



# 1 God Loves Us

Did you know that God has lived for ever? Close your eyes and imagine billions and billions of years ago. God was alive!

Now imagine billions of years stretching into the future. God will be just as all-powerful and alive. God is eternal, which means He had *no* beginning and He will *never* die. He is almighty, all-holy and all-wise. His power and beauty are infinite. That means they are far too great ever to be measured.

God was thinking of you, loving you, and wanting you from all eternity. Long before He put one star in the sky, He knew you. He knew your name. He knew your face. He knew the color of your eyes and the sound of your voice. You are very precious to Him. He could have made some other person, but He wanted you. So He made you just the way you are.

God loves you so much that He made you in His image. He made a part of you that, like Him, will never die. This part of you is called your soul. It is a spirit. You cannot see it. But your soul gives you the power to think and the power to love. With your soul, you can learn things, enjoy music and stories, talk, and laugh. Without your soul, you would be no more intelligent than a rock. Without your soul, you could never love anyone. When God made us in His image, He opened up many treasures for us.

Our best treasure is God Himself. He is always with us. He knows everything about us, even our thoughts. He loves us more than anyone else loves us. He gave us our soul so we could love Him in return. Sometimes this seems hard to do because we cannot see or hear God. God is pure spirit.

There is only one God, but in God there are three Persons: God

the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. Jesus, the Second Person of the Blessed Trinity, came to earth as a sign of God's love for us. Because Jesus, Who is God, became a man like us, it is easier for us to love Him. We know that He is gentle, kind, and good. He taught us to put God first. He taught us to obey God, even when we do not feel like it. He taught us that by loving each other, we give God glory and show our love to Him.

Jesus taught His apostles—and us—how to pray to the Heavenly Father. Sometimes He went out into the desert to pray. This showed us that it is good to take special times to be alone with God. Other times, Jesus prayed with a gathering of friends or a great multitude. We imitate Him when we pray with our family or classmates or others in our parish.

Once the apostles asked Jesus how to pray. He taught them a prayer that is still used in our Church. We hear it every time we go to Mass. It is called the “Our Father” or the Lord's Prayer:

Our Father Who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy Name; Thy Kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. *Amen.*

In this prayer we praise God, we say we are sorry for our sins, we ask for His love and forgiveness, and we ask Him to watch over us. Prayer is talking with God. It is important to do it every day because it keeps us close to Him.

## Words to Know:

infinite      prayer      all-perfect      create

**Q. 1** *Who created us?*  
God created us.

**Q. 2** *What purpose did God have in mind when He created us?*  
God created us to know Him, to love Him and to serve Him in this life, and then to be happy with Him for ever in the next life, in Heaven.

**Q. 3** *Who is God?*  
God is the all-perfect Being, Creator, and Lord of Heaven and earth.

**Q. 4** *What does “all-perfect” mean?*  
“All-perfect” means that every perfection is found in God, without defect and without limit; in other words, it means that He is *infinite* power, wisdom, and goodness.

**Q. 5** *Does God have a body as we have?*  
No, God does not have a body, for He is a perfectly pure spirit.

**Q. 6** *Where is God?*  
God is in Heaven, on earth, and in every place: He is the unlimited Being.

**Q. 7** *Has God always existed?*

Yes, God always has been and always will be:  
He is the eternal Being.

**Q. 8** *Does God know all things?*

Yes, God knows all things, even our  
thoughts: He is all-knowing.

**Q. 9** *What is prayer?*

Prayer is a lifting of the soul to God to know  
Him better, to adore Him, to thank Him, to  
tell Him we are sorry, and to ask Him for  
what we need.

*“I will never forget you. See, I have carved you on the  
palm of My hand.”*

*(Isaiah 49:15–16)*