

Sunday School Lesson: God Is Omniscient

Basic Theology Series — Attributes of God

Main Point: God knows all things perfectly, completely, and eternally; therefore, believers can live honestly, humbly, confidently, and obediently before Him.

Key Texts

Psalm 139:1–6 — God knows us completely.

Hebrews 4:13 — Nothing is hidden from God.

Isaiah 46:9–10 — God knows and declares the end from the beginning.

1 John 3:20 — God is greater than our hearts and knows everything.

Matthew 10:29–31 — God’s knowledge is personal and comforting.

1. Opening Illustration: “What Do You Know?”

“What is something you know really well?”

“Is there anything you know perfectly?”

We may know some things well, but we do not know anything perfectly. We forget. We misunderstand. We learn new information. We make wrong guesses. But God never guesses, never learns, never forgets, and never misunderstands. God knows all things perfectly.

2. What Does Omniscient Mean?

The word omniscient comes from two ideas: Omni means “all.” Science or scientia has to do with knowledge. So when we say God is omniscient, we mean: God knows all things perfectly, completely, and eternally.

God knows:

- Everything that has happened.
- Everything that is happening.
- Everything that will happen.
- Everything that could happen.
- Every thought, motive, word, action, and heart.
- Himself perfectly.
- His creation perfectly.
- His plans perfectly.

Read Psalm 139:1–6.

David says God knows when he sits down and rises up. God knows his thoughts from far away. God knows his words before they are even on his tongue. That means God’s knowledge is not just big and distant. It is also personal. God does not merely know “all facts.” He knows you.

Family Discussion

“Is it comforting or uncomfortable to know that God knows everything about us? Why?”

3. God Does Not Learn, Guess, or Discover

One of the biggest differences between God's knowledge and our knowledge is that we learn over time. We say things like:

"I just found out."

"I didn't know that."

"I forgot."

"I misunderstood."

"I changed my mind because I got new information."

But God never says any of those things in the same way we do.

God never receives new information.

God never needs someone to explain something to Him.

God never has to wait and see what happens.

God never makes a prediction and hopes it comes true.

Read Isaiah 46:9–10. "I am God, and there is no other... declaring the end from the beginning."

God does not merely make good guesses about the future. God knows the future because He is God. His knowledge is perfect, and His plans cannot fail. This connects with what you have already studied in the series:

Because God is infinite, His knowledge is infinite.

Because God is holy, His knowledge is perfectly pure.

Because God is good, His knowledge is used for good purposes.

Because God is sovereign, His knowledge is not passive or helpless.

Because God is immutable, His knowledge does not grow, shrink, or change.

4. What God's Omniscience Means for the Believer

A. God's Knowledge Calls Us to Honesty

Read Hebrews 4:13. "No creature is hidden from his sight..."

We cannot hide from God. We may fool other people. We may even fool ourselves for a while. But we cannot fool God. This should lead us to confession, not pretending. A child may hide a broken object behind the couch. An adult may hide bitterness, pride, lust, greed, or unbelief behind a polite smile. But God sees the heart. The right response is not to run from God but to come honestly before Him.

Application: Because God already knows our sin, confession is not giving God new information. Confession is agreeing with God about what He already sees.

B. God's Knowledge Gives Us Comfort

Read Matthew 10:29–31.

Jesus says that not even a sparrow falls apart from the Father's care, and even the hairs of our head are numbered. This means God's knowledge is not cold or robotic. God knows His people with fatherly care.

When you are suffering and cannot explain what you feel, God knows.

When you are misunderstood, God knows.

When you are afraid, God knows.

When you pray clumsy prayers, God knows what you mean.

When you do unseen acts of obedience, God knows.

Application: You do not have to be noticed by everyone if you are known by God.

C. God's Knowledge Produces Humility

Read Romans 11:33. "Oh, the depth of the riches and the wisdom and the knowledge of God!" God's knowledge should humble us. We do not know everything. God does. That means Christians should be careful about acting like we understand every detail of God's plan. Sometimes the most faithful thing we can say is: "Lord, I do not understand, but I trust You." This is especially important when life is painful. God's omniscience reminds us that there is always more going on than we can see.

D. God's Knowledge Encourages Obedience

Because God knows all things, He also knows what is best. His commands are not random. His Word is not outdated. His wisdom is not limited.

When God tells us to forgive, He knows what He is doing.

When God tells us to flee temptation, He knows what He is doing.

When God tells us to love our enemies, He knows what He is doing.

When God tells parents to disciple their children, He knows what He is doing.

Application: Obedience is not merely doing what God says because He is stronger than us. Obedience is trusting that God knows better than us.

5. Warning Against Open Theism

One error Christians need to **reject** is called **open theism**. Open theism teaches, in some form, that God does not fully know the future free choices of human beings because those choices have not happened yet. In this view, God may know all that can be known, but the future is partly "open" even to God. We should **reject** that idea because Scripture presents God as knowing all things, including the future.

Read again Isaiah 46:9–10.

God declares the end from the beginning. He does not merely react to history; He rules over history. Jesus foretold Peter's denial in detail before it happened. Jesus did not merely say, "Peter, there is a chance you might struggle tonight." He said Peter would deny Him three times before the rooster crowed.

The issue with open theism is that it tries to protect human freedom by limiting God's knowledge. But the Bible does not ask us to choose between God truly knowing the future and human beings making real choices. Scripture teaches both:

God knows all things.

God rules over all things.

People are still responsible for their choices.

We may not fully understand how all of that fits together, but we should not solve the mystery by making God less than He has revealed Himself to be.

Family Discussion: How Should We Live?

“If God knows everything, how should that change the way we live this week?”

6. Closing Summary

God is omniscient. He knows all things perfectly, completely, and eternally. He knows the past, present, and future. He knows our thoughts, motives, fears, sins, needs, and future. This should sober us because nothing is hidden from Him. It should comfort us because we are fully known and fully cared for. It should humble us because God’s wisdom is deeper than ours. It should strengthen our obedience because the God who commands us also knows what is best.

Final Takeaway: Because God knows all things, I can trust Him with all things.