainy day, so was the radiance around him. This was the appearance of the likeness of the glory of the LORD” (Ezekiel 1:26–28).

The apostle John had a similar vision. He said, “And the one who sat there had the appearance of jasper and ruby. A rainbow that shone like an emerald encircled the throne” (Revelation 4:3).

Did you catch that? God is surrounded by a full-circle rainbow! He is gloriously radiant—so stunning that Ezekiel fell facedown when he saw the Lord on his throne. We also know that God is light (1 John 1:5), so we can imagine the brightness of the rainbows surrounding him. God is more stunning, more captivating, and more mesmerizing than the most beautiful rainbow you’ve ever seen!

Rainbows are also a reminder of God’s promises. During the time of Noah, God sent a flood to judge the world for its wickedness. He chose to save only Noah and his family, along with the animals on the ark. When they finally arrived on land and exited the ark, God said, “I have set my bow in the cloud, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh. And the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting

covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth” (Genesis 9:13–16 ESV).

Notice that God says the rainbow is a reminder to *himself*. This doesn’t mean that God is going to forget to preserve his people. Rather it’s a pledge, or a promise, to us. The world will continue until Jesus returns. God has set down his bow, his weapon of war, hanging it in the clouds.³ He will not wipe out the entire world again with a flood, an earthquake, a tornado, or anything else. The rainbow symbolizes God’s promise of peace with his creation; it points to his great mercy. Each time we see a rainbow, we can remember that God has been faithful to keep his promise. People forget their promises and change their minds, but God will not.

God has surrounded himself and his throne with glorious, unfathomable rainbows, proclaiming a promise of peace and mercy. It’s a stunning picture of his great love, despite our sin and shortcomings. One day we’ll see what Ezekiel and John saw in their visions, and we too will be overwhelmed by God’s beauty and grace. Though we can’t yet picture him in all his glory, we can be assured that he’s a God who always keeps his promises.



REFLECT

1. What does God look like? Can we see him? Read 1 Timothy 6:15–16.
2. How is God different from us?
3. After the flood, the world experienced a recreation as plants grew and animals emerged from the ark. God renewed the world, and a beautiful rainbow shone above it. Where else in the Bible does a rainbow shine above a new creation? See Revelation 21:5.
4. Read Ezekiel’s vision in Ezekiel 1:1–28, which includes detailed descriptions of the angels surrounding the throne. Draw or write a description of the creatures.
5. Will God really keep *all* of his promises? See Joshua 23:14.

BIBLE REFERENCE GENESIS 9:8–17;
EZEKIEL 1:25–28; REVELATION 4:1–3

KEY VERSE EZEKIEL 1:28