What is God like?

We have been talking about the **ATTRIBUTES OF GOD**. We are up to 13! How many can you remember? --- Tell the person next to you.

What is God like?

God has many amazing attributes.

God is...

• Creator • Truth • Eternal • Self-existent • Gracious He is the Great I AM • Wise • Righteous • Sovereign • Holy • Good, ... • Omnipotent - God is Present - Unchanging

Today, we add a new one: God is Faithful.

That means that He is <u>reliable</u>. You can <u>trust</u> Him. He will never <u>let you down</u>. You can <u>count</u> on Him.

Old Faithful is the most <u>famous</u> geyser in the US...even though it's <u>not the highest</u> of all North American geysers. It's famous because of its reliability.

It was named **"Old Faithful"** in <u>1870</u> because it seemed to <u>spout "faithfully"</u> every 63 to 70 minutes.

If something or someone is faithful, that means you can trust them. They are reliable.

That's what <u>God</u> is like. He is faithful.

Lamentations 3:22-23

The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases;

his mercies never come to an end;

they are new every morning;

great is your faithfulness.

You can <u>count</u> on <u>God's love</u>. It is <u>steadfast</u>.

It never ceases. Meaning it never stops. It never comes to an end. It's like a water fall that just keeps pouring out love. It never runs dry.

God never stops loving us. He is a faithful God.

It's been about that time. Old Faithful should erupt any minute.

Let's sing that together. Stand up.

- Repeat
- Motions

Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father	Right arm up, left arm up
There is no shadow of turning with thee	Cut hands over face and turn
Thou changest not	Cup hand over hand, drop hands
Thy compassions they fail not	Hands over heart, drop hands
As thou hast been thou forever wilt be	Point up, 2 nd hand point up and move to side
Great is thy faithfulness 2X	Right hand up and to chest, then Left up and to chest
Morning by morning	Splash up and around head and then back
New mercies I see	Hand over eyes, look to side
All I have needed	Right hand up to horizontal,
thy hand hath provided	Left from shoulder, over, and clap on left
Great is thy faithfulness	Right hand up and then Left hand up
Lord unto me	Both hands down to chest
Great is thy faithfulness	Splash Spash Hug
	Stop at 1:28

Let's sing it!

Deuteronomy 7:9

He is the faithful God who keeps his covenant for a thousand generations.

He keeps his covenant... his agreement... his promise.

God <u>never breaks</u> his promises.

A generation is a measurement of time.

Time is necessary to prove faithfulness.

A person who is <u>only</u> faithful for a <u>day</u> is **not** a <u>faithful</u> person.

Our God is faithful for long periods of time.

A thousand generations. A generation is usually about 40 years. What is 40 X 1,000? That's 40,000 years. That's a long time.

The world isn't even 40,000 years old. It's probably around 6,000 years old.

When Moses says God is faithful for a 1,000 generations, basically he's saying that God is ALWAYS reliable. Day after day. Year after year.

- 24 hours a day.
- 7 days a week.
- 365 days a year.
- 10 years a decade.
- 100 years a century.
- 1,000 years a millennium.
- God will always be faithful to keep his promises and take care of us.

It's been about that time. Old Faithful should erupt any minute.

God is faithful, but PEOPLE Are Not.

People are <u>unfaithful</u>. People <u>lie</u>. People <u>break</u> their promises.

If you testify in court, you have to put your **HAND ON A BIBLE** and <u>promise</u> to tell the <u>truth</u>. Why? Because we <u>don't trust</u> people. They're <u>not faithful</u>. So, we make them <u>swear to God</u> himself that they are going to tell the truth.

God is faithful.

He is faithful to **FORGIVE** our sins.

1 John 1:9

If we confess our sins, **He is faithful** and just and will <u>forgive</u> us our sins and <u>purify us</u> from all unrighteousness.

I'm counting on God to forgive me for my sins. I know that I can trust Him to do that.

1 Corinthians 10:13

No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. **God is faithful**, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.

There are a lot of **TEMPTATIONS** I face. I'm tempted to <u>say</u> things I shouldn't or to <u>do</u> things that I shouldn't. And, <u>every time</u> that I'm tempted, God makes sure that the temptation is **not** <u>too much</u> for me. So that it's not <u>beyond my ability</u>.

I know that there's a **WAY OUT**. He will provide a way of escape for me, so that I can <u>say NO</u> to the temptation.

God is so good to me. I can count on Him to help me overcome temptation.

It's been about that time. Old Faithful should erupt any minute.

I heard a friend <u>complaining</u> one time: "**She is such a flake**. She <u>let me down</u> again. I just <u>can't</u> <u>rely</u> on her. She <u>says</u> that she is <u>coming</u>, and then she <u>doesn't</u> even <u>show up</u>."

It's <u>frustrating</u> when your friends <u>let you down</u>. When they <u>break</u> their promises.

But our God is the opposite. He is faithful!

Galatians 5:22-23 We see that one of the FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT is faithfulness.

The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, **FAITHFULNESS**, gentleness, self-control...

It's a fruit of the Holy Spirit. Faithfulness comes from God.

Like an <u>apple tree</u> **produces** <u>apples</u>, our <u>faithful God</u> produces faithfulness. And He **causes** faithfulness to grow in <u>our lives</u>.

When **His Spirit** lives in us, we grow in the area of <u>faithfulness</u>, and we become <u>more like God</u>.

You ever make a **PINKY PROMISE**. You grab pinkies with a <u>friend</u>, and you say, "I pinky promise."

• I'll be your <u>best friend</u> forever.

GOD <u>really will</u> be your <u>best friend</u> forever.

Because He is faithful!

Let's sing one more time of the faithfulness of God.

Song.