



Last January we asked a really **BIG**, really important question: Who is God? **Exodus 3:13-14** helped us answer that really **BIG** question:

Then Moses said to God, "If I come to the people of Israel and say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what shall I say to them?" God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM." And he said, "Say this to the people of Israel: '**I AM** has sent me to you.'"

God has always been. He's everywhere, knows everything, and can do anything. **But what is he LIKE?** Can you open your Bible to **Exodus 34:6** and listen to a **REALLY** important verse?

The LORD passed before him and proclaimed, "The LORD, the LORD, a God **merciful** and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness..."

God is **MERCIFUL**. He is **compassionate** and **tenderhearted**. People can have **compassion** in their hearts, like Joseph did when he saw his little brother Benjamin (**Gen 43:30**). But God, our Father in heaven, shows perfect **compassion** (**Psa 103:13**; **Isa 55:7**).

Maybe it's hard to understand what compassion looks like in real life, which is why Jesus, the Son of God, is such a wonderful example for us! Jesus is **MERCIFUL** in the flesh (**Matt 9:36**; **Mark 1:40-41**; **1 Pet 2:24**).

But Jesus has done more than serve as a really good example for us. He's called us to be like him and like our Father in heaven.

"Be merciful, even as your **Father** is merciful."  
(**Luke 6:36**)



Or, as the apostle Paul put it in **Ephesians 4:32**:

Be **kind** to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.

What is God like? God is **merciful**. He is compassionate and tenderhearted and he wants us to be too!

# FOUNDATION STONES

Exodus 34:6 would be a really good verse to **memorize** this month.

What is God like?



The LORD passed before Moses and proclaimed, “The LORD, the LORD, a God **merciful** and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness...”

What about **YOU**? When you think of someone showing **MERCY**, what do you think of? What does it look like to have **COMPASSION** for someone else?

There are lots of stories in the Bible of people who showed compassion. One of the most famous is Jesus’ **Parable of the Good Samaritan**. Can you find **Luke 10:30-35** in your Bible? Why did the Samaritan help that poor, beaten-up man on the side of the road?

“...when he saw him, he had **compassion**.” (Luke 10:33)

God is merciful and he wants us to grow up to be like him!

