



# Catechism: Foundations of the Faith

## What Is God's Character Like?

### Key idea:

What is God's character like? God is perfect in holiness, love, and integrity.

### Key text:

Isaiah 6:1-8

In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord seated on a throne, high and exalted, and the train of his robe filled the temple. <sup>2</sup> Above him were seraphs, each with six wings: With two wings they covered their faces, with two they covered their feet, and with two they were flying. <sup>3</sup> And they were calling to one another: "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord Almighty; the whole earth is full of his glory." <sup>4</sup> At the sound of their voices the doorposts and thresholds shook and the temple was filled with smoke. <sup>5</sup> "Woe to me!" I cried. "I am ruined! For I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips, and my eyes have seen the King, the Lord Almighty." <sup>6</sup> Then one of the seraphs flew to me with a live coal in his hand, which he had taken with tongs from the altar. <sup>7</sup> With it he touched my mouth and said, "See, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away and your sin atoned for." <sup>8</sup> Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I. Send me!"

### Key points:

1. God is perfect in holiness, which means that He is righteous, just, good, pure, and judging and wrathful against sin.
2. God is perfect in love, which means that He is merciful, gracious, kind, forgiving, and compassionate.
3. God is perfect in integrity, which means that He is true, faithful, keeps His covenant promises, unchanging, reliable, and true to Himself.
4. All of these aspects of God's character must be fully and equally embraced or we alter the very character of God and thus turn Him into an idol of our own imagination.

### **Questions for discussion/application:**

1. Note: this is BRCC Catechism Question 7. The catechism has many other verses, questions, and resources for further study related to this question.
2. What part of Sunday's text and teaching stood out most to me? Why?
3. What does it mean to say that God is holy? What other attributes of God's character are related to the term 'holy'? How would my view of God be changed if I removed holiness as a description of God's character?
4. How important a concept is the holiness of God in Scripture? How often is it spoken of in Scripture? How is it received in our culture?
5. What does it mean to say that God is love? What other attributes of God's character are related to the term 'love'? How would my view of God be changed if I removed love as a description of God's character?
6. How does the Scripture define love? How does our culture think of love? How influenced am I by the culture's view of love as opposed to a biblical view?
7. What does it mean to say that God is perfect in integrity? What other attributes of God's character are related to the term 'integrity'? How would my view of God be changed if I removed integrity as a description of God's character?
8. Why is integrity so important when thinking of God's character? How is this attribute of God's character received in our culture?
9. Why is it important to say that God is 'perfect' in holiness, love, and integrity? What might be changed if we removed the word 'perfect'?
10. Do each of these character traits apply equally to each of the Persons of the Trinity, or do they apply more to One than the Others? Why does it matter?
11. How does God's character - perfect in holiness, love, and integrity - relate to His expectations of humans? In what way is it related to how salvation must be achieved?
12. Whom can I pray for, share what I have learned, and invite to church this week?

**Preview of next week: What Does God Demand of You? [Question 8] (Matthew 5:48)**