

*Statement of Faith*

# God

## *We believe . . .*

. . . in one God, Creator of all things, holy, infinitely perfect, and eternally existing in a loving unity of three equally divine Persons: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Having limitless knowledge and sovereign power, God has graciously purposed from eternity to redeem a people for Himself and to make all things new for His own glory.

## **Article 1**

## FOCUS ON THE ARTICLE

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### ARTICLE 1

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## EXAMINE THE SCRIPTURES

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### *God*

1. We believe in one God (Dt. 6:4; Mk. 12:29), Creator of all things (Gen. 1:1; Ps. 33:6; Jn. 1:3; Col. 1:15-17; Heb. 11:3), holy (Ex. 15:11; Isa. 6:3; 57:15), infinitely perfect (Dt. 32:4; Job 1:7-10; Ps. 18:30; 50:2; 90:2; 145:3; Matt. 5:48), and eternally existing (Ps. 33:11; 102:25-27; 115:3; Dan. 4:34-35; Jn. 5:26; Acts 17:24-25) in a loving unity (Jn. 3:35; 17:24; 1 Jn. 4:8,16) of three equally divine Persons (Jn. 17:11; Matt. 3:16-17; 28:19; 2 Cor. 13:14; 1 Pet. 1:2): the Father (Dt. 32:6; Mt. 6:6; Rom. 8:15; 1 Cor. 8:6), the Son (Matt. 3:17; Jn. 1:14; 3:16; Gal. 4:4; Heb. 1:5), and the Holy Spirit (Jn. 14:16, 17, 26; 15:26; 16:7-15; Rom. 8:9, 26; Gal. 4:6). Having limitless knowledge (Ps. 139:1-16; 147:5; Isa. 46:10; Jn. 21:17) and sovereign power (Jer. 32:17; Eph. 1:11; Rm. 8:28; 2 Cor. 6:18; Eph. 3:20; Rev. 1:8), God has graciously purposed from eternity to redeem a people for Himself (1 Cor. 2:7; Eph. 1:11; 3:10,11; 2 Tim. 1:9; Tit. 1:2; 1 Pet. 1:20; Rev. 13:8) and to make all things new (Matt. 19:28; Acts 3:21; Rom. 8:19-21; Rev. 21,22) for His own glory (Ps. 19:1-2; Isa. 43:7; Jer. 13:11; Col. 1:15-23; Rev. 4:11; 5:9-14).

### *Key Passages*

Isaiah 40:25

Genesis 1:1

Deuteronomy 6:5

John 1:3

Isaiah 57:15

Genesis 1:26

John 5:26

Matthew 5:48

Matthew 28:19

Isaiah 63:9

Genesis 11:7

Genesis 3:22

John 16:13-15

## READ REQUIRED RESOURCES

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- I. Read the Article 1 chapter in *Evangelical Convictions*, Free Church Publications
- II. Read chapters 4 to 7 of *Bible Doctrine* by Wayne Grudem

## PREPARE YOUR RESPONSE

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### *God*

1. What does it mean that God is creator and why is it important? Include your view of creation.
2. Explain your understanding of the being of God and the doctrine of the Trinity, including your understanding of the attributes of God.
3. Why is it necessary, or important, to have a working understanding of the nature and attributes of God?
4. What does it mean that God has “limitless knowledge and sovereign power” and what is its significance?

## FOLLOW THROUGH ON ASSIGNMENTS

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1. See page 6 “Rationale for Reading Assignments”.
2. Based on the previous questions, write a two page paper on the First Article of the Statement of Faith (see pages 7-9 “How to Write a Paper in Six Simple Steps”). Turn in a copy of your paper to your facilitator for his review. After his review, rewrite the paper, including the necessary corrections, and comments/notes from the class. Turn in your corrected paper to your facilitator.
3. Make an arrangement with your pastor to create a plan to teach this article in your local church.

## EXTRA HELPS

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### Scriptures for Article 1 (ESV)

Isaiah 40:25 *To whom then will you compare me that I should be like him? says the Holy One.*

Genesis 1:1 *In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.*

Deut. 6:5 *You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.*

John 1:3 *All things were made through him, and without him was not anything made that was made.*

Isaiah 57:15 *For thus says the One who is high and lifted up, who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy: "I dwell in the high and holy place, and also with him who is of a contrite and lowly spirit, to revive the spirit of the lowly, and to revive the heart of the contrite.*

Genesis 1:26 *Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth."*

John 5:6 *When Jesus saw him lying there and knew that he had already been there a long time, he said to him, "Do you want to be healed?"*

Matthew 5:48 *You therefore must be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect.*

*Matthew 28:19 Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,*

*Isaiah 63:9 In all their affliction he was afflicted, and the angel of his presence saved them; in his love and in his pity he redeemed them; he lifted them up and carried them all the days of old.*

*Genesis 11:7 Come, let us go down and there confuse their language, so that they may not understand one another's speech."*

*Genesis 3:22 Then the Lord God said, "Behold, the man has become like one of us in knowing good and evil. Now, lest he reach out his hand and take also of the tree of life and eat, and live forever—"*

*John 16:13-15 When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. [14] He will glorify me, for he will take what is mine and declare it to you. [15] All that the Father has is mine; therefore I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.*