



Welcome!

September 2, 2018

“If the Son sets you free... you are free indeed!”

-John 8:36

Nursery (up to 2 years) is available during the entire service.
Kids (3 years old through Kindergarten) are dismissed after music.

Our Worship Gathering

Call to Worship

Worship

A Mighty Fortress is Our God

Great is Thy Faithfulness

Dismiss for KidsKorner

Preparatory Worship

How He Loves

One Thing Remains

Prayer

Message: “Basics of the Christian Life: Heavenly Father, Part II”

Pastor Scott

Closing Song

Jesus, Firm Foundation

Prayer

Colorado Freedom Church
PO Box 26288 | Colorado Springs, CO 80936
[www. ColoradoFreedomChurch.com](http://www.ColoradoFreedomChurch.com)

Prayer Matters

O Lord, your unfailing love fills the earth; teach me your decrees.

Psalm 119:64 (NLT)

Families

Craig & Melissa

John

Berean Church

The Crossing Fellowship; Gothenburg, NE (Eric & Jennifer; John & Sharayah; Barry & Tanya)

LEAD Team

Scott & Lyndsey, Trent & Caryn, Ray & Rosi, Rebecca, Jerry,

Ted & Judy

Other

Folks traveling for Labor Day.

Announcements:

*Are you receiving the weekly emails from Pastor Scott? If not, let him know and he will add you to the list.

*Offering box is located on the information table. You can also give online (www.ColoradoFreedomChurch.com) or through the FC mobile app (App Store & Google Play)

Freedom Church | August 26, 2018
“Basics of the Christian Life” | #4: Heavenly Father

The follower of Christ is encouraged to “live a life worthy of the calling you have received” (Ephesians 4:1).

Upcoming topics: assurance, baptism, prayer, devotions, Bible study, God, church, spiritual disciplines, outreach, and discipleship.

Westminster Catechism: The chief end of man is to glorify God and enjoy Him forever.

The one thing I ask of the Lord—the thing I seek most—is to live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, delighting in the Lord’s perfections and meditating in his Temple.

Psalm 27:4

A. Introduction to God.

1. What is God?

“God is a spirit, infinite, eternal, and unchangeable in His being, wisdom, power, holiness, justice, goodness, and truth” (Westminster Shorter Catechism).

2. What am I going to do with the knowledge that I gain concerning God?

Our goal should be to know God better, so we can love and serve Him better, not just to know about God.

3. How can we turn our knowledge about God into knowledge of God?

“The rule for doing this is demanding, but simple. It is that we turn each truth that we learn about God into matter for meditation before God, leading to prayer and praise to God” (J.I. Packer, *Knowing God*, p. 18).

B. The Nature of God.

1. God is creator (Genesis 1:1; Colossians 1:15-16)

2. God is spirit (John 4:24)

He is a personal spirit being, not a force or the sum of the energy contained by all matter throughout the universe.

3. God is personal.

He possesses the essential ingredients of personality: intellect, emotion, and will.

4. God is infinite.

God has no limits or bounds. He is totally self-existent and not dependent on anyone or anything outside of Himself.

5. God is unique.

He is the only Creator God (1 Corinthians 8:5-6).

He is the only true and living God (Jeremiah 10:10-16).

He is the sovereign of the universe (Isaiah 40:18-28).

C. God's Incommunicable Attributes

attributes which humans do not share with God

1. *Self-existence* (Exodus 3:14; Isaiah 40:13-14; Job 38; Acts 17:25)

God is independent of all of His creatures.

*God has never done anything for His creatures out of obligation to them. God's love and compassion have motivated everything He has done for mankind.

2. *Omnipotence* (Genesis 1:1; Hebrews 1:3; 1 Peter 1:5; Revelation 19:6)

God is all-powerful.

* God has the power to save us (Romans 1:16); to keep us saved (1 Peter 1:5); to preserve all things (Hebrews 1:3; Colossians 1:17).

3. *Omniscience* (1 Samuel 2:3; Psalm 139:1-4; Matthew 11:20-24; Hebrews 4:13)

God knows everything both actual and possible. This knowledge is part of God's nature, not something that He has learned.

* God knows our hearts and thoughts

* Nothing can happen after our salvation that God did not know when He saved us.

* God knows all about every tragedy before it ever happens, and He works it out for His glory and our ultimate good.

* God knows all the pitfalls of life that we will ever face, and He knows how to overcome them.

4. *Omnipresence* (1 Kings 8:27; Psalm 139:7-10; Isaiah 66:1-2; Jeremiah 23:24)

God is present everywhere at the same time.

* No one can escape God.

* The believer can experience the presence of God all the time in all circumstances and places.

5. *Eternity* (Genesis 21:33; Psalm 90:2; 102:25-27; 1 Timothy 6:15-16)

God is not bound by the limitations of time, nor by the sequence of events.

* God always has been and always will be.

* God can offer us a future with Him because He is eternal.

6. *Immutability* (Numbers 23:19; Psalm 33:11; 102:26-27; Malachi 3:6; James 1:17)

God is unchanging and unchangeable. God never differs from Himself. God does not grow or develop in any way. There is no variableness with God (Isaiah 46:9-11).

* We need not worry that God will change the plan of salvation.

* We can easily identify cults or any doctrinal errors because they vary from the truth of the gospel, which has already been revealed.

* We need not worry that God will fail to keep any of His promises.

7. *Infinity* (Psalm 145:3; Isaiah 66:1; Romans 11:33; 1 Kings 8:27)

God is without termination and without finitude.

* The infinity of God allowed Jesus to die once for the sins of all people who would ever live.

8. *Sovereignty* (1 Samuel 2:2-10; Romans 8:28-30; 9:20-21; 1 Corinthians 10:13; Ephesians 1:9,11)

The sovereign is the chief, highest or supreme person. God is the number one ruler in the universe.

* Nothing is beyond God's control.

* God's plans always triumph.

D. God's Communicable Attributes (attributes which humans do share with God, at least to some extent)

1. *Wisdom* (Romans 11:33; Ephesians 1:8,11,12; 1 Corinthians 1:18-24; Daniel 2:20-23)

Wisdom is the understanding and the practical applying of the principles by which God governs the universe. God understands these principles intimately. We learn wisdom by studying God's Word and applying its truths to our circumstances. God generously gives wisdom to all who ask (James 1:5).

* God chooses the highest ends and the best means to attain them. God always does the best thing in the best way.

* As believers we can rest that God always does what is ultimately best for us and does it in the best way to achieve His goals for our lives.

* We can approach situations wisely or unwisely, resulting in glory or shame that ultimately reflects upon our God.

2. *Mercy* (Ephesians 2:4-5; Titus 3:5; Nehemiah 9:17-21,26-31; Psalm 86:15)

The quality of love that has pity and compassion for the needy, and extends forgiveness to the unforgivable, not holding someone to account for their misdeeds, but instead giving an unwarranted blessing (1 Peter 3:9).

* Mercy stands behind God's saving act in our behalf.

3. *Holiness* (Exodus 15:11; Ezekiel 36:22-23; 1 John 1:5; 1 Peter 1:15; Hebrews 12:10-11,14; Revelation 4:8; 15:4)

"Holy" means "set apart." Holy ones are set apart from sin in thought and deed. They are pure and righteous, devoid of evil. God Himself by His nature is the ultimate standard of holiness.

* Because God is completely perfect in holiness, He will never sin.

* Many believers live as if they are trying to discover how close to sin they can live without being cut off from fellowship with God. We instead should be imitators of Christ and ask,

“Is this pursuit or activity holy?” God has told us to be holy as He is holy (Leviticus 11:45; 19:2; 1 Peter 1:16).

4. *Justice* (Deuteronomy 10:17-18; Psalm 99:4; Acts 10:34-35; 17:31; Jeremiah 12:1-4, 14)
God is just in that He always does what is right and He is no respecter of persons. He is equitable in His dealings with all people.

* When people stand before God to receive judgment, they will receive full justice. This may be a comfort to those who have been wronged in life, but a warning to those who think they have escaped from punishment for their evil activity.

* Since we are all sinners, none of us should desire God’s justice. We need His mercy and cannot withstand His justice.

* God saves sinners, but He remains just. The penalty of sin was paid when Christ died on the cross as our substitute.

5. *Love* (John 3:16; 1 John 3:16; 4:7-10; Romans 5:8)

Love is caring enough for others to pursue what is best for them, which always conforms to the will of God. God is so full of love that He Himself is the ultimate standard of love (1Jn 4:9-10).

All God’s attributes function together and operate in love.

Love is the first fruit of the Holy Spirit (Galatians 5:22) and the sign to the world that we are Christ’s disciples (John 13:34-35). The one who does not love does not know God (1 John 4:8).

* God’s love motivated Him to provide salvation (John 3:16).

* God’s love motivates Him to discipline His children (Hebrews 12:6).

6. *Truth* (Numbers 23:19; Psalm 89:14; John 14:6; 17:3)

Truth is agreement with reality. When applied to God it means that God is consistent with Himself so that everything He does is also true.

*God cannot be false to any of the promises that He has made. God keeps His promises.

Questions to consider:

1. Does knowing more about God drive me to know more of Him?
2. How do these attributes drive us to give God glory?
3. How should these attributes motivate us to reach out to family, friends, and neighbors who don’t know of God?