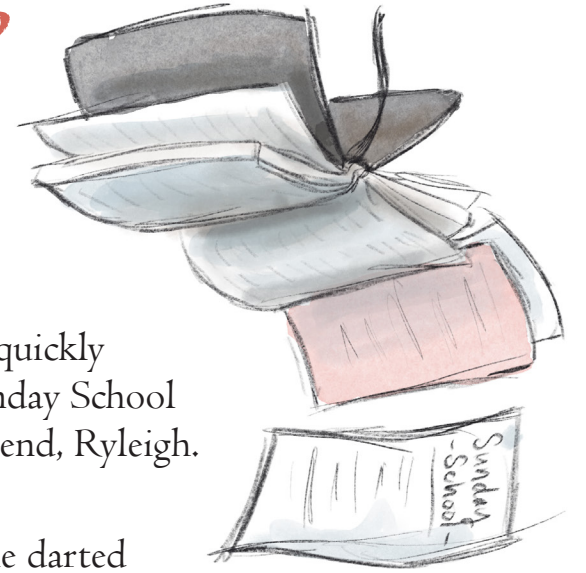




## I. WHO IS GOD?



“Samantha, Joshua! Time to go,” called Mom out of the open window in their family car.

“Coming!” replied Samantha. She quickly hugged Mrs. Nelson, her favorite Sunday School teacher, and waved goodbye to her friend, Ryleigh. “See you next week!”

“Race you!” Joshua challenged as he darted towards the car and scrambled into his seat. His seat belt clicked at the same time as Samantha’s door opened.

Hopping into her seat, Samantha pulled the seat belt across her body, but as she started to buckle it, her Bible fell off her lap, dropping open on the floor and spilling out her Sunday School papers.

“Here, I’ll get those,” offered Mom, reaching back and picking up the mess.

“What a great day at church! Samantha, what did you learn about in Sunday School today?” Dad asked as he checked his mirror and started backing out of the parking space.

“We had a really interesting lesson! Mrs. Nelson taught us what God is like!”

“Oh yeah?” asked Dad. “What is God like?”

“Well,” responded Samantha, “she said God knows everything, can do anything He wants to, and, um . . . oh yeah, He is everywhere.

“We read a lot from some psalm, but I don’t really remember now what it said,” Joshua added.

Mom looked at one of the papers she had picked up. “Was it Psalm 139? It’s right here on your Sunday School paper. Should I read it?”

“Yeah! There was some really cool stuff in there!” declared Samantha.

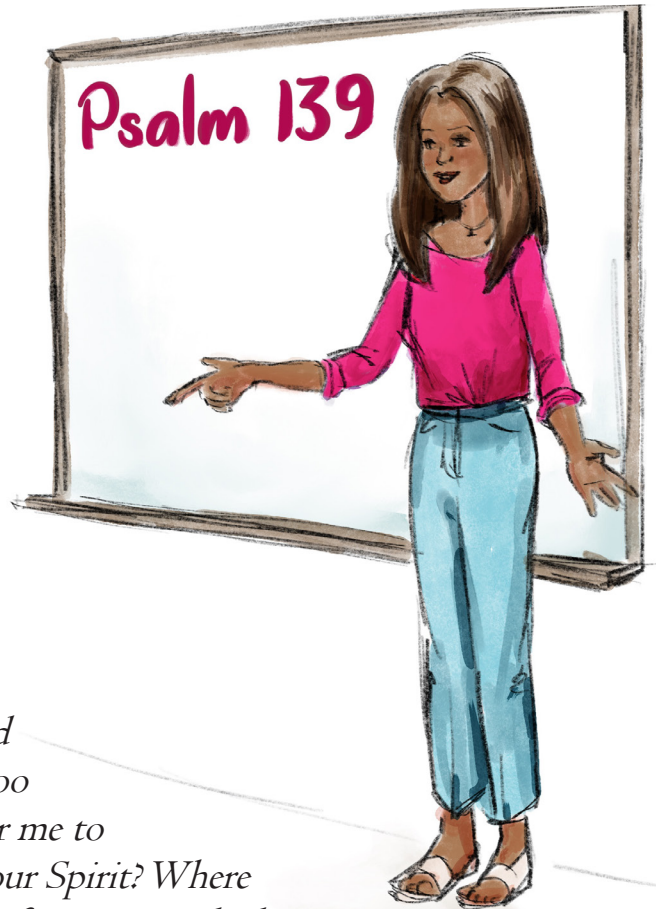
*“O LORD, you have searched me and you know me. You know when I sit and when I rise; you perceive my thoughts from afar. You discern my going out and my lying down; you are familiar with all my ways. Before a word is on my tongue, you know it completely, O LORD. You hem me in – behind and before; you have laid your hand upon me. Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, too lofty for me to attain. Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence? If I go up to the heavens, you are there; if I make my bed in the depths, you are there. If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea, even there your hand will guide me, your right hand will hold me fast (Psalm 139:1-10).”*

“Wow!” said Dad. “God is awesome!”

“We also learned that God has always existed and that He isn’t made up of stuff like we are,” Joshua interjected.

“I just read a verse recently that talks about that,” added Dad. “It was 1 Timothy 1:17, and it calls God eternal, immortal, and invisible. Just like you were saying, He has existed forever and isn’t made up of matter, like us. We call that ‘immaterial.’ It means He doesn’t have a physical body, and so we can’t see God like we see each other.”

“That sounds like quite a Sunday School lesson!” exclaimed Mom.



“That wasn’t even all! Mrs. Nelson also told us that God is perfect and never does anything wrong. But He still loves us even when we do wrong things,” said Samantha.

“So true!” said Mom. “Look up Psalm 36:5 and 6 when we get home. It says exactly what you just said.”

“So, Samantha and Joshua, if God is so amazing, what does that mean for us?” asked Dad.

“I don’t know,” responded Joshua. “I’m really glad that God knows about everything and that He can be everywhere all at once.”

“I’m also kind of glad He’s not just like us,” added Samantha, “because it would be weird if God could get hurt and die like we do. I noticed that a couple of the songs we sang in church talked about who God is, and I felt like I was really worshipping God when I sang along.”

“You got it, kiddo. When we know who God is, we can worship Him better and it helps us obey Him more willingly, too. The good news is that God gave us His Word so that we can know about Him. God isn’t just a super powered human being, as if He is just like us but better. As the Creator of all, though there are ways He is similar to us,