

I know not any. The oneness of God is why His glory is primary. There is no other who deserves worship as God does. 1 Corinthians 8:5–6 *For although there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as indeed there are many “gods” and many “lords”—yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist.*

Discussion Questions

- Have you ever had to deal with someone who thought they were the most important person in the room? How did it make you feel?
- Should you feel that way about God since he is about himself? Why or why not?
- When the Bible talks about the true living God it usually uses a capital “G” but when talking about false idols or gods it uses a little “g”. Have you notice any other ways the Bible shows the differences?
- Have you ever had to defend or talk to other people about there only being one God? What did you say? What did the listeners say?

Day 5 – Review Q&A and recite memory verse

If you belong to God, think about the difference in how you follow God now versus before you knew the true living God. You followed something else, either yourself, money, power, wooden idols, etc. What kinds of things can you imagine people doing when worshipping a false god? I was once invited to a mosque to see what it was like and how they worshipped. It was big, ornate, beautiful, rugs everywhere in the main area, everybody wearing robes. I was curious to observe, but I would not participate in bowing down and worshipping facing east, or saying phrases they would teach you from the Quron. I received quite a few frowns and stares when I would not participate. It got uncomfortable when I explained why and mentioned Jesus Christ as the one and only Savior. My Muslim friend was trying to avoid any confrontation and keep things quiet. There is coming a day when as Philippians 2:9–11 says, God will have *highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.* The name of Jesus strikes fear into the enemies of God but evokes worship and obedience in God’s people.

Discussion Questions

- Has God said how he wants to be worshipped and why? Explain.
- Have idols said how they want to be worshipped? Explain.
- If you answered No to the above question (and I hope you did), then what is the point?
- Do you know and follow God or are you even now worshipping false things?
- Do you know where to find the truth of the Gospel of Jesus Christ?

Baptist Catechism

Family Worship Guide



West Oaks Baptist Church

(in preparation for Sunday, October 29th, 2023)

Baptist Catechism Question #8

Q: Are there more gods than one?

A: *There is but one only, the living and true God.*

Suggested Memory Verse

Deuteronomy 6:4 *Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. (ESV)*

Day 1 – Review Q&A and recite memory verse

Sometimes when I (Shawn) read the Bible, it is like a movie in my mind. I particularly love the scene in 1 Kings 18 when Elijah faced off against the prophets of Baal who couldn't get their god Baal to do anything. Elijah mocked them by saying in verse 27, *Either he is musing, or he is relieving himself, or he is on a journey, or perhaps he is asleep and must be awakened.* When it was Elijah's turn, he soaked the altar in water three times and said one sentence, then a flash of fire fell from heaven and consumed the offering. Do you know why? So the people could see Elijah's God was the one and only living God. All other gods are fake, dead, just wood or other materials fashioned by man. Of our living God, Daniel 6:26 says *he is the living God, enduring forever; his kingdom shall never be destroyed, and his dominion shall be to the end.* Not only is the one true God a "living" God, He is also a "life-giving" God. John 5:26 *For as the Father has life in himself, so he has granted the Son also to have life in himself.* 1 Timothy 6:13 speaks of Christ as one *who gives life to all things.* Many times this question comes into people's mind: Is God real? Does he exist? Is he living? The answer is yes! In fact, apart from Him, there is no life.

Discussion Question

- Have you ever asked if God is alive or real? How has your answer affected your life?
- Do you or other people you know worship other fake gods or idols?
- If God alone gives life, how should people react to this truth?

Day 2 – Review Q&A and recite memory verse

Some people try to communicate with the dead to get answers about themselves or other living people (Isaiah 8:19). They might be trying to tell the future, or solve some mystery, or connect with someone from their past. What would you tell these people? Scripture warns us against seeking the dead or other spirits in these ways. Jeremiah 10:15 says of false gods that *they are worthless, a work of delusion; at the time of their punishment they shall perish.* Instead, I would want to tell these people about the one God who has power over life and death. He is the one and only living God who created them, loved them by sending His only son to die for their sin, and invites them to know Him through Christ. 1 John 5:20 tells us why Jesus came. *And we know that the Son of God has come and has given us understanding, so that we may know him who is true.* All people need to know God, but they need to know he is true and brings eternal life. John 17:3 *And this is eternal life, that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.*

Discussion Questions

- Have you ever seen a game, organization, or group who wants to communicate with Satan or dead people? The Bible says we should not even try to do this. Can you think of reasons not to? See Deuteronomy 18:9-12

- One thing that we do know for certain is that Satan is a liar. See John 8:44. Even if you could communicate with Satan, what would you hear? Why does this fact matter?
- The Bible says God is truth. See John 14:6. How is what you hear from God different from what you might hear from Satan?
- Are idols and false gods alive? God is the only living God. How does this help in trusting God?

Day 3 – Review Q&A and recite memory verse

I (Shawn) have owned some pretty unusual things in my lifetime. Things we call "one of a kind" are usually considered special, or even precious, precisely because there are not any others like them. For example, I have a Texas flag that was flown over the state capital building a single time on the day of my high school graduation and then signed by the governor. I won it at a graduation party, and although it may not be entirely unique, I thought it was pretty cool. There are other things in this world that are considered priceless such as the biggest diamond, a rare animal, or perhaps artifacts from outer space. But more special and more priceless than anything that anybody has seen or heard is our God who created all things. We owe everything to this God who has revealed himself to us through His Word to us. There is only ONE God. Jeremiah 10:10 *But the LORD is the true God; he is the living God and the everlasting King.* Deuteronomy 6:4 says *Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one.* Our God is truly unique. There is none like Him. He is the only one.

Discussion Questions

1. Have you owned anything unique or one of a kind? Share what that is and why it is special.
2. If you had to describe how much bigger and special God is above everything else, what words or phrases would you use?
3. As you think about the magnificence of God, what should it lead you to do?
4. If you have never felt a desire to worship God, give thanks to Him, or felt guilty about or repented for your sin, what does that say about belonging to God or not?

Day 4 – Review Q&A and recite memory verse

I (Shawn) once read a book that said God was about glorifying Himself. At the time it bothered me, but as I read the scripture more on this subject I began to see the truth of that statement. It destroyed the pride that I had in thinking God was all about his creation and loved them more than Himself. If we were to be about ourselves it would be wrong because we would be selfish, and self-glorifying rather than giving all glory to God. God is perfect and can be and do things in a perfect way that you and I simply can not do. God can be jealous in a perfect way, but I can not. God communicates in the Bible that He is the only God and He is not wrong. In Isaiah 44:8 God tells us *Fear not, nor be afraid; have I not told you from of old and declared it? And you are my witnesses! Is there a God besides me? There is no Rock;*