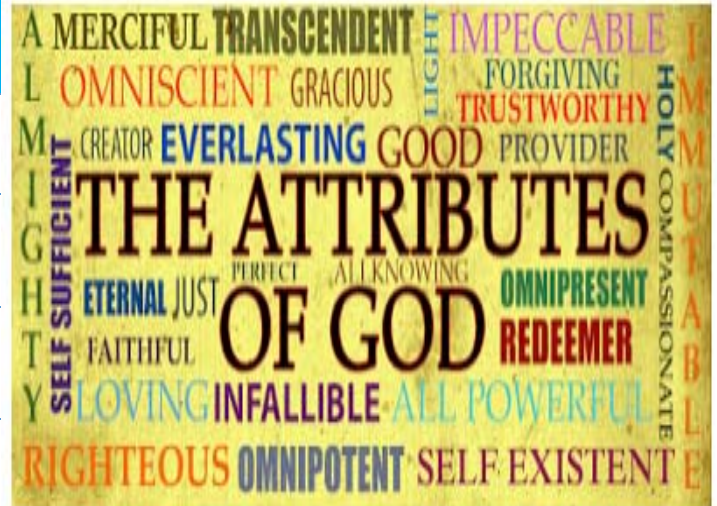


Overview and Prior Learning

Christians read the Bible as telling a story of the relationship between God and humanity. Humans generally fail to maintain this relationship so God is often calling people back in to friendship and relation with himself. Christians use the Bible to help them understand what God is like. It contrasts the terrifying side of God’s character—holiness, and the intimate, personal side—God as loving. For Christians, God’s holiness emphasises ideas of purity and justice. God hates sin and is separate from it. On the other hand, God loves creation, with a focus on drawing humans in to a loving relationship. This requires love, forgiveness and grace on God’s part. There are stories in the Bible that emphasise this relationship between people and God.

God—What does it mean if God is loving and holy?  
What should we know?

- That Christians believe God is omnipotent, omniscient and eternal, and that means God is worth worshipping.
- That Christians believe God is both holy and loving, and Christians have to balance ideas of God being angered by sin and injustice but also loving, forgiving and full of grace.
- That Christians have different ideas about what God is like, but all try to follow his path, as they see it in the Bible or through Church teaching.
- That Christians believe getting to know God is like getting to know a real person rather than learning information.



God—What does it mean if God is loving and holy?  
What should we be able to do?

- Identify different types of Biblical texts and use technical vocabulary accurately.
- Explain connections between Biblical texts and Christian ideas of God.
- Make clear connections between Biblical texts and what Christians believe about God, for example, through how churches are designed.
- Explain how Christians put their beliefs in to practice in worship.
- Suggest how Biblical ideas about God as holy and loving might make a difference in the world today using our own ideas and experiences.



Which words should we understand and be able to use?

- Biblical—relating to or written in the Bible.
- Omnipotent—All powerful.
- Omniscient—All knowing.
- Eternal—Everlasting.
- Sacrifice –Surrendering a possession.
- Confession—admitting one is guilty of something.
- Worship—act of reverence.

