

THIS IS OUR GOD

*A refuge for the poor, a shelter from the storm
He will wipe away your tears and return your wasted years
This is our God*

*A father to the orphan, a healer to the broken
He brings peace to our madness and comfort in our sadness
This is our God*

*A fountain for the thirsty, a lover for the lonely
He brings glory to the humble and crowns for the faithful
This is our God*

*This is the one we have waited for
Oh... this is our God*

What does this song tell us about our God? Especially in comparison to other religions?

For each of the three verses of the song, look up the Scripture that is quoted and write down either a time God has provided in that way for you or an example you've seen in someone else's life (it could even be someone's life recorded in the Bible). Each person in the small group needs to contribute at least once in these next 3 questions!

VERSE 1: *Read Isaiah 25:4 and Revelation 7:17.* Our Refuge and Shelter.

VERSE 2: *Read Psalm 10:14 and 68:5.* Our Father and Healer and Comforter.

VERSE 3: *Read Jeremiah 2:13, Zechariah 14:8, John 4, and John 7:38.* Our Provider and Our Lover.

TO PONDER DURING THIS STUDY: Our God has many wonderful qualities and is many things to many different people in times of need. Which of his attributes do you most appreciate at this time in your life?

END IN PRAYER: Tell "our God" what you love most about Him, and what you need from Him these days.

LEADER'S GUIDE:

I'd recommend doing an interesting **object lesson** at the beginning. Make sure you're in a place where you have good internet access, where all the students can view the screen. Make sure you check out this website activity before you do it with the students.

Go to <http://www.christiananswers.net/>. On the left, you'll see many world religions listed. Select 3-4 religions ahead of time (I'd recommend Buddhism, Islam, Mormonism... and Wicca?) and have them look at some of the basic beliefs of these religions.

DISCUSS: What do these other religions believe about God? How are these things similar, and different, from our knowledge of God through Jesus Christ?

Then start the study... I'd recommend **running off the first sheet** of this lesson and giving a sheet to each student. Heavily emphasize that you want them to keep the handouts. Perhaps make **folders** or give them **binders** to hang onto these sheets. Ask them to bring the folder or binder each week to small group. Maybe even include a couple of blank sheets for prayer requests.

I'd also recommend **getting this song on a CD** and playing it in small group when it comes at the appropriate time of the study. It breaks up the talking, and they will "hear" the words much more clearly by focusing on it. Go to www.worshiptogether.com if you don't know where to find it.

Contact Melanie Pearlman (melanie_pearlman@hotmail.com) if you have further questions about this study, or Kelly Soifer if you have questions about the tips in the Leader's Guide.