



Series: What Different Does

Title: A Different Faith

Isaiah 43:10 ESV

"You are my witnesses," declares the Lord, "and my servant whom I have chosen, that you may know and believe me and understand that I am he. Before me no god was formed, nor shall there be any after me.

1 Peter 2:9 ESV

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

Romans 12:2 ESV

Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Our God is different (allow or assign participants an attribute and have them read a few of these verses)

1. SELF-EXISTENT: God has no cause (Exodus 3:14; Isaiah 43:10; John 1:1-5; John 5:26; John 8:58; Colossians 1:15-17)
2. TRANSCENDENT: God is entirely distinct from the universe (Isaiah 66:1-2; Acts 17:24; Isaiah 41:4; Psalm 102:25-27)
3. IMMANENT: God is present with and in the world (Jeremiah 23:23-24; Acts 17:27-28; Haggai 2:5)
4. IMMUTABLE: God never changes (Malachi 3:6; James 1:17)
5. ETERNAL: God transcends all time (Exodus 3:14; Psalm 90:2; Hebrews 13:8)
6. OMNIPRESENT: God transcends all space (1 Kings 8:27; Job 11:7-9; Jeremiah 23:23-23; Psalm 139:7-10; Psalm 90:12)
7. OMNIPOTENT: God can do all things (Gen. 18:14; Jer. 32:17, 27; Zech. 8:6; Matt. 3:9; 2 Tim. 2:13; Titus 1:2; Heb. 6:18; James 1:13)
8. OMNISCIENT: God knows all things (Job 37:16; 1 Sam. 16:7; Psalm 139:1-4; Isaiah 41:22-23))
9. INCORPOREAL: God has no body (John 4:24; Numbers 23:19; 1 Samuel 15:29)
10. ONE: God is one infinite Being (Deuteronomy 6:4; Mark 12:29; Mark 12:32; Galatians 3:20; 1 Timothy 2:5)
11. CREATOR: God created everything (Gen. 1:1; Psa. 33:6; 102:25; John 1:3; Rom. 11:36; Heb. 1:2; 11:3; Isaiah 44:24)
12. PERSONAL: God experiences relationships with other persons (Genesis 1:3, 26; Hebrews 1:1-12; Exodus 3:14)
13. INCOMPREHENSIBLE: God cannot be fully and directly known (Exodus 8:10; 9:14; Psalm 86:8; Micah 7:18; 1 Corinthians 8:2-3)
14. MORALLY PERFECT: God's moral nature is perfectly unified
GOOD: God is morally excellent, and does only good (Gen. 1:31; Deut. 8:16; Psa. 107:8; 118:1; Nahum 1:7; Mark 10:18; Rom. 8:28)

HOLY: God is utterly separated from all evil and perfectly pure (Ex. 3:5; Lev. 19:2; Psa. 5:4-6; 99:5; Isa. 6:3; 8:13; Hab. 1:12-13; 1 Pet. 1:14-19)

RIGHTEOUS: God is/does everything right (Isa. 45:21; Zeph. 3:5; Rom. 3:26)

TRUE: God cannot lie (John 17:17; Titus 1:2; Heb. 6:18)

LOVING: God sacrificially gives for the true benefit of another (Deut. 7:7-8; Jer. 31:3; John 3:16; Heb. 12:6)

WRATHFUL: God judges that which rebels against His authority (Psa. 103:8-9; Rom. 2:5; 11:22; Heb. 10:31)

Why is it important for us as Christ followers to know the attributes of God?

The church is to be different

How is the church designed and equipped to be different? In Scripture, the church is referred to and illustrated as a body. Many parts each having their own function. We are diverse – Different backgrounds, religious heritage and history. Refer to the I Belong series we did a few months ago.

How would you explain the desire to grow?

Are you making the effort to grow?

Why is faithfulness a focus for us at FCC?

We gravitate towards homogeneity and the church is designed to be diverse.

“Our church does not have a vision. God’s vision has a church.”

So, what is God’s vision? Matthew 28:18-20

You are to be different

Because God is different, we are able to be different only through Him. How is God leading you to be different through Him?

In coming weeks, we will discover how we can be different in – families, relationships, finances, work and calling, school, etc.

How can we point people to a different God when our church and we as individuals are not different?

Take prayer requests and close in prayer.