

Bible workbook

Year 9

Term 1

Attribute of God: God is...	Page	Number of weeks	Number of pages
Love	2	5	16
Provider	19	5	8

Total: 24

Acknowledgment:

Material in this workbook has been sourced from: LIFEPAAC Home Schooling Curriculum, Alpha & Omega Publications

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1. ATTRIBUTE OF LOVE

In this section you will learn what real love is and how love should act when it is hurt by someone. You will understand how much God loves you by learning that He sent His only Son to die for your sins. A specific and a general love will be studied, and you will see the relationship between the two. The Bible reveals to us the real and true meaning of love. Only this love satisfies and brings lasting peace to mankind.



A shepherd loves his sheep.

Section Objectives

Review these objectives. When you have completed this section, you should be able to:

1. Better understand God's nature.
2. Learn the Bible's meaning of love.
3. Understand how God expressed love to mankind.
4. Learn the two aspects of love--general and specific.
7. Understand how much God loves you.
8. Be encouraged to love God and accept His Son Jesus as your personal Savior.

Vocabulary

Study these words. Learning the meanings of these words is a good study habit and will improve your understanding of this LIFEPAK.

attribute (at' rə byüt). A word describing a characteristic or quality of someone.

eternally (i tēr' nl ē). Timeless; forever.

everlasting (ev'ər las' ting). Lasting through all time.

grace (grās). Undeserved divine assistance from God; special favor.

immutable (im myü' təbəl). Not able to change; the same forever.

love (luv). To hold dear; cherish; unselfish concern; to adore.

manifested (man' ə fest əd). Made evident by showing or displaying.

mercy (mēr' sē). Compassion shown to someone guilty; a blessing that is an act of divine favor.

ultimate (ul' tə mit). Final; the extreme.

variableness (ver' ē əbəl nəss). Able and likely to change.

Love: God's Nature

Love is not merely a characteristic of God; it is the very essence of God—God is love. To understand the *meaning* of love and the *aspects* of love, then, is to understand God.

Meaning of Love. In 1 John 4:8, God's Word tells us that God is love. The meaning of this verse is not simply that God *loves*, but that He *is* love. Love is not merely one of God's *attributes*; rather, love is God's very nature.

Aspects of Love. Several aspects of God's love should be studied. The first aspect is that God's love is not influenced by the object of His love. Stated simply, nothing in you and me attracted God's love. We read in God's Word (Deuteronomy 7:7–8), "The LORD did not set his love upon you, nor choose you, because ye were more in number than any other people; for ye were the fewest of all people: But because the LORD loved you...." We love God because He first loved us (1 John 4:19). Because God loved us when we were unlovable, clearly God's love was not influenced by what He saw in us.

Another aspect of God's love is that His love is without beginning or end—it is **eternal**. God's

Word tells us in Jeremiah 31:3, "...I have loved thee with an **everlasting** love...." This Bible truth becomes a real source of joy as we realize that God's love is stable and unchangeable. His love is not based upon who we are or what we do but upon the finished work of Jesus Christ as our personal Savior. God's love is not only eternal, but His love has no limits. The Bible teaches in Ephesians 2:4, "But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us." Our minds are unable to fully understand the greatness of God's love as Ephesians 3:19 expresses, it "...passeth knowledge...."

A good word to learn concerning God's love is **immutable**. *Immutable* simply means *no change*. God's love shows no change at all. In James 1:17, the Bible states, "...with whom [God] is no **variableness**, neither shadow of turning...." A wonderful comfort is ours when we realize that God's love is not as our love—changing with our feelings. Rather, Romans 8:35–39 tells us *that nothing can separate us from His love*.



Complete this activity.

1.1 Make a comparison of two aspects of God's love and man's love.

God's Love

Man's Love

a. _____

b. _____

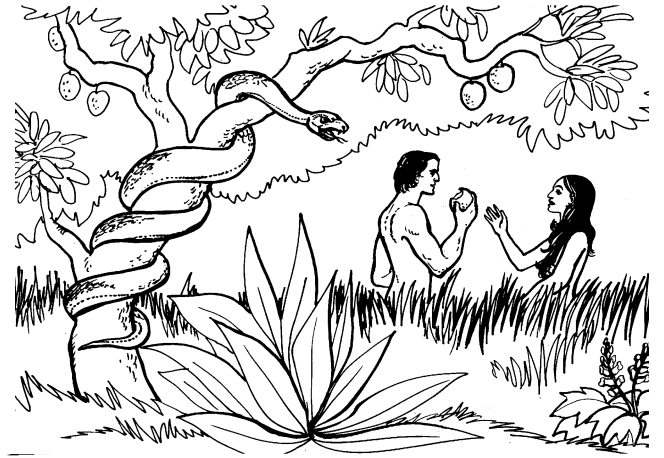
Love: An Expression of God

God's love was expressed generally in creation and specifically in redemption.

Adam and Eve plunged mankind into bondage, separated from God by sin. We are born with natures that desire to follow the world instead of God. God demonstrated His special love in the **ultimate** expression—redemption through Jesus Christ.

In Creation. God's nature of love can be seen in His creation as we behold the beauty of a simple flower. In love God made the world and placed man as the keeper of all creation. God's love gave Adam the very desires of his heart—it even gave Adam his wife, Eve, because he was lonely.

In Redemption. Sin ruined the beauty of God's creation and separated man from God's love, but God's *greatest* love was **manifested** in the redemption of man's soul. Jesus agreed to take



your place and mine upon the cross to pay the price for sin. God's love sacrificed His only Son that we might have an opportunity to live eternally with God in fellowship once again. The greatest love story the world has ever known is found in this supreme act of love. God's Word tells us in John 3:16, "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him shall not perish but have everlasting life." God is love!



Complete this activity.

Name four aspects of God's love; describe each.

- 1.2 _____ : _____
- 1.3 _____ : _____
- 1.4 _____ : _____
- 1.5 _____ : _____

Complete these statements.

- 1.6 God's ultimate expression of love is _____ .
- 1.7 Love that does not change (God's love) is called _____ .
- 1.8 God's _____ is love.
- 1.9 The love of God will never end; it is an _____ love.



Match these items.

- | | | |
|------------|-----------------------------|---|
| 1.10 _____ | attribute | a. Jesus Christ |
| 1.11 _____ | variableness | b. revealed |
| 1.12 _____ | ultimate expression of love | c. without end |
| 1.13 _____ | manifested | d. able to change |
| | | e. a characteristic or quality of someone |

Complete this activity.

1.14 Briefly describe God's special expression of His love to mankind and how it affects your life today. _____

God's Love to us: His plan in Christ

Review these objectives. When you have completed this section, you should be able to:

1. Describe several aspects of God's essence.
2. Describe three key attributes of God toward man.
3. Explain the eternal plan of God, especially for man.

Vocabulary

Study these words. Learning the meanings of these words is a good study habit and will improve your understanding of this LIFEPAAC.

alteration (ôl' tã rã' shãn). A change in something or someone.

attribute (at' rã byüt). Trait, characteristic, or quality that is basic to a person or thing.

compensation (kom pãn sã' shãn). A payment or making up of something owed or lacking.

consequences (kon' sã kwen' sãz). Something produced by a cause or necessarily following from a set of conditions.

essence (es' ns). The real or ultimate nature of a thing.

immutable (im myüt' ə bəl). Not capable of change.

omnipresence (om' ni prez' ns). Being present everywhere at the same time.

pinnacle (pin' ə kəl). The highest point of achievement or development.

redeem (ri dēm'). To free from captivity by payment of ransom.

restitution (res tã tü' shãn). An act of restoring or a condition of being restored.

unmerited (un mer' i ted). Without merit; or something that is not earned.

God and His Attributes

In the introduction to this section, several aspects of God's **essence** were mentioned: God's existence, the Trinity (there is One God in Three Persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit), and the fact that God is spirit. We also mentioned that the Bible reveals many **attributes** of God. In this first part of the section, we will examine three attributes of God that are expressed in a profound way toward human beings: *love, mercy, and grace*.

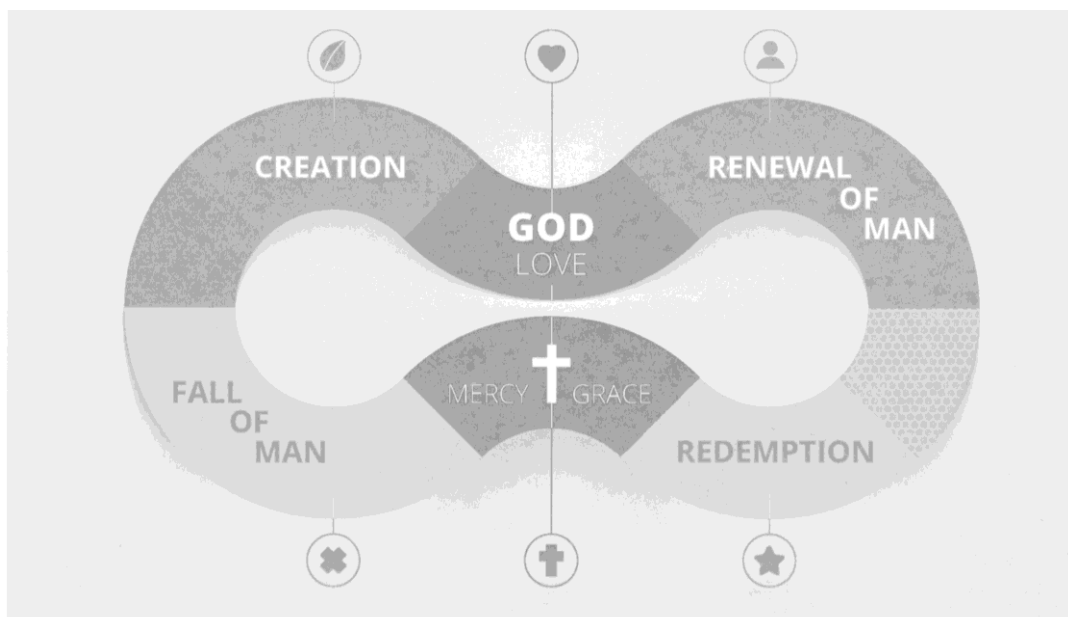
The Love of God. Love is a very important attribute of God toward man. Love is not only one of the most important attributes of God, it is also a very important part of the essence of God. As 1 John 4:8 and 16 state, "God is love." God is love; that is, love is part of God's very essence and nature. Out of love, God created all that exists. He particularly created man in love. He created *you* in love! First John 4:16 says, "And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. God is love; and

he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him." Therefore, love is both an attribute of God toward man and also part of God's essence. To understand God's love better, it is helpful to consider three aspects of His love.

First, God's love is not influenced by the object of His love: man. Nothing in you, in me, or anyone else can attract God's love by anything we do or say. God already loves us! Deuteronomy 7:8 declares,

But because the LORD loved you, and because he would keep the oath which he had sworn unto your fathers, hath the LORD brought you out with a mighty hand, and redeemed you out of the house of bondmen, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt.

Our love for God is a response to the fact that He first loved us. The apostle John wrote (1 John 4:19), "We love him, because he first loved us." Because God loved us even though we might have been unlovable, we can know that His love



for us does not depend upon the object of His love. His love is not influenced by who we are or by what we do or say.

Second, God's love is eternal. God's love always has been, and God's love will never end. In Jeremiah 31:3, God says, "...Yea, I have loved thee with an everlasting love...." This truth becomes a source of joy when we realize that God's love for us has always been there, and it always will be there. His eternal love also has no limits. Ephesians 2:4-6 tells us,

But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us, Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;) And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus.

Third, God's love for us is **immutable**. This means that the love of God never changes. God's love is stable and unchanging. James 1:17 says, "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning." This tells us that God is neither contrary nor changeable. He is immutable, and His love is immutable, too. Another way to say this is that God's perfect love is not subject to **alteration**.

Romans 8:38-39 assures us,

...neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.



Write true or false.

- 1.1 _____ In His wisdom and love, God created everything that exists, both in heaven and on earth.
- 1.2 _____ Not only can we know that God exists, but we can also know many things about God.
- 1.3 _____ God's presence in the universe is somewhat limited at times.
- 1.4 _____ God has not only revealed many things to us about Himself, but He has also revealed many things about His plan for Creation.
- 1.5 _____ God's eternal love is somewhat limited at times.

The Mercy of God. Mercy is another important attribute of God toward man. In the Bible, the term mercy is used to show a relationship between love and justice. Justice means to give someone what that person is due. In our legal system today, we hear a great deal about justice. When a law has been violated, the responsibility of a judge is to administer the due punishment to a person for that violation. This due punishment is called justice. Other times, people are wronged by another person, group, or organization. Justice would be administered by a judge when the people who are wronged receive the appropriate **restitution** or **compensation** for the harm caused to them by an offender.

However, a judge might decide not to give a person the just punishment for violating a law. The judge might give the person a lesser punishment for the violation—or even no punishment at all! In this case, the judge would show *mercy* to the person. Likewise, a person who is wronged could decide, out of love and forgiveness, not to require just compensation or restitution. This wronged person could decide to require much less, or even nothing at all, in return for the harm done to them. In this case, the wronged person would show mercy to the offender.

God's mercy is something like the judge and the wronged person. God shows mercy to sinful human beings when He does not give the just punishment due to violations of His law. He shows mercy when He does not require the just restitution or compensation when He is wronged. God's mercy to us flows from His love for us. The Scriptures tell us of God's mercy in many places. For instance, the Psalmist prays (Psalm 69:16), "Hear me, O LORD; for thy lovingkindness is good: turn unto me according to the multitude of thy tender mercies."

God is both just and merciful. First, He is a God of justice. If we violate His commandments and wrong Him by our sinful actions, we will suffer the **consequences** of God's just punishments.



Read and discuss the parable of the unforgiving debtor, Matt 18:21-35

The Scriptures show this happening many times to the people of Israel. However, God is also very merciful and does not always treat us according to our sins. He is usually quick to show mercy when we ask for it. Again the Psalmist says (Psalm 25:6), "Remember, O LORD, thy tender mercies and thy lovingkindnesses; for they have been ever of old."

On Mt. Sinai, God passed by Moses and proclaimed (Exodus 34:6-7), "The LORD, The LORD God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abundant in goodness and truth, Keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin...."

We should continually rejoice that mercy is one of God's attributes. Mercy revealed itself fully when God offered an alternative to the punishment for mankind's sins. Out of love, God sent His own Son to the world to die for us that we might receive God's mercy instead of God's just punishment. Through the death of Jesus on the cross, God has poured out His mercy upon all. Jesus made restitution and compensation for our sins and offenses against God. Through Christ, we can receive abundant mercy from

God if we come to God asking for mercy and forgiveness.

There are two aspects of God's mercy: *general* and *specific*. God's general mercy is extended to all believers, unbelievers, and to all His creation. In the Book of Lamentations, we read (Lam. 3:22-23), "It is of the LORD's mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. They are new every morning; great is thy faithfulness." God's love and general mercy extends to all people and all creation. The Bible says in Psalm 145:9, "The LORD is good to all: and his tender mercies are over all his works."

Jesus spoke about the way that God is good and merciful in a general way to all people. In the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5:45), Jesus taught that we should be like our "...Father which is in heaven: for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust." This is an example of God's general mercy.

A second aspect of God's mercy is His specific mercy toward those who are believers in Christ. God shows a specific mercy toward those who receive His provision for forgiveness of sins through the life, death, and resurrection of His Son, Jesus Christ. God's specific mercy is always available to those who seek Him and to His people. The Letter to the Hebrews (Hebrews 8:10-12) speaks of the new covenant that believers have through Jesus Christ and its offer of specific mercy:

For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith the Lord; I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts: and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people: And they shall not teach every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the Lord: for all shall know me, from the least to the greatest. For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more.



Complete these statements.

- 1.10 In the Bible, the term _____ is used to show a relationship between love and justice.
- 1.11 Justice means to give someone what that person is _____ .
- 1.12 God shows mercy when He does not require the just restitution or compensation when He is _____ .
- 1.13 Through the death of _____ , God has poured out His mercy upon all.
- 1.14 There are two aspects of God's mercy: a. _____ , and
b. _____ .
- 1.15 God's _____ mercy is extended to all believers, unbelievers, and to all His creation.
- 1.16 God's _____ mercy is toward those who are believers in Christ.

Test

Match these items (each answer, 2 points).

- | | | | |
|--------------------|---------------------|----|---|
| 1.01 _____ | grace | a. | to give someone his due |
| 1.02 _____ | mercy | b. | credited to you when you accept Christ |
| 1.03 _____ | God's love | c. | love, mercy, and grace |
| 1.04 _____ | abundant life | d. | sin |
| 1.05 _____ | God's righteousness | e. | general and specific |
| 1.06 _____ | justice | f. | unrighteousness |
| 1.07 _____ | works | g. | unmerited favor |
| 1.08 _____ | aspects of grace | h. | in John 10:10, Jesus says He came to give this |
| 1.09 _____ | aspects of mercy | i. | not influenced by its object; eternal and immutable |
| 1.010 _____ | attributes of God | j. | shows relationship between love and justice |
| | | k. | eternal and free gift |
| | | l. | do not gain salvation |

Answer true or false (each answer, 2 points).

- 1.011** _____ In his wisdom and love, God created everything that exists, both in heaven and on earth.
- 1.012** _____ To say that God is omnipresent means that He is all-powerful.
- 1.013** _____ We can know not only that God exists, but we can also know many things about God.
- 1.014** _____ To say that God is immutable means that He is stable and unchanging.
- 1.015** _____ God's presence in the universe is somewhat limited at times.
- 1.016** _____ God's grace must be earned by human beings and is given according to their efforts.

We worship God because we love Him.

1. THE NATURE OF WORSHIP

The act of worship has both external and internal aspects. It is an act that can be seen and identified as worship, and it comes from a person's heart, or will. The three Hebrew young men described in Daniel 3, were devoted to the Lord. They could not bow down to Nebuchadnezzar's statue because they loved the Lord, the true God.

In this section of the LIFE PAC, you will learn the meaning of the word *worship*. From the meaning of the word, you will be able to define the nature of worship. You will consider the One you are to worship and learn why you are to worship Him. God is seeking true worshippers, those who will worship Him in spirit and in truth. This section should help you to understand the biblical concept of worship.

Section Objectives

Review these objectives. When you have completed this section, you should be able to:

1. Explain the meaning of worship.
2. Explain the identification of bowing with worship.
3. Tell two things about God you must know to worship Him.
4. State three reasons you should worship God.

Vocabulary

Study these new words. Learning the meanings of these words is a good study habit and will improve your understanding of this LIFE PAC.

by-product (bī' prod əkt). Something extra produced in making the main product.

humility (hyū mil' ə tē). A humbleness of mind; the opposite of being proud.

omission (ō mish' ən). The act of being omitted.

reverence (rev' ə r əns). Extreme respect mixed with love and awe.

subjection (sub jek' shən). Being under some power or influence.

Note: All vocabulary words in this LIFE PAC appear in **boldface** print the first time they are used. If you are unsure of the meaning when you are reading, study the definitions given.

Pronunciation Key: **hat**, **ā**ge, **cā**re, **fār**; **let**, **ē**qual, **tér**m; **it**, **ī**ce; **hot**, **ō**pen, **ō**rder; **oil**; **out**; **cup**, **pūt**, **rū**le; **child**; **long**; **thin**; /**FH**/ for **th**en; /**zh**/ for **meas**ure; /**ə**/ represents /**a**/ in **ab**out, /**e**/ in **ta**ken, /**i**/ in **pen**cil, /**o**/ in **le**mon, and /**u**/ in **ci**rcus.

The Meaning of Worship

The word *worship* comes from an Old English word that means "worthship." Worship, therefore, is an activity directed toward something or someone that has worth, or that is worthy. The Bible tells of some men and women who worshipped idols. The people who worship an idol believe that the idol is worthy of their worship.

They often worship the idol because they believe the idol is powerful and will bless them. Therefore, the idol has worth to them; they believe it can do them some good. The Bible also tells of men and women who worshipped God. God is worshipped because He is of great

worth. A person would never worship something that he believes is of little value or worth.

Worship is defined as the act of giving recognition, respect, and high honor to a person or an object of esteem. You are worshipping God when you give Him recognition, supreme respect, and the highest honor. To give Him proper respect and honor, you must act with **reverence** and **humility**. In true worship you place yourself in **subjection** to God and therefore willingly serve Him.

By bowing on your knees in worship, you are showing reverence, humility, and subjection to God. The Bible presents many instances when people bowed their knees and worshipped God. Consider the actions of the wise men who came to see the Lord Jesus (Matthew 2:11): "... they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him..." In the days of Ezra (Nehemiah 8:6) the Jews "...bowed their heads, and worshipped the Lord with their faces to the ground." The Psalmist said (Psalm 95:6), "O come, let us worship and bow down: let us kneel before the Lord our maker." When a person bows before the Lord, he is saying that God is his King. Every knee will bow one day to the Lord Jesus (Philippians 2:10).

You might wonder if a person can worship God without bowing before Him. When you meet a friend whom you have not seen for a time, you often shake his hand. Shaking hands is a physical act that shows your friendship, just as



The wise men bowed down in an act of worship.

bowing is a physical act that shows reverence. Can you be friends with a person without shaking hands? Of course you can. Likewise, you can worship God without bowing before Him.

The main reason a person bows in worship is to show honor and respect to God. Psalm 89:7 says, "God is greatly to be feared in the assembly of the saints, and to be had in reverence of all them that are about him."



Write true or false in the blank.

- 1.1 _____ The word worship comes from a French word that means "worthship."
- 1.2 _____ Worship is directed to something or someone that has worth or value in the eyes of the worshipper.
- 1.3 _____ The true worshipper of God is a person who will serve God.
- 1.4 _____ A person must bow his head or kneel to worship God.
- 1.5 _____ Worship should be done in reverence.



Complete these statements.

- 1.6 Worship is giving a. _____ , b. _____ , and
c. _____ to the one who is being worshipped.
- 1.7 In true worship we place ourselves in _____ to God.

Unscramble these words concerning worship.

- 1.8 rohon a. _____ prestce b. _____
tiyluimh c. _____ cereeevnr d. _____
tiierocnong e. _____

Complete these activities.

1.9 The physical act of bowing before God in worship reveals these characteristics of the worshipper:

- a. _____ b. _____
c. _____ d. _____

1.10 Write Psalm 95:6. _____

1.11 Write a verse that has the word reverence in it. _____

Answer these questions.

- 1.12 When the wise men came to see Jesus, what physical act accompanied their worship? _____

- 1.13 What is the main reason a person bows in worship to God? _____

2. THE OBJECT OF WORSHIP

To give the proper recognition, respect, and honor to God, you must know something about Him. For example, suppose that you have just been introduced to a certain young man. If you knew nothing about him, you would not know what to say to him or what to think about him. Now suppose that you were told that he won a gold medal in the Olympics in the mile race. You would then think very highly of him as an athlete and would consider him worthy of recognition. You would eagerly tell other people about this man and his accomplishments. You would give him respect and honor.

God is the object of the Christian's worship; that is, He is the One to whom worship is directed. Obviously, you cannot give honor and praise to someone who is unknown to you. Therefore, you must know something about God to be able to worship Him.

Two kinds of things about God must be known if you are to be able to worship Him. First, you must know something about what He is like.

The Bible reveals many things about the nature of God. God is a person, God is almighty, God knows everything, God is everywhere, God is eternal, God is holy and hates sin, God is fair, God is perfect, God loves and is merciful, God is good, and so on. Second, you need to know the things God has done, His works. The Bible also reveals the works of God. God created the universe and man, He delivered the Israelites out of Egypt, He died on the cross for people through Jesus Christ His Son, He controls the universe, He will judge mankind, He gives us strength and salvation, and so on. By studying the Bible you learn what God is like and what He has done.

When you understand how great God is and how great His works are, then you can give Him recognition, respect, and honor. What God is like and what He has done are noted in Psalm 107:8: "Oh that men would praise the Lord for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men!"



Write true or false in the blank.

- 1.14 _____ A person can worship God even if he does not know who He is or what He has done.
- 1.15 _____ Worship consists of giving God recognition, respect, and honor.
- 1.16 _____ God's works are the things that He has done.
- 1.17 _____ We are the object of our worship; God is the subject of our worship.
- 1.18 _____ The object of worship is the person or thing that is being worshipped.

Answer these questions.

- 1.19 Who should be the object of our worship? _____
- 1.20 What are the two kinds of things that we need to know about God to be able to worship Him?
- a. _____
- b. _____
- 1.21 Where can we find out about God to be able to worship Him? _____



Complete these activities.

1.22 Name five of God’s works that are listed in this section.

- a. _____
- b. _____
- c. _____
- d. _____
- e. _____

1.23 Name five things about God’s nature that are listed in this section.

- a. _____
- b. _____
- c. _____
- d. _____
- e. _____

The Reasons for Worship

Many reasons can be given for worshipping the living God. The most important ones come from the words of Scripture, the nature of God, and the relationship between God and man.

Worship is Commanded. The primary reason for worshipping God is that he has commanded us to worship Him. He is the Lord, the Master, the King, the Ruler, and we are His servants. The servant must listen to the King and must obey Him. The Bible says (Luke 4:8), “...Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve.” These words state a commandment! The Psalmist wrote (Psalm 9:11), “Sing praises to the Lord, which dwelleth in Zion: declare among the people his doings.” These verses and many others clearly teach that God requires us to worship Him. No other reason for worshipping Him is necessary. If He has commanded worship, we must obey.

If God has commanded that we worship Him, and if we love Him, then we will worship Him. The Lord Jesus said (John 14:15), “If ye love me, keep my commandments.” But what if we do not worship Him? What if we neglect to worship God? If we fail to worship God, then we have



Worship no other god – the first commandment.

disobeyed Him: we have sinned. To neglect to worship God is a sin. It is a sin of **omission**.

In the Old Testament the blessings on the nation of Israel were related to whether they kept God's command to worship and to serve only Him. When the Israelites were preparing to go into the land of Canaan, Moses said (Deuteronomy 28:1-2), "And it shall come to pass, if thou shalt harken diligently unto the voice of the Lord thy God, to observe and to do all his commandments which I command thee this day, that the Lord thy God will set thee on high above all nations of the earth: And all these blessings shall come on thee...." The Israelites also learned that if they ceased from

worshipping and serving God, all kinds of troubles would come upon them (Deuteronomy 31:16-17).

The Book of Judges records the early trials and triumphs of Israel. When Israel turned to worship and to serve other gods, God afflicted them by sending enemies to oppress them. However, when the Israelites turned to worship and to serve God, God delivered them from their enemies by giving them leaders (the judges) such as Ehud and Gideon. Therefore, nations as well as individuals must give worship to God. God's judgment falls on those who break the command to worship and to serve Him.



Answer these questions.

1.24 Have we been commanded to worship God? a. _____ Write a verse to prove your answer.

b. _____

1.25 How are we to prove to God that we love Him? _____

1.26 Is failure to worship God a sin? a. _____ Why? b. _____

1.27 What happened to the Israelites when they ceased to worship and to serve God? _____

Worship is Deserved. A second reason why we should worship God is that He is worthy of worship. Worship is due Him because He deserves it. In Revelation 4:11 we read, "Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honor and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created." Suppose that we go to a concert and hear a fantastic performance by a great pianist. What is our response? We clap and praise the pianist because his great piano playing makes him worthy of applause. Likewise, we congratulate a student who has done well in his schoolwork. The student's achievement makes him worthy of receiving recognition. Should God, who created this fantastically complex and beautiful universe, receive praise? Yes, He is worthy of it. Should God, who demonstrated the greatest degree of love in sending the Lord Jesus to die for us, receive thanks? Yes, He is worthy of our worship because of His nature and His works.

The evolutionist is guilty of a great sin. God has created this world and all the creatures in it. Instead of giving God the recognition for His work, the evolutionist says it all happened by chance. The evolutionist is guilty of not giving God His rightful praise and recognition. He has given God's glory to something else, chance.

The Psalmist has declared (Psalm 48:1), "Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised..." God is worthy to be worshipped.

Worship is Helpful. A third reason we should worship God is that worship reminds us of who we are and how we are related to God. Sometimes we might start to think that we are just as important as God. We could begin to think that God exists for us. However, when we worship Him, we admit that we are only creatures with all kinds of weaknesses. Only when we recognize who God is and give Him honor can we be what He wants us to be. We must always keep in mind what our relationship to Him is. We must always remember our dependence on Him. We must always be aware of His power, wisdom, and love. Through worship all these things are kept in our minds. The worship of God yields real benefits to us; we become what God wants us to be when we worship Him. We find happiness and contentment as a **by-product** of worship and service to God.

Let us continually worship Him and live lives by His grace that prove that we really mean what we say in praise to Him. To give recognition, respect, and the highest honor to God is our duty and privilege.



Answer these questions.

1.28 Why does God deserve our worship? _____

1.29 How has the evolutionist sinned? _____

1.30 What is our relationship to God that is brought out in worship? _____

1.31 What is one of the by-products of our worship and service to God? _____

Complete this activity.

1.32 Read Daniel 3. On a separate sheet of paper, write why you think Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego would not serve the king's gods nor bow down to his image.

God is Provider

God created angels to protect and provide for his people.

Introduction: ANGELS ARE REAL

God created everything that exists. Many of the things that God has created can be seen. They have substance or matter in them, such as trees, rocks, stars, plants, animals, and people. Other things that God created cannot be seen. They are invisible and do not have substance. They are spirit. Angels are spirits; therefore, they do not have a body. Angels cannot be seen, but they exist. They were created by God to serve Him and minister to His people. In this section, you will learn about angels, their purpose, and some of their characteristics.

Vocabulary

Study these words

authority - The power to enforce obedience; the right to command or act.

created - Caused to be; brought into being; made.

fasting - To abstain from food or from some foods.

forerunner - A person who goes before another person.

Gospel - The "Good News" about the life, words, and deeds of Jesus Christ.

holy - Set apart for God's service.

host - A large number.

innumerable - Too many to count.

ministry - A service offered to God or people; the function and office of a minister.

multitude - A great number; a crowd.

oppose - Be against; act, fight, or struggle against.

prophet - Person who speaks God's message or performs God's actions.

rank - A degree or position of authority in an organization or group.

shield - A piece of armor carried on the arm to protect the body on battle.

spirit - A being created by God that does not have a body or matter. It is invisible.

spiritual - Dealing with the spirit or soul.

supernatural - Above or beyond what is normal in nature or human experience.

ANGELS PROTECT

While no passage specifically states that every person has a guardian angel, the Bible does teach that angels do guard or protect as Psalm 91:11 declares. But it should also be pointed out that Psalm 91:11 is directed to those who make the Lord their refuge.

In addition, Matthew 18:10 may suggest a guardian angel because of the statement Christ made regarding little children when He said, "See that you do not despise one of these little ones, for I say to you, that their angels in heaven continually behold the face of My Father who is in heaven."

Accounts of angelic protection today

Dr. Kenneth Gangel gives the following account: A missionary friend of mine (now retired) tells the story about a woman missionary alone on a compound in northern Africa during a riot by one of the local tribes. She hid in a closet and prayed as warriors advanced along the dusty road toward the houses where the white intruders lived. Amazingly, she never heard them. No one ever entered her building, and there was no evidence of any turmoil. My friend learned later that the warriors, who intended to kill everyone at the missionary compound and burn it to the ground, instead retreated when they found the compound guarded by tall warriors dressed in white and carrying large swords. Were they angels?

ANGELS PROVIDE

As angels were sent by God to provide sustenance for Jesus at the end of his forty days in the wilderness (Matt. 4:1-11). God sent "the Angel of the Lord" to provide bread for Elijah in 1 Kings 19:5-6.

An illustration of provision today: Sue Bohlin gives the following account: In 1944, the penniless wife of a pastor and evangelist in Switzerland, Susie Ware prayed, "God, I need five pounds of potatoes, two pounds of pastry flour, apples, pears, a cauliflower, carrots, veal cutlets for Saturday, and beef for Sunday." A few hours later, someone knocked on the door, and there was a young man carrying a basket, who said, "Mrs. Ware, I am bringing what you asked for." It was precisely what she'd prayed for—down to the exact brand of pastry flour she wanted. The young man slipped away and just disappeared.

(Anderson, Joan Wester. *Where Angels Walk*, New York: Ballantine Books, 1992, pp. 60-62).

ANGELS PROCLAIM GOD'S TRUTH

Throughout the Bible we find angels involved in communicating God's truth or message as the Spirit of God directed them. Both the Hebrew word for angel means "messenger." In a number of passages, we are told that angels were instruments God used to reveal His Word. (See Acts 7:38, 53; Gal. 3:19; Heb. 2:2). But numbers of times they appeared to announce an important message. They announced the birth of John the Baptist and Jesus (Luke 1:11). In the Great Tribulation, God will use them to announce key events (Rev. 14:6). Today, however, God's Scripture, the Bible, is complete. Beware, therefore, of anyone claiming to

have new revelation as given by an angel or of anyone claiming to be an angel with new revelation. Remember, Satan is a deceiver with his own angels of deceit promoting false doctrine (2 Cor. 11:1-4, 12-13; 1 Tim. 4:1).

ANGELS PUNISH OR CARRY OUT GOD'S JUDGMENTS

With their enormous God-given power, they can carry out anything God sends them to do. In the Great Tribulation, Angels will pour out the awful judgments as described in Revelation and even in do battle with Satan and his evil angels (Rev. 12:7f). This will be done before Satan is bound and finally defeated. (Revelation 12 and 20)

Characteristics of Angels

What is an angel? In the Bible, the word "angel" means "messenger," or one who is sent by God. King David wrote, "Bless the LORD, ye his angels, that excel in strength, that do his commandments, hearkening unto the voice of his word. Bless ye the LORD, all ye his hosts; ye ministers of his, that do his pleasure" (Psalm 103:20–21). Angels are powerful beings created by God to serve Him as messengers to people. They carry out a ministry for the Lord. Angels serve as God's messengers, ministers, and helpers. They point the way to Christ. Let's explore some of the characteristics of angels.

Angels are spirits. The first characteristic of angels is that they are spirits. They do not have bodies like people do. As spirits, angels serve God and Jesus Christ. The Bible says, "Are they not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation?" (Hebrews 1:14). They are spiritual beings. You are a human being. Since angels are spiritual beings, they are normally invisible. Artists have drawn, painted, and sculpted angels as wearing long flowing robes and having wings and haloes. This is only the artists' imagination. With few exceptions, the Bible describes them as having human bodies when they appear to deliver God's message.

In reality, they only appear to have a body. Human beings have bodies and spirits (also called souls). You can see your body, but you cannot see your spirit. Angels have only a spirit. Because angels do not have physical bodies, they will not die. Because they do not have a physical body, they do not get sick. Angels never sleep because they do not have a physical body that gets tired.

Angels are real. The second characteristic of angels is that they are real. Just because angels are invisible does not mean that they are not real. Other things around you that are real are invisible. Wind and electricity are real, but you cannot see them. You know that the wind is real because you can see the force of the wind bending trees and moving the leaves. Likewise, we know that electricity is real because we can see light when the light switch is turned on.

We know that angels are real because God has revealed them to us through the Scriptures. Angels serve and worship God and our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. The Bible shows us that angels have been present to minister to people throughout the history of the Old and New Testaments. You will read about the presence of angels in the Bible as you study this LIFE PAC.



Complete these statements.

- 1.1 God created everything that exists, both visible and _____.
- 1.2 Angels are _____, and that is why they are invisible.
- 1.3 The word "angel" in the Bible usually means _____.
- 1.4 Angels carry out a(n) a. _____ for the Lord, and that is why they are called b. _____ spirits in the Bible (*Hebrews 1:14*).
- 1.5 We know that angels are _____ because God has revealed them to us in the Scriptures.



Complete these lists.

- 1.6 List three things that do not happen to angels but do happen to people.
 - a. _____
 - b. _____
 - c. _____
- 1.7 List two examples of things that are real even though they are invisible.
 - a. _____
 - b. _____

Kinds of Angels

Read Daniel 10:13 & 21 and 12:1–3. Also Jude 9 and Revelation 12:7–9

Angels are not all alike. Some angels have more authority than others. Some angels have special duties. Just like a modern army on earth, angels in heaven have an organization. Like an army, some angels have higher rank than others. God has also given some angels some extremely important duties and responsibilities.

There are only two angels mentioned by name in the Bible: Michael and Gabriel. Let's examine some of the things the Bible says about each of these two ministering angels.

Angels are personal. A third characteristic of angels is that, like people, they are *personal* beings. They have intelligence and wills. Angels are not impersonal objects like rocks or trees, nor are they just forces like wind or electricity. Impersonal objects and forces cannot think, sing, plan, show emotions, or obey God like people can. Angels do all of these things.

As personal beings, angels serve God and Jesus Christ as ministering spirits. King David says, "Bless the LORD, ye his angels, that excel in strength, that do his commandments, hearkening unto the voice of his word. Bless ye the LORD, all ye his hosts; ye ministers of his, that do his pleasure" (*Psalms* 103:20–21).

Angels are wise, meaning they can correctly understand God's will and make choices according to it. King David says, "Praise ye him, all his angels: praise ye him, all his hosts" (*Psalms* 148:2).

Angels have emotions such as joy, for the Apostle Luke says, "Likewise, I say unto you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth" (*Luke* 15:10). Therefore, when a sinner repents of his sins and trusts in Jesus Christ's sacrifice, the angels cheer and rejoice.

Angels are supernatural. Angels do many things that people do; however, they can also do many things that people cannot. Angels are stronger, more powerful, and swifter than humans

(*Psalms* 103:20, *Psalms* 8:5). Angels are **supernatural**, meaning their powers and abilities are above and beyond those that humans normally experience. They can move from heaven to earth in a flash. For example, Daniel says, "Yea, whiles I was speaking in prayer, even the man Gabriel, whom I had seen in the vision at the beginning, being caused to fly swiftly, touched me about the time of the evening oblation" (*Daniel* 9:21).

There are many examples of the angels' power and might in the Bible. The Bible says, "And it came to pass that night, that the angel of the LORD went out, and smote in the camp of the Assyrians an hundred fourscore and five thousand: and when they arose early in the morning, behold, they were all dead corpses" (*2 Kings* 19:35). One angel alone destroyed 185,000 Assyrian soldiers that surrounded the walls of Jerusalem.

When Daniel spent the night in the lions' den, he told King Darius, "My God hath sent his angel, and hath shut the lions' mouths, that they have not hurt me: forasmuch as before him innocency was found in me; and also before thee, O king, have I done no hurt" (*Daniel* 6:22).

Matthew wrote, "And, behold, there was a great earthquake: for the angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and sat upon it" (*Matthew* 28:2). Angels have been given great power to serve God and humanity.



Choose the correct answer.

- 1.8 Angels are personal beings and have _____ and free wills.
a. ears b. intelligence c. characteristics
- 1.9 Because they are personal beings, angels can do many of the things that _____ do.
a. people b. rocks c. trees
- 1.10 According to *Luke 15:10*, angels can show emotions like _____ .
a. speaking b. planning c. joy
- 1.11 Angels are _____ because their powers and abilities are above and beyond those that humans normally experience.
a. gifted b. supernatural c. happy
- 1.12 The Bible says that angels are _____ than men (*2 Peter 2:11*).
a. greater in power and might
b. weaker



Answer these questions.

- 1.13 What are some things that angels do that show they are personal beings?

- 1.14 What are three examples in the Bible that show that angels are more powerful than people?
a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

- 1.15 What are the four characteristics of angels mentioned in this section of the LIFEPAC?
a. _____
b. _____
c. _____
d. _____

Match these items (each answer, 2 points).

- 1.01 _____ angel
- 1.02 _____ spirit
- 1.03 _____ Michael
- 1.04 _____ Gabriel
- 1.05 _____ Daniel
- 1.06 _____ God
- 1.07 _____ Jesus
- 1.08 _____ John the Baptist
- 1.09 _____ evil spirits
- 1.010 _____ angel hosts

- a. saw vision of heavenly hosts
- b. sent to destroy the works of Satan
- c. sinned and rebelled
- d. rocks and trees
- e. messenger
- f. has no body or material
- g. God's hero
- h. archangel in Bible
- i. weaker than humans
- j. a multitude and innumerable
- k. knows the number of angels
- l. forerunner

Answer true or false (each answer, 2 points).

- 1.011 _____ Some angels have a body and spirit.
- 1.012 _____ Angels carry out a ministry for the Lord.
- 1.013 _____ Nothing is real unless you can see it.
- 1.014 _____ All angels have equal rank and authority.
- 1.015 _____ The angel Gabriel is mentioned in both the Old and New Testaments.
- 1.016 _____ The prophet Micaiah saw the "host of heaven" surrounding God.
- 1.017 _____ Angels are extremely swift.
- 1.018 _____ Only prayer and fasting can help Christians overcome the powers of darkness.
- 1.019 _____ Satan and all other evil spirits will be destroyed at the end of time.
- 1.020 _____ One angel alone killed 185,000 Assyrian soldiers to save Jerusalem.

Choose the correct answer.

1.022 Angels are personal beings and have _____ and free wills.

- a. ears b. intelligence c. characteristics

1.023 Because they are personal beings, angels can do many of the things that _____ do.

- a. people b. rocks c. trees

1.024 According to Luke 10:15, angels can show emotions like _____ .

- a. speaking b. planning c. joy

1.025 Angels are _____ because their powers and abilities are above and beyond those that humans normally experience.

- a. gifted b. supernatural c. happy

1.026 The Bible says that angels are _____ than men (2 Peter 2:11).

- a. greater in power and might b. weaker c. larger and heavier

List the correct characteristics.

1.027 What are the four characteristics of angels mentioned in this unit?

- a. _____
b. _____
c. _____
d. _____

Write the correct answer in the blank space.

1.028 God created everything that exists, both visible and _____ .

1.029 We know that angels are _____ because God has revealed them to us in the Scriptures.

1.030 Sometimes when Christians have troubles or _____ , it can be due to the activity of evil spirits against them.

1.031 In Hebrews 1:14, angels are called _____ spirits.

1.032 In the New Testament, Gabriel appeared to Zacharias and _____ .