# Sound Words for Kids

A Protestant Westminster Catechism



Attributes of God

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Attributes of God from Unit 1: All About God

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### **Attributes of God**

This is a 12-day devotion on the attributes of God. You can do the whole lesson before beginning the Q&A lessons or build your attribute board as you are completing the rest of the lessons.

#### **Attribute Cards:**

Print the attribute cards on pages 13 and 14 Printing on card stock or laminating them will make them sturdier.

#### **Attribute Board:**

Set up an attribute board. Use a black foam board or black poster board. Optionally add cut-out letters or write "GOD" on the center of the board. Post your Attribute Board in an area that your children will see every day. The visual will help them remember the attribute name and meaning.

#### **Daily Readings:**

Put the attribute cards in a box or basket. Each day, select a card to focus on or allow your kids to take turns selecting one from the basket. Before selecting a card, take a moment to pray, focusing yourself and your children on the presence of God and asking Him to open your hearts to what He wants you to learn about Him with this lesson.

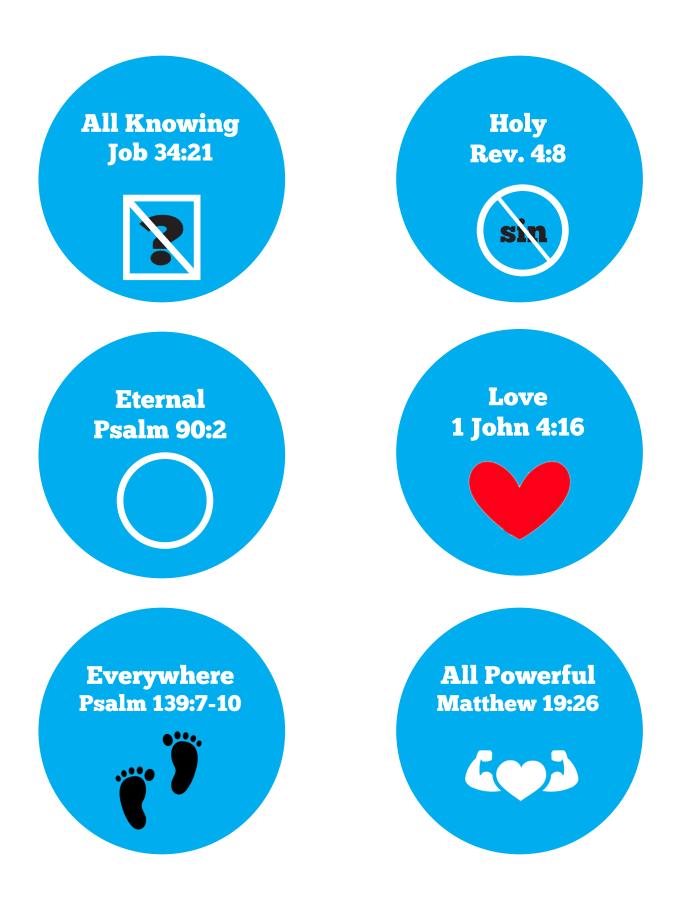
Once a card is selected, ask the kids what they know about the word/phrase and brainstorm ideas together. Read the scripture reference and and discuss what it tells you about the attribute.

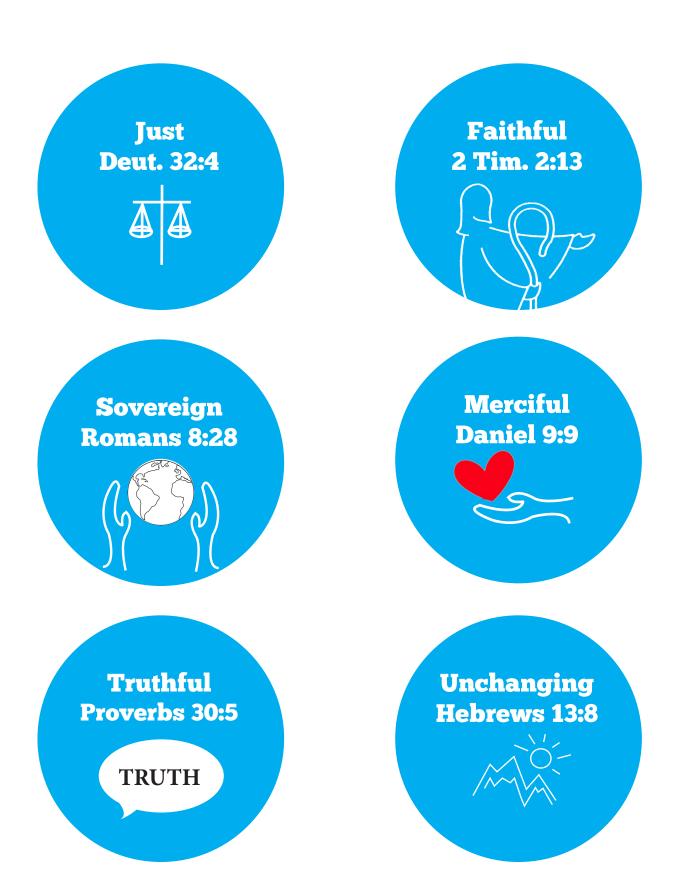
Read the devotion, taking time to discuss answers to the questions. Follow God's lead in your devotion and don't worry if it doesn't always go as you envisioned. Little ears hear more than you think!

When you're finished, have a child tape the attribute card on the board. Remember to refer to your board throughout subsequent lessons. It also helps to do a quick review of the posted cards when putting a new card on the board.

#### **Card Games:**

- Match Game: Print two copies of the cards and play a memory match game. Turn them all face down. The first player turns two cards face up. If they match, they say what they remember about that attribute and keep the two cards. If not, the cards are turned back over face down. When all the cards are matched, the person with the most cards win. Or simply put the matched cards in a community "win" pile.
- Treasure Hunt: Hide the cards around the house or in a big bucket of beans, rice, popcorn or something similar. As the kids find each card they must say what the attribute means. Older kids can recite the verse or look it up in their Bibles. For younger kids, mom or dad can quickly say what the attribute means. ("Sovereign" means that God is King!)





#### **Devotions**

Overview

Holy

Love

Eternal

All-Knowing

All-Powerful

Sovereign

Unchanging

Truthful

Everywhere

Just

Merciful

Faithful

#### **Overview**

#### God loves you!

He knows everything about you and wants you to know Him! The Bible, God's true Word, tells us all about His attributes. An attribute is something that describes what someone is like. If I say you are very cheerful, that is an attribute of you.

God has MANY attributes. We cannot ever stop learning about who He is and how much He loves us. But one of the joyful things about being God's children is that we can know and love Him more every day. The more we know about God, the more we can trust Him as our heavenly Father.

## Day 1: Holy

## "Holy, Holy, Holy. The Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come."

#### - Revelation 4:8

Do you know what "holy" means? It means completely pure and clean of heart, without any sin. God is holy and completely pure, without anything bad in Him.

Think about the water that you drink. Is it clear and clean or is it muddy with bugs and dirt? Pure water has nothing dirty in it but is completely clean. Because God is holy, we can trust that He is ALWAYS pure, with nothing bad in Him. He is always good and true. We can count on Him because He is the only really perfect One!

Unlike God, we cannot be holy on our own. However, just like a water filter cleans out water, Jesus Christ purifies our sins so that we can start fresh! When we have accepted Christ as our Lord and savior, His Spirit lives in us! We can confess (tell) our sin to God, and ask His forgiveness. When we do this, turning away from the muddy things (sin) in our hearts, Jesus is like a filter that removes the sin and makes us pure in Christ Jesus. In this way, we can live holy as we trust and follow a holy God.

Let's praise God that He is perfect and holy, completely sinless! Let's thank Him for His forgiveness and pray that we always confess our sin and turn away from it.

### Day 2: Love

"So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him."

- 1 John 4:16

What is love? How do we know that someone loves us? We know it when they spend time with us, care for us, put our needs above their own, and say and do kind things for us too, right?

The Bible says that God IS love! In God's Word and through His daily care, God shows us how much He loves us. He shows us how to love others too!

Love is why God created everything around us. Love is why God created us! Love is why God disciplines us, corrects us, comforts us and guides us. God's love for us is what made Him put in place a master plan to save us from sadness and sin.

Love is what made Jesus come to die for our sins. He put our needs above His own. Because of Love, we don't have anything to fear and we can live full of joyful hope. God did that for US!

Let's pray together and thank God for His amazing love, asking Him to help us love Him and love others.

#### Optional:

Read 1 Corinthians 13 and discuss how God loves us as described and how we can love others in the same way.

## Day 3: Eternal

"Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God."

#### - Psalm 90:2

Let's list some things that we know only last for a little while. Birthday parties, songs, bath time, games, playdates... It seems like the most fun activities don't ever last as long as we want them to! And on earth, life comes to an end because of death. Animals and people die. Flowers and trees die. It is a sadness that comes from sin.

But God is not like that at all! God is eternal because He has no beginning and He lives on and on. He is infinite and eternal! Nothing ever came before God and nothing will ever last longer than God! God will never die.

Let us praise God for His eternal nature. He is so much greater than anything in creation, which eventually fades away.

#### **Unit 1: All About God**

## Day 4: All-Knowing

# "For his eyes are on the ways of a man, and he sees all his steps."

- Job 34:21

What people in your life seem to know a lot of things? Your parents? Grandparents? Did you know that God knows everything? There are no questions that God does not have the answers to. There is no problem to big for God to solve.

Even the wisest person in history, King Solomon, knew nothing compared to God. If you gathered all the knowledge of every person that has ever lived or ever will live, it is like a rain drop compared to the ocean of knowledge of God.

God knows everything that has happened; He knows everything that is happening right now all over the world; He knows everything that will ever happen in the future.

Do you ever feel frustrated when you can't figure something out or don't know the answer to something? We can trust that God has the answers to all our problems and all the problems of the world. We can be comforted knowing that God has it all figured out, even when we don't, because He is our God who loves us and cares for us.

Let's thank God for giving us wisdom when we ask for it and for being our All-Knowing God.

## Day 5: All-Powerful

"But Jesus looked at them and said, 'With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible."

- Matthew 19:26

What is the heaviest thing you can lift? Did you know that God is the biggest and strongest of anyone? There is nothing He can't do. Let's think of some really big, strong things! (Daddy, Samson, gorillas, whales, dinosaurs, jet planes.) God is bigger and stronger than all of them!

Nothing is too big or too hard for Him. He didn't have any trouble creating the whole world. In fact, He's so powerful all He had to do was SAY "let there be light" and there was! That's how He created everything. By His Word!

God never fails. Nobody can stop God from doing what He wants to do! Jesus had the power to perform great miracles and then conquered death when He rose on Easter morning. He always wins! Not only is God powerful, but He loves us and and is for us. We have access to the power of God when we are close to Him. Isn't that awesome? He is bigger and more powerful than anything we might be afraid of.

Let's praise God that He is All-Powerful and that He is our protector and savior!

## Day 6: Sovereign

"Therefore you are great, O Lord God. For there is none like you, and there is no God besides you, according to all that we have heard with our ears."

#### - 2 Samuel 7:22

How would you describe a king? They have a crown. They also rule over their land and people. Maybe they live in a castle somewhere! What else?

God is OUR King! He is sovereign! Sovereign means that He rules over the universe, over all creation, and over every living thing, including us! Because He created everything, He has authority over it.

God is the ultimate King and He is good, always wanting the best for us. God's desire is that we choose to trust and obey Him as our sovereign creator and the Lord of our lives. Will you choose to respect the Lord's kingship in your life?

Let's pray and thank God that he is THE good King and loves us so much. Pray that He will help us to live in a way that trusts His sovereignty in our lives.

# Day 7: Unchanging

# "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever."

#### - Hebrews 13:8

Have you ever been a little hesitant to try something new? Has a new activity, group, class, or relationship made you nervous? Have you ever been sad when something good was changing, such as the end of a fun vacation, or when a friend moves away?

We know that God is good, holy, perfect, all-powerful, and so many more wonderful things. And you know what? We also know that God never changes! He has always been that way and always will! His character will be the same forever.

Even the old and magnificent mountains change. But not our God! He will always be with you through the hard changes of life. He will always love you and be the faithful, sovereign, merciful Lord. We can take comfort and courage in Him!

Let's thank God that He is always reliable to be the same forever. Let's also pray that we will trust in Him when we're faced with change.

## Day 8: Truthful

#### "Every word of God proves true; he is a shield to those who take refuge in him."

#### - Proverbs 30:5

Lying is something that has sad consequences. It brings about bitterness in our hearts and damages our relationships. If we lie, people can't trust us and it can be very hard to regain their confidence. Has anyone ever lied to you? How did it feel?

Being truthful is a very important thing. If someone cheats or isn't truthful, we can't really trust what they tell us or how they act toward us. Is that what God is like? NO! God is always truthful. We can trust His Word and His promises.

We can put absolute confidence in what God tells us in His Word, the Bible. We know that what God tells us about creation, sin, and forgiveness through Jesus Christ is true because He is truthful.

Praise God that He is trustworthy! Pray that we will also be truthful in all we say and do.

# Day 9: Everywhere

"Where shall I go from your Spirit?

Or where shall I flee from your presence? If I ascend to heaven, you are there!

If I make my bed in Sheol, you are there!

If I take the wings of the morning

and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, even there your hand shall lead me,

and your right hand shall hold me."

- Psalm 139:7-10

Wouldn't it be a cool superpower to be able to be in two places at once? You could be playing with your friends AND doing chores! You could be doing your lessons AND building forts!

Unfortunately, we can only be in one place at one time.

But God is everywhere all the time! Isn't that amazing? God is with us right now and He is with our neighbors. He is both here and in all the countries of the world. There is no place where God is not present.

Because we know God is everywhere, we know that He will always be with us in every situation. When we need help in a hard time, He is there to help us. When we are tempted to make a poor choice, He is there to help us turn away from temptation and do the right thing. What a good and loving God!

Thank God for all the times He is with us. Pray that we can remember that He is everywhere and always wants to help us.

#### Optional:

Look up the Footprints in the Sand poem and talk about what it means to your child.

## Day 10: Just

"The Rock, his work is perfect, for all his ways are justice. A God of faithfulness and without iniquity, just and upright is he."

- Deuteronomy 32:4

God is just - He is the perfect judge! To be just means to be able know whether an action is right or wrong and then decide just the right blessing or discipline for that action. God also cares for those who have suffered injustice, having been unfairly treated badly by others.

Our justice system tries to be just in every case that comes its way. Parents try to be fair and just in handling their children's sins and disputes. However, people aren't perfect, and sometimes things don't work out.

On the other hand, God IS perfect and He is always perfectly just. Not only will He correctly know what is right and wrong and decide what to do about it, He will do so in perfect love. Praise God that He is perfectly just! Pray that we would trust His judgements, and pray for courage to stand up for right.

## Day 11: Merciful

"To the Lord our God belong mercy and forgiveness, for we have rebelled against him."

#### - Daniel 9:9

What do you think mercy means? Describe some times where someone was merciful to you. Showing mercy means not punishing someone even though they did something wrong and they deserve it. When God is merciful, He is holding back the consequences of our sins and mistakes.

We have done nothing to earn God's mercy. He gives us mercy because He loves us! In mercy, He died for our sins so that we don't have to. In mercy, he washes away our sin when we confess it, repent of it, and accept forgiveness in Christ.

Thank God for all the mercies He shows us every day! Ask Him to help us have compassion and mercy on someone else today.

## Day 12: Faithful

# "If we are faithless, he remains faithful—for he cannot deny himself."

- 2 Timothy 2:13

Sometimes we don't do what we say we're going to do. Has anyone ever promised to do something for you and then not done it? Have you ever done that to someone else? While it is good to try to be faithful to others, these things will happen in life because we are an imperfect people.

However, this is not so with God! He is perfect and He is perfectly faithful to us. God always does what He says He's going to to. He always keeps His promises. If God says it, we know it will happen. Even when we fail to be faithful to God, He is always faithful to us.

Thank God for His faithfulness! Pray that we will grow to be more faithful like Him