

GOD'S ATTRIBUTES

by James P. Reeves

PURPOSE

To allow youth to increase their knowledge of God by studying specific attributes and to get to know themselves better in the process.

PREPARATION

Gather newsprint, blackboard, hymnal, paper, pencils, colored pencils, crayons, felt-tip markers, glue, tape and several copies of the shield drawing in the "Meat" of the Meeting.

OPENING

Introduce the concept of God's attributes by saying that we can learn to accept ourselves and to accept all that happens to us when we get to know God.

Read the following paragraph to the youth:

"There is tremendous relief in knowing that his love to me is utterly realistic, based at every point on prior knowledge of the worst about me, so that no discovery now can disillusion him about me, in the way I am so often disillusioned about myself, and quench his determination to bless me. There is, certainly, great cause for humility in the thought that he sees all the twisted things about me my fellowmen do not see . . . and that he sees more corruption in me than that which I see in myself . . . He wants me as his friend, and desires to be my friend, and has given his son to die for me in order to realize this purpose."¹

Ask: Which attributes of God were mentioned in this paragraph? (List these on the blackboard.) Ask if the youth agree or disagree with the opinion of God stated in this paragraph.

THE "MEAT" OF THE MEETING

Explain you will be looking at the amazing and wonderful attributes of God that touch us every day. These attributes are God's power, presence, knowledge, loving concern and proven authority.

Divide into five groups and assign each group one of the following topics.

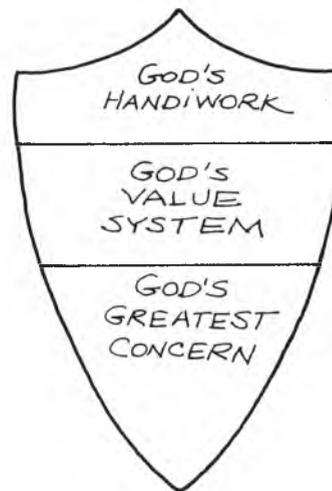
Each group should complete the project in 30 to 40 minutes.

● **All-powerful creator.** Read Psalms 19:1-6; 29:3-9; 65:9-13. Write a front page story for the Jerusalem Journal. Write more than one story if time allows. Have at least two "photographers" draw pictures on this topic.

● **God is everywhere at once.** Read Psalm 139:7-12. Either do a pantomime to present a message on this topic or write an advertisement brochure to celebrate the fact that God is omnipotent.

● **The "I-know-it-all" God.** Read Psalm 139:1-6. Create a book cover for your Bible that reflects this message.

● **The God of loving concern.** Read Psalms 8:3-9; 86:11-13. Fill in and decorate the coat of arms for



God. (Distribute art supplies.)

● **God's power demonstrated.** Read 1 Corinthians 15. Develop a choral reading to emphasize the idea of God's power of death. (Use responsive readings from the church hymnal as a guideline for designing your choral reading.)

RESPONSE (OR CLOSING)

Regroup and share your results. Praise the groups for their efforts.

Distribute paper and pencils to the youth and have them write their responses to the following: God is all knowing, all powerful, all seeing and all loving. Because of this, I need to contemplate_____

_____. Apply this at home and at school.

How should this statement alter what you feel about yourself and others? What should you do in your life to exemplify this?

Close with a prayer asking God to open your heart, mind and eyes to that which God wants you to comprehend.

HELPFUL RESOURCES

It Is Finished, February 1982, GROUP Magazine, P.O. Box 481, Loveland, CO 80539.

¹J.I. Packer, **Knowing God** (Downer's Grove, Ill.: InterVarsity Press, n.d.), p. 37.