



## GOD PPT #1

Good evening and welcome to everyone in this module. We will look at the question of who is God.

If you spend some time gazing at the images that engage our imagination about who God is, you already have an inkling that all pictures, all words, all theological concepts or wonderings altogether fail to fully capture who God is.

No matter what you explore here, no matter what biblical passages you examine, no matter what new definitions you learn, you will still find yourself throughout your whole life.

Longing to know more about who God is rather than a cause for despair. This is a gift. The holy spirit spends our lifetime prodding us to experience more of who God is and showing us new facets of the wonder and mystery.

That is God. So let's continue. We began with images. So now let's try some words. There are probably a few alphabets of descriptive words for God out there, tempting us to think we can build an expensive enough picture to capture the bigness of God in a confined language space whose very definition means from a to Z, from alpha to omega from the beginning to the end, we suspect there is a better way.

A big God deserves. Big words, words that have survived. The church councils of the early centuries of the common era, the arguments over heresy, the split of the Eastern and Western churches and the reformation that created protesting.

Shall we begin a list? Here are some of ours. Take a look at these lists of words. Some of which includes sovereign holy provider love merciful just, and let's not forget the Omni words, omnipotent, which is all powerful omniscient.

All-knowing omnipresent, always present Omni malevolent, all perfect again, just to, so who is God in a provocative and challenging article in the Presbyterian outlook?

Cynthia rigs B brings us back to the center of this question, who is God. Often we think of the father as the creator, the son is the Redeemer and the spirit as the sustainer, but to assign each of these three and exclusive job description is to forget that we learn from each of them about the character of the Godhead as a whole.

This is because again, the three are also one. They share the same life. What each respective person of God does is then a reflection of who God actually is.



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The God who loves us is love. The God who relates to us is relational. The God we know in and through God's radical insistent presence is the God who in God's own self as father, son, and spirit is perfect community.

There is a wonderful Greek word for this. Peri Carens often translate is translated as mutual indwelling. The idea that God is dancing with God's own self as father, as son, as the holy spirit sharing life together, always what ven with each respective person of God.

Is that a reflection of who God actually is. In other words, God, in God's essence is creator Redeemer, sustainer. This is a good place to begin answering the question who is God.

So let's take them one at a time, God, as creator. If we only think of God as creator in the beginning, we set God apart from continuously renewing creation and from planning for a new creation creation, as mentioned in Romans eight, 20 and 21 was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice.

It was the choice of the one who subjected it. But in the hope that the creation itself will be set free from slavery to decay and brought into glorious freedom of God's children.

Yes. God created things out of nothing. Yes, it was all good. But God also comes alongside us in naming his brokenness and working to care for and to restore it.

And God's spirit speaks to us relentlessly daily, by praying for, and breathing into life. The new creation God calls us to work for let's look now at God, the Redeemer God operates through covenants, not contracts.

God's covenants throughout the old Testament and into the new Testament, the new covenant, all to listen. God acted first. God will continue to act first God names us.

God's children claims us for life and in death, we'll go to any lengths to redeem us, including sending the son.

God will never let us go. Never God. In God's essence is a Redeemer. Next let's look at the sustaining in Rigsby's article.

She describes God as an inventive sustainer, we could create a whole new list around ways God sustains our daily lives, but Wrigley highlights three.

God feeds us that the Lord's table with the bread and wine that show us who's. We are, God gives us the law, which helps us imagine who God is, what God desires and how we can help make itself.



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God is inventive. Informing the sustaining prayer. Jesus taught us. The focus is on being fed and present to today. Daily bread, forgiveness of sins, deliverance from evil.

God is not one to love us or grace us in the abstract. God is really one who's substantively as well as creatively sustains God.

In words, these three creator Redeemer sustainer. Now there is a list of resources for which will guide you and help you as you further reflect on the question of who God is.

I hope you will take some time to look through these and continue to ponder. Continue to wonder and ask the question.

Who is God.