

# Images of God Today

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When we think of God, it's easy to imagine the God of Abraham or the God of Sarah. We can find countless historical images of God. For teenagers, today, however, God can sometimes seem old and out of date. Together, talk about images of God and which images resonate with each family member.

## For

Teen Family

## Season

Fall

## Needed

Bible, copies of Images of God in the Bible worksheet, pens or pencils

## Prepare in Advance

- Mark your Bible to Exodus 34:5-7 and 1 Corinthians 14:33 (or see text below)
- Print one copy of Images of God in the Bible worksheet
- Get a pen or pencil for each family member
- Do a Google Images search "God"
- Find the online article about images of God at:  
<http://www.americancatholic.org/Newsletters/CU/ac0691.asp>

## Activity Plan

1. Say this prayer aloud to begin.

*God, we thank you for being in our lives. Help us to find images that encourage us to connect with you more. Amen.*

2. Ask someone to read aloud Exodus 34:5-7.

"The Lord descended in the cloud and stood with him there, and proclaimed the name of the Lord. 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, keeping steadfast love for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, but who will by no means clear the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children and the children's children, to the third and the fourth generation.'"

Then ask another family member to read aloud 1 Corinthians 14:33, "For God is not a God of confusion but of peace."



3. After you finish, ask each family member: What does God look like to you? Why? If someone doesn't have a concrete image, ask the family member to identify a trait or feeling that best describes God for him or her.
4. Ask one family member to read the Bible scripture listed on the Images of God in the Bible worksheet and then write the description of God from that verse. Then have another family member do the next verse. Continue taking turns until all the scriptures are finished.
5. As a family, talk about these questions:
  - What did you discover about images of God from these scripture passages?
  - Which images did you like best? Why?
  - Which images made you most uncomfortable? Why?
  - How do you make sense of different images of God presented by different scripture passages?
6. Go to the Google search engine. Click on images. Then type "God" in the search. Look at the different images of God from your Google search. What patterns do you see? Which images do you like best? Which do you not like? Why?
7. Talk about images of God today. What does God look like today? Why? How is God relevant today? Why?
8. If you wish to go deeper with this topic, read the online [article about images of God](#). Continue talking about images of God since our ideas tend to change over time.



## Images of God in the Bible

What does each scripture passage say about God?

1. Exodus 34:5-7
2. Deuteronomy 4:24
3. Deuteronomy 4:31
4. Deuteronomy 9:3
5. Deuteronomy 20:4
6. Psalms 48:14
7. Psalms 54:4
8. Psalms 62:7-8
9. Matthew 22:32
10. John 4:24
11. 1 Corinthians 14:33
12. 1 John 1:5
13. 1 John 4:16

