I. **God Exists:**
   a. If someone asked you where does the Bible say that God exists, what would you tell them or where would you direct them?
      i. Scripture simply assumes God exists. The first verse of the Bible—“In the beginning, 
         God created the heavens and the earth” (Gen. 1:1)—matter-of-factly presents God as 
         Creator without any proof for his existence or actions.¹
      ii. Scripture also tells us that all persons everywhere have a deep, inner sense that God 
         exists, that they are his creatures and that he is their Creator. In Romans 1:19, Paul writes 
         that even for the wicked, this sense is “plain to them, because God has shown it to them.” 
         Although many today do not acknowledge that God exists, Paul says this is because “they 
         exchanged the truth about God for a lie” (Rom. 1:25), therefore actively or willingly 
         rejecting some truth about God’s character and existence that they originally knew. In 
         essence, they convince themselves that “there is no God” (Ps. 10:4).²
   b. Therefore, belief in God is not some “blind faith”; it is based on evidence found both in the Bible 
      and in the natural world.³

II. **God is Knowable:**
   a. What does it mean that God is Knowable?
      i. While we will never fully know God, we can *personally* know God. Jesus said eternal life 
         was found in knowing him and knowing “the only true God” who sent him (John 17:3). 
         This is far better than simply knowing about God. In fact, in Jeremiah 9:24, God says, 
         “Let him who boasts boast in this, that he understands and *knows me.*”⁴

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b. **What is the value of knowing God’s attributes?**
   i. Even so, there is tremendous value in learning God’s attributes, for in them we will find the true things about God that he wants us to know. And as people created for God’s glory (Isa. 43:7), we can bring him glory as we imitate him by exhibiting likeness to his attributes.⁵

c. Not only does God exist, he exists in such a way that we can know things about him and come to know him personally.⁶

III. **God is Independent:**

   a. **If someone needed proof that God was independent, where might you take them in the Bible for evidence?**
      i. Paul says in Acts 17:24–25, “The God who made the world and everything in it … does not live in temples made by man, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything.”⁷

   b. **What does it mean that God is Independent?**
      i. Therefore, God is not dependent on anyone for anything. Indeed, because he is God, he cannot be dependent on anyone or anything. Instead, his entire creation is and must be dependent on him. “For from him and through him and to him are all things” (Rom. 11:36).⁸

   c. **Therefore, what does God’s independence tell us about our salvation?**
      i. That we are dependent on God for our salvation and not on ourselves:
         1. Eph. 2:8 “For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; 9 not as a result of works, so that no one may boast.”
         2. Isaiah 12:2 “Behold, God is my salvation, I will trust and not be afraid; For the Lord God is my strength and song, And He has become my salvation.”

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IV. God is Unchangeable:
a. What are the three things about God that are unchangeable?
   i. Being
   ii. Attributes
   iii. Purposes
   iv. Promises. ⁹

b. How can an “unchangeable” God respond to prayer?
   i. God’s unchangeableness does not mean he will not act nor feel differently in response to
different situations (for he would hardly be good or just if he did not respond differently
to sin than to repentance and righteousness). Nor does unchangeableness mean God
doesn’t act or feel emotions. In fact, one of the ways God demonstrates he is “God and
not a man” is by not executing his “burning anger” and destroying a people; instead, as
his “heart recoils within” him and his “compassion grows warm and tender,” God
withholds his judgment and says “I will not come in wrath” (Hos. 11:8–9). ¹⁰

V. God is Eternal:
a. If someone wanted to know how to know that God is eternal, where might you take them in
the Bible for evidence?
   i. God, being eternal, has no beginning or end or succession of events in his own being.
   This is affirmed in Psalm 90:2: “Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you
had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God.” He was
working “before the foundation of the world” (Eph. 1:4). He has always existed. He is the
first and last, the beginning and the end, “the Alpha and the Omega … who is and who
was and who is to come” (Rev. 1:8). Jude tells us that “glory, majesty, dominion, and
authority” were God’s “before all time” as well as “now and forever” (Jude 25). ¹¹

VI. God is Omnipresent:
a. What does it mean to say God is Omnipresent?
   i. Just as God is unlimited with regard to time, he is also unlimited with regard to space. He
   is omnipresent. He does not have size or spatial dimensions; he is present in every point

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of space with his whole being. He cannot be limited by material space because he created it (Gen. 1:1).12

b. **Since God is Omnipresent, does this mean that He is in everything?**
   i. No, that is the heresy of Pantheism, which is similar to polytheism (the belief in many gods), but goes beyond polytheism to teach that everything is God. A tree is God, a rock is God, an animal is God, the sky is God, the sun is God, you are God, etc.
   ii. Pantheism is the supposition behind many cults and false religions (e.g., Hinduism and Buddhism to an extent, the various unity and unification cults, and “mother nature” worshippers).13
   iii. God’s omnipresence means He is present everywhere. There is no place in the universe where God is not present. This is not the same thing as pantheism. God is everywhere, but He is not everything. Yes, God is “present” inside a tree and inside a person, but that does not make that tree or person God. Pantheism is not at all a biblical belief.14

VII. **God is Spirit:**
   a. **Does God the Father have a physical body?**
      i. Jesus affirmed that God is in no way limited to a spatial location when he said, “God is spirit” (John 4:24). God exists in such a way that his being is not made of any matter. He has no parts, no size, and no dimensions. He is unable to be perceived by our bodily senses. To think of his being in terms of anything else in the created universe would be a misrepresentation, for he is more excellent than any other kind of existence.15
   b. **So why does Scripture often speak of God as if He has a physical body?**
      i. The word *anthropomorphism* comes from two Greek words, *anthropos*, meaning “man,” and *morphe*, meaning “form.” In theological terms, anthropomorphism is making God in some way into the form of man. Mostly, it is the process of assigning human characteristics to God. Human traits and actions such as talking, holding, reaching, feeling, hearing, and the like, all of which are chronicled throughout both the Old and New Testaments, are ascribed to the Creator. We read of God’s actions, emotions, and appearance in human terms, or at least in words we normally accept and associate with humans.
      ii. In several places in the Bible, God is described as having the physical attributes of man. He “sets [his] face” against evil (Leviticus 20:6); the Lord will make “His face” to shine on you (Numbers 6:25); He “stretched out his hand” (Exodus 7:5; Isaiah 23:11), and God scattered enemies with His strong arm (Psalm 89:10). He “stoops down to look on the heavens and the earth” (Psalm 113:6). He “keeps his eye” on the land (Deuteronomy 11:12), the “eyes of the Lord” are on the righteous (Psalm 34:15), and the earth is His

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13 Read more: http://www.gotquestions.org/pantheism.html#ixzz2R1PuZIPQ

14 Read more: http://www.gotquestions.org/pantheism.html#ixzz2R1OCgz5J

“footstool” (Isaiah 66:1). Do all these verses mean that God literally has eyes, a face, hands and feet? Not necessarily. God is spirit, not flesh and blood, but because we are not spirit, these anthropomorphisms help us to understand God’s nature and actions.16

VIII. God is Invisible:
a. If God is invisible why do Scriptures like Isa. 6:1 tell us that Isaiah “saw the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up”?
   i. Although no one can ever see God’s total essence, which is invisible, God has at times chosen to show something of himself to people through visible, created things, and especially through the person of Jesus Christ.17
   ii. The Bible does, however, record instances when people have seen outward manifestations of God. Isaiah tells us he “saw the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up” (Isa. 6:1). “The LORD appeared” to Abraham “by the oaks of Mamre” (Gen. 18:1). And Jacob said he saw “God face to face” (Gen. 32:30). In these and other similar instances, God took on a visible form to show himself to people. A much greater visible manifestation of God is found in the person of Jesus Christ. As Jesus said, “Whoever has seen me has seen the Father” (John 14:9).

IX. God is Omniscient:
a. What does it mean that God is Omniscient?
   i. God is always, at all times, fully aware of everything. His knowledge never changes or grows. Nothing surprises him; nothing is hidden from him. From all eternity God has known all things that would happen and all things that he would do.18

X. God is Wise:
a. What is the difference between God being “All-Knowing” and “All-Wise”?
   i. God is not only all-knowing but also all-wise. This means he always chooses the best possible goals and the best possible means to meet those goals. He is “the only wise God” (Rom. 16:27). He is “wise in heart” (Job 9:4) and with him “are wisdom and might; he has counsel and understanding” (Job 12:13).19
   b. What benefit is there to us in knowing that God is “All-wise”?
      i. That regardless of whether things go the way we think they should, we should have peace in knowing that God’s way is always the wisest and best way.

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16 Read more: http://www.gotquestions.org/anthropomorphism.html#ixzz2R1RbJCVI
ii. At times he will allow us to understand the reasons things happen; at other times, we will not be able to fully understand why things are the way they are or happened the way they did. During those difficult times, we must eventually “trust in the LORD” with “all” our heart and not lean on our “own understanding” (Prov. 3:5).

XI. God is Truthful:
   a. Since God is truthful, how can we imitate Him?
      i. We can imitate God’s truthfulness, in part, by striving to have true knowledge of him and his Word. We can also imitate it by being truthful in what we say and do (Col. 3:9–10).

XII. God is Good:
   a. What is the difference between God’s mercy and His grace?
      i. His mercy is his goodness toward those in misery and distress. His grace is his goodness toward those who deserve only punishment.

XIII. God is Love:
   a. How does God demonstrate His attribute of Love?
      i. This eternal love finds its expression in God’s self-giving love toward his children. John tells us, “In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins” (1 John 4:10). And Paul writes, “God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us” (Rom. 5:8).

XIV. God is Holy:
   a. What does it mean that God is Holy?
      i. That means he is separated from sin and devoted to seeking his own honor. God is often called the “Holy One of Israel” (Ps. 71:22, for example). The seraphim (winged creatures) around his throne continually cry out, “Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts” (Isa. 6:3).

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XV. **God is Righteous and Just:**
   a. **How can God forgive people of their sins and still remain righteous and just?**
      i. Because God is righteous and just, he must treat people as they deserve. Therefore, he must punish that which is against him, that is, sin. However, sometimes God forgives people and does not punish them for their sin. How can he do that if he is just? God is able to forgive people because Christ died to take God’s punishment for sin upon himself. In this way, Jesus demonstrated “God’s righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus” (Rom. 3:25–26).25

XVI. **God is Jealous:**
   a. **How can God be jealous and not be sinful?**
      i. It is not wrong for God to continually seek his own honor, for it is an honor that only he, as God, deserves. That is why he can rightly say, “My glory I will not give to another” (Isa. 48:11).26

XVII. **God is Wrathful Toward Sin:**
   a. **Why should we thank and praise God for His wrath toward sin?**
      i. Therefore, wrath is an attribute for which we should thank and praise God. If God delighted in or was not troubled by sin, he wouldn’t be a God worthy of our worship or praise. Sin is worthy of our hatred. In fact, we are encouraged by Christ’s example to hate sin and wickedness (Heb. 1:9). 27

XVIII. **God Wills What He Will:**
   a. **If the death of Christ and all the events surrounding it took place according to God’s will is He responsible for sin and explain?**
      i. In the Bible, human beings and sinful angels (demons) are always blamed for evil, sinful actions, and God is never blamed. Even the death of Christ, which the Bible clearly states happened “according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God,” was carried out “by the hands of lawless men” (Acts 2:23).28

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XIX. God has Freedom:
    a. What does it mean that God has Freedom?
       i. Psalm 115:3 says, “Our God is in the heavens; he does all that he pleases.” Nothing can hinder God from doing his will. He is not constrained by anything outside of himself; he is completely free to do whatever he wants to do. He is not under any authority or restraint; there is no person or force that can ever dictate what he should or will do.  

XX. God is Omnipotent:
    a. What does it mean that God is Omnipotent?
       i. God is omnipotent. He is all powerful. He is able to do all his holy will. There are no limits on what he decides to do. He “is able,” Paul tells us, “to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think” (Eph. 3:20). As Jesus says, “With God all things are possible” (Matt. 19:26). God’s power is infinite.

XXI. God is Perfect:
    a. Where would you point someone in Scripture to prove that God is Perfect?
       i. Jesus tells us in Matthew 5:48, “Your heavenly Father is perfect.”

XXII. God is Blessed:
    a. What does it mean that God is blessed?
       i. God’s blessedness means that he fully delights in himself and in all that reflects his character. He himself is the focus of all happiness and delight; therefore, his complete fullness of joy is found in himself.

XXIII. God is Beautiful:
    a. What does it mean that God is beautiful?
       i. In Psalm 27:4, David tells us that his single great longing in life is to dwell in God’s house for his entire life. One reason he gives for this longing is that he desires to “gaze upon the beauty of the LORD.” God is the sum of all desirable qualities, and he possesses...

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every quality that is truly desirable. Therefore, as David discovered, all our longings and all our desires will only ultimately find their fulfillment in God, the only one who is truly beautiful.  

XXIV. God is Unity:

a. **What does it mean that God is Unity?**

   i. Although some of God’s attributes may seem to be emphasized more than others, it is important to realize that God is unified in all his attributes. He is not more of one attribute than another. He is not divided into parts, and he is not one attribute at one point in history and another attribute at another time. He is fully and completely every attribute (even those not mentioned here) at every time.

   ii. Scripture never singles out one of God’s attributes as more important than the rest. For example, “God is light” (1 John 1:5) and “God is love” (1 John 4:8). He is not part light and part love; he is not love during the day and light at night. He is, at all times and in all ways, both light and love. Each one of God’s attributes qualifies each other attribute.

   iii. Each of God’s attributes represents one aspect of his character; they each provide us with a perspective on who he is. And they also provide us with some perspective on who he has made us to be.

XXV. **Review Questions:**

a. What are some attributes that God most clearly shares with us? What are some attributes he doesn’t share very much with us? Name one attribute of God that you would like to imitate more fully in your daily life and tell why.

b. Can you tell what some of the dangers would be in considering one of God’s attributes more important than all the others?

c. Which of God’s attributes seem most amazing to you? What have you learned about God through this attribute?

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