



## Doctrine 2: Creator of Heaven and Earth

*We believe that there is only one God, who is infinitely perfect, the creator, preserver, and governor of all things, and who is the only proper object of religious worship.*

### Big ideas

- **There is one God who created, sustains and governs creation**
- **God is personally involved in creation, caring for people and all creation**
- **God deserves our worship**

“**Hear O Israel. The Lord, our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength**”  
(Deuteronomy 6:4–5).

If God is loving and powerful, why is there so much pain and suffering in the world? This is a common and important question.

Christians believe we have one God who is perfect. God is the creator, preserver and governor of all things. This belief provides us with security and peace, because there is one loving God behind everything.

God is intimately related to creation. In the Bible, we learn, too, of God’s work in creating, sustaining and ruling creation. If God was not closely involved with creation on an ongoing basis, it would cease to exist. In creation, we see God’s power and creativity

“*The heavens declare the glory of God;  
the skies proclaim the work of his hands.  
Day after day they pour forth speech;  
night after night they reveal knowledge.  
They have no speech, they use no words;  
no sound is heard from them.  
Yet their voice goes out into all the earth,  
their words to the ends of the world*”  
(Psalm 19:1–4).

“*For since the creation of the world God’s invisible qualities – his eternal power and divine nature – have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse*”  
(Romans 1:20).



As Christians, we worship God because of God's character and all that God has done in the world. In the Bible, God is revealed as perfect and steadfast in love, full of compassion, mercy, holiness, wisdom and forgiveness.

“*The Lord, the Lord, the compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness, maintaining love to thousands, and forgiving wickedness, rebellion and sin*” (Exodus 34:6–7).

In coming into the world in Jesus, we also learn of God in the flesh. We see and hear what God is like in the way he teaches, heals and engages with people. We learn of his love in coming to die on the cross and his power over death and evil in his resurrection.

“*This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters*” (1 John 3:16).

“*By his power God raised the Lord from the dead, and he will raise us also*” (1 Corinthians 6:14).

Our response to God's extraordinary love and power is to give God our worship and praise. We do this individually and we do this as part of a community – the family of God. God has created us to worship him and serve others in relationship with others – not alone.

“*Therefore, I urge you brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God – this is your spiritual act of worship. Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind*” (Romans 12:1–2).

## Discuss

- How do you see people express their worship of God?
- How do you seek to express your worship of God?
- If God is so loving and powerful, why is there so much pain and suffering in the world?