

‘I am who am’

The Awesome God

Our **elders existed before us**, and have lives when we are not around. They may have been to places we have never been, spoken languages we have never heard, had jobs we don’t know about, been incredible athletes in sports we have never seen them play.

It is a sign of growing up and maturity to learn and understand who our parents, guardians, and teachers are apart from us.

Outside of time and before space (note the strangeness of this statement) **God existed, needing nothing, and wholly Himself**. See CCC 1.

We know about God, because He reveals Himself to us in creation, in the prophets and patriarchs, and in Jesus. See Hebrews 1:1-2

Where do we learn about this?

“God exists unconditionally and has a name” Exodus 3:14

“**God is love**.” 1 John 4:7-9

“And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever— the Spirit of truth.” John 14:15-31

“in the name of **the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit**” Matthew 28:18-20

“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God.” John 1:1-2

“Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, **the Lord is one**.” Deuteronomy 6:4

“No one is good except God alone.” Mark 10:18

God is steadfast in love Exodus 34:6-7

God is eternal See 2 Peter 3:7-9

“I and the Father are one.” John 10:30

Qadeeshat- You are Holy O God, You are Holy o Strong One, You are Holy, O Immortal One, Have Mercy on us. Maronite Liturgy.

What does this remind us of?

The Spirit of God Genesis 1:1-2

“What is his name, and what is the name of his son? Surely you know!” - Proverbs 30:4

The Lord and the three men- Genesis 18

“Your way, O God, is holy. What god is great like our God?” Psalm 77:13

“his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.” Isaiah 9:6

What does this teach us?

God has revealed Himself as **He who is**. CCC 228-231

How does this save us?

God is God and I am not.

Holy Gifts for the holy +, with perfection, purity, and sanctity. (In Syriac “qudshe l qadeeshe”)

One holy Father; One Holy Son; One Holy Spirit! Blessed be the name of the Lord, for He is One in heaven and on earth; to Him be glory, forever.

- Maronite Liturgy

That we may be one. See John 17:20-26

Questions

for kids and parents to discuss together:

What is the **oldest story** you heard a first hand account of? (For example, Grandpa told me when he was a child he...)

Ask someone to tell you a personal story from **before** your time?

What is one thing that happened to your family **100 years** or more before you were born that **affects you** today?

What is something from over 100 years ago that affects your family identity?

What is one experience in your life that is a good **example of love**?

How are you and your family one and how are you different?

What is one non-religious thing you **don't understand**?

When will you be alive for half your parents/guardians lives? When will you be alive for half of your grandparents lives? When will you be alive for half of God's life? (I would say the answer to this is never, but I don't really know how eternity works.)

Prayer

The acronym ACTS, stands for **Adoration** (I love you, I praise you), **Contrition** (I am sorry), **Thanksgiving** (thank you), and **Supplication** (Help me) can help us to remember different topics of prayer. The theme of today is most closely related to adoration praising and loving God for being Himself.

Pray: **One holy Father; One Holy Son; One Holy Spirit! Blessed be the name of the Lord, for He is One in heaven and on earth; to Him be glory, forever.**

Then **add your own words** of adoration.

Going Deeper

for older kids or parents

Read through and discuss the ancient Pentecost rite of kneeling first Hoosoyo focused on the Trinity. The Hoosoyo is a prayer of forgiveness that often explains the lesson of the day.

May we be worthy to offer glory, thanksgiving, worship, honor, praise, exaltation, greatness and beauty to the Hidden One who is concealed and beyond all human faculties, thoughts and minds;

to Him who is from Him, knows Him, and comprehends Him. He is the Maker, Establisher and Arranger of all things visible and invisible.

He is without beginning and His Being exists without end, eternal and incomprehensible.

One **equal authority, will, and essence** is that of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit in which there is **no name or Person younger or older than another**.

There is no discrepancy or variation between Persons in greatness or smallness.

There is **no inferior name** or Person nor separation in Being except the Father is not to be called the Son and they from the Spirit, nor the Son called the Father and the Spirit known through Him , nor the Spirit called the Father and the Son is full of Him.

The Father is the Begetter and is unbegotten, the Son is begotten and not the Begetter, and the Spirit proceeds from the Father and is received through the Son, and partakes of His Being with Him and the Son of His to

Whom is due glory and honor, at this time and in all feasts, moments, hours, seasons and days of our lives, now and in all ages, forever. R. Amen.

Is a simple faith better than an attempt at understanding?

If we can understand, should we? Must we?

Can we understand God fully?

What do you currently understand about God?