

# Reflecting God's Character: The Communicable Attributes

## What You Need to Know

God shares some of his attributes with us. These qualities show what he is like and what his people are called to reflect.

## God's Shared Attributes

- **Knowledge & Wisdom** – God knows all things and always acts with perfect judgment (Ps. 139:1–6; Rom. 11:33).
- **Truthfulness & Faithfulness** – God always speaks truth and keeps his promises (John 17:17; 2 Tim. 2:13).
- **Love & Goodness** – God gives of himself, showing kindness in all he does (John 3:16; Ps. 34:8).
- **Grace & Mercy** – God shows undeserved favor and compassion to the weak (Eph. 2:8; Ps. 103:13).
- **Patience** – God is slow to anger, giving people time to repent (Rom. 2:4).
- **Holiness** – God is pure and set apart, calling us to holiness (Isa. 6:3; 1 Pet. 1:15–16).
- **Jealousy** – God rightly guards his honor, calling us to worship him alone (Exod. 34:14).
- **Wrath** – God hates sin and will judge it fully (Rom. 1:18).
- **Righteousness/Justice** – God always does what is right and fair (Deut. 32:4).
- **Power** – God is all-powerful, able to accomplish his will (Jer. 32:17).

## What This Means for Us

- We are made to reflect God's character as his image-bearers.
- These attributes shape our attitudes, actions, and relationships.
- We worship God not only for what he does but also for who he is.

## Mistakes to Avoid

- Redefining God's attributes by human standards (e.g., love as mere sentiment, jealousy as envy).
- Ignoring attributes we find uncomfortable (like wrath or justice).
- Pitting one attribute against another, as if love cancels justice.

## Living It Out

- Depend on the Spirit to grow in love, mercy, patience, and truth.
- Let God's holiness shape your pursuit of purity.
- Trust his justice and faithfulness when life feels unfair.
- Praise him for the beauty of his character.

## **Scriptures to Read and Reflect On**

Exod. 34:6–7; Ps. 103:6–14; Rom. 11:33–36; Eph. 5:1–2; 1 Pet. 1:15–16

## **Questions for You to Think About**

1. Which of God's attributes encourages you most today?
2. How does knowing God's faithfulness affect your trust in him?
3. In what small ways can you reflect God's patience or mercy this week?
4. Why is it important to remember that God's love and justice never conflict?
5. How do these attributes lead you to worship him more fully?