

The Exact Imprint

- Discovering the God you never knew.
- How has your opinion of God been developed?
 - Your own father?
 - Loving
 - Harsh
 - Disciplinarian
 - Distant

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- Scriptural references of his attributes?
 - Can any hide himself in secret places that I shall not see him? saith the LORD. Do not I fill heaven and earth? saith the LORD. (Jeremiah 23:24)
 - OMNIPRESENCE
 - Behold, I *am* the LORD, the God of all flesh: is there any thing too hard for me? (Jeremiah 32:27).
 - OMNIPOTENCE

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- For if our heart condemn us, God is greater than our heart, and knoweth all things. (1 John 3:20)
 - OMNISCENCE
- In addition to these we also associate God with the following:
 - Loving, Gracious, Kind, Forgiving, Merciful
 - Just, Jealous

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- Scriptural discussions of his multiple roles?
 - I John 3:1
 - Father
 - I Corinthians 11:2
 - Husband
 - I Timothy 1:17
 - King
 - Psalm 23
 - Shepherd

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- Looking at the Father through only the lens of experience, attributes, and roles is like looking at the parade through a hole in the wooden fence.
- The clearest picture of the Father we can get is by studying Jesus. How do I know this?

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COLOSSIANS 1:15

- ¹⁵ He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature. (KJV)
- ¹⁵ [Now] He is the ^[a]exact likeness of the unseen God [the visible representation of the invisible]; He is the Firstborn of all creation. (Amp)
- ¹⁵ No one has seen God, but Jesus is exactly like him. Christ ranks higher than all the things that have been made. (ICB)
- Now Christ is the visible expression of the invisible God. He existed before creation began. (Phillips)

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• II CORINTHIANS 4:4

“In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.”

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• JOHN 14:7-9

“If you had known me, you would have known my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.” Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us.” Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you so long, and you still do not know me, Philip? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say ‘Show us the Father?’”

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- How did Jesus deal with:
 - The handicapped- John 5 and 9
 - The immoral- John 4 and 8
 - The unbelievers- John 7
 - The grieving- John 11
 - The self-righteous- John 8:39-47