



BIBLE

STUDENT BOOK

▶ **7th Grade | Unit 3**

BIBLE 703

The Attributes of God

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The Attributes of God

Introduction

In this LIFEPAAC® you will learn some of the attributes of God. You will study the nature of God and learn how His nature is revealed in His creation. You will also study the Bible's meaning of **love**, **mercy**, and **grace**. Love must be expressed if it is real; and God expressed His love in His Son, Jesus Christ. Mercy is also a characteristic of God's nature, and you will learn how He has shown you mercy in your life today. Finally, you will learn what grace means and how God gave mankind grace instead of justice.

Studying only these parts of God's nature would be an incomplete study unless we understand how God expressed each attribute in Jesus, because sin required each attribute to be expressed toward mankind. A proper understanding of these attributes will help you to know what God expects from you and how you can allow God's Spirit to help you grow in your relationships with God and mankind.

Objectives

Read these objectives. The objectives tell you what you will be able to do when you have successfully completed this LIFEPAAC.

When you have finished this LIFEPAAC, you should be able to:

1. Better understand God's nature.
2. Learn the Bible's meaning of love, mercy, and grace.
3. Understand how God expressed love, mercy, and grace to mankind.
4. Learn the two aspects of each attribute—general and specific.
5. Learn the relationship between justice and mercy concerning sin.
6. Learn the relationship between grace and justice.
7. Understand how much God loves you.
8. Be encouraged to love God and accept His Son Jesus as your personal Savior.

Survey the LIFEPAK. Ask yourself some questions about this study and write your questions here.

A large rectangular area with horizontal lines, intended for writing questions. The lines are evenly spaced and extend across the width of the box.

1. ATTRIBUTE OF LOVE

In this section you will learn what real love is and how love should act when it is hurt by someone. You will understand how much God loves you by learning that He sent His only Son to die for your sins. A specific and a general love will be studied, and you will see the relationship between the two. The Bible reveals to us the real and true meaning of love. Only this love satisfies and brings lasting peace to mankind.

Section Objectives

Review these objectives. When you have completed this section, you should be able to:

1. Better understand God's nature.
2. Learn the Bible's meaning of love.
3. Understand how God expressed love to mankind.
4. Learn the two aspects of love--general and specific.
7. Understand how much God loves you.
8. Be encouraged to love God and accept His Son Jesus as your personal Savior.



Vocabulary

Study these words. Learning the meanings of these words is a good study habit and will improve your understanding of this LIFEPAK.

attribute (at' rə byüt). A word describing a characteristic or quality of someone.

eternally (i tēr' nl ē). Timeless; forever.

everlasting (ev'ər las' ting). Lasting through all time.

grace (grās). Undeserved divine assistance from God; special favor.

immutable (im myü' təbəl). Not able to change; the same forever.

love (luv). To hold dear; cherish; unselfish concern; to adore.

manifested (man' ə fest əd). Made evident by showing or displaying.

mercy (mēr' sē). Compassion shown to someone guilty; a blessing that is an act of divine favor.

ultimate (ul' tə mit). Final; the extreme.

variableness (ver' ē əbəl nəss). Able and likely to change.

Note: All vocabulary words in this LIFEPAK appear in boldface print the first time they are used. If you are unsure of the meaning when you are reading, study the definitions given.

Pronunciation Key: hat, āge, cāre, fār; let, ēqual, tērm; it, Īce; hot, ōpen, ōrder; oil; out; cup, pūt, rüle; child; long; thin; /ʒh/ for then; /zh/ for measure; /ə/ represents /a/ in about, /e/ in taken, /i/ in pencil, /o/ in lemon, and /u/ in circus.

Love: God’s Nature

Love is not merely a characteristic of God; it is the very essence of God—God is love. To understand the *meaning* of love and the *aspects* of love, then, is to understand God.

Meaning of Love. In 1 John 4:8, God’s Word tells us that God is love. The meaning of this verse is not simply that God *loves*, but that He *is* love. Love is not merely one of God’s *attributes*; rather, love is God’s very nature.

Aspects of Love. Several aspects of God’s love should be studied. The first aspect is that God’s love is not influenced by the object of His love. Stated simply, nothing in you and me attracted God’s love. We read in God’s Word (Deuteronomy 7:7–8), “The LORD did not set his love upon you, nor choose you, because ye were more in number than any other people; for ye were the fewest of all people: But because the LORD loved you...” We love God because He first loved us (1 John 4:19). Because God loved us when we were unlovable, clearly God’s love was not influenced by what He saw in us.

Another aspect of God’s love is that His love is without beginning or end—it is **eternal**. God’s

Word tells us in Jeremiah 31:3, “...I have loved thee with an **everlasting** love...” This Bible truth becomes a real source of joy as we realize that God’s love is stable and unchangeable. His love is not based upon who we are or what we do but upon the finished work of Jesus Christ as our personal Savior. God’s love is not only eternal, but His love has no limits. The Bible teaches in Ephesians 2:4, “But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us.” Our minds are unable to fully understand the greatness of God’s love as Ephesians 3:19 expresses, it “...passeth knowledge...”

A good word to learn concerning God’s love is **immutable**. *Immutable* simply means *no change*. God’s love shows no change at all. In James 1:17, the Bible states, “...with whom [God] is no **variableness**, neither shadow of turning...” A wonderful comfort is ours when we realize that God’s love is not as our love—changing with our feelings. Rather, Romans 8:35–39 tells us *that nothing can separate us from His love*.



Complete this activity.

1.1 Make a comparison of two aspects of God’s love and man’s love.

	God’s Love	Man’s Love
a.	_____	_____
b.	_____	_____

Love: An Expression of God

God's love was expressed generally in creation and specifically in redemption.

Adam and Eve plunged mankind into bondage, separated from God by sin. We are born with natures that desire to follow the world instead of God. God demonstrated His special love in the **ultimate** expression—redemption through Jesus Christ.

In Creation. God's nature of love can be seen in His creation as we behold the beauty of a simple flower. In love God made the world and placed man as the keeper of all creation. God's love gave Adam the very desires of his heart—it even gave Adam his wife, Eve, because he was lonely.

In Redemption. Sin ruined the beauty of God's creation and separated man from God's love, but God's *greatest* love was **manifested** in the redemption of man's soul. Jesus agreed to take



your place and mine upon the cross to pay the price for sin. God's love sacrificed His only Son that we might have an opportunity to live eternally with God in fellowship once again. The greatest love story the world has ever known is found in this supreme act of love. God's Word tells us in John 3:16, "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him shall not perish but have everlasting life." God is love!



Complete this activity.

Name four aspects of God's love; describe each.

1.2 _____ : _____

1.3 _____ : _____

1.4 _____ : _____

1.5 _____ : _____

Complete these statements.

1.6 God's ultimate expression of love is _____ .

1.7 Love that does not change (God's love) is called _____ .

1.8 God's _____ is love.

1.9 The love of God will never end; it is an _____ love.



Match these items.

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1.10 _____ attribute | a. Jesus Christ |
| 1.11 _____ variability | b. revealed |
| 1.12 _____ ultimate expression of love | c. without end |
| 1.13 _____ manifested | d. able to change |
| | e. a characteristic or quality of someone |

Complete this activity.

1.14 Briefly describe God's special expression of His love to mankind and how it affects your life today. _____



Review the material in this section in preparation for the Self Test. The Self Test will check your mastery of this particular section. The items missed on this Self Test will indicate specific areas where restudy is needed for mastery.

SELF TEST 1

Answer true or false (each answer, 2 points).

- 1.01 _____ Love is a part of God's nature.
- 1.02 _____ God loves us because of our obedience.
- 1.03 _____ We love God because He first loved us.
- 1.04 _____ Creation is God's ultimate expression of His love.
- 1.05 _____ God's love is eternal.
- 1.06 _____ Love is an attribute of God.
- 1.07 _____ The word "immutable" means no limitations.
- 1.08 _____ God's love never changes.
- 1.09 _____ Sin separates the sinner from God.
- 1.010 _____ Love is expressed by God in a general way and a specific way.

Complete these statements (each answer, 4 points).

- 1.011 The Bible tells us in John 3:16, "For God so _____ the
1.012 world that He gave His only _____."
- 1.013 Love is a part of God's _____; therefore, God is
1.014 _____.
- 1.015 God's love is not _____ by what we do or who we are.

Match these items (each answer, 2 points).

- | | |
|--------------------------|---|
| 1.016 _____ attribute | a. unchanging |
| 1.017 _____ immutable | b. never ending |
| 1.018 _____ everlasting | c. to be expressed or revealed |
| 1.019 _____ love | d. a part of God's nature |
| 1.020 _____ variableness | e. a characteristic or quality of someone |
| 1.021 _____ ultimate | f. the extreme |
| 1.022 _____ manifested | g. able to change |
| | h. righteous |

Complete this activity (this answer, 3 points).

1.023 Explain how God expressed His love to mankind.

List and describe briefly three aspects of God's love (each answer, 3 points).

	Aspect	Description
1.024	a. _____	b. _____
1.025	a. _____	b. _____
1.026	a. _____	b. _____

Answer this question in your own words (this answer, 5 points).

1.027 What is the Bible's meaning of the word *love*?

Unscramble these words and define (each word, 5 points).

1.028	tetarbtui	a. _____
	means	b. _____
1.029	meilatmub	a. _____
	means	b. _____

	SCORE _____	TEACHER _____	initials _____	date _____
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