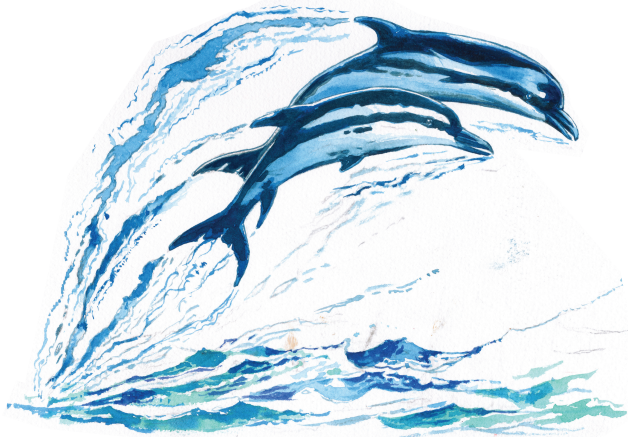


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# God Is Happy

**W**hat is one of your favorite things to do in the whole world? Why do you enjoy doing it?

Do you always get to do your favorite thing? For example, suppose you really like playing baseball. Is there anything that might stop you from playing? Yes. How does that make you feel? Or can doing your favorite thing get a little boring after a while? Yes, it can. (Imagine eating your favorite ice cream . . . and nothing else, day after day.)

Did you know that God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit (the Trinity)—has a favorite thing He enjoys doing all the time? Something that nothing can stop Him from doing? Something that He never, ever gets bored of doing? What could it be? God’s favorite thing is . . . being God! Think about this for a moment: God alone is eternal and has existed before anything else. The three persons of the Trinity have always enjoyed perfect fellowship with one another. God is perfect in every way: in his wisdom, might, sovereignty, self-sufficiency, and more. Nothing about being God ever grows boring. Nothing and no one can stop God from being God and doing exactly what He wants to do. That is why the Bible says that

[God] is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords. (1 Timothy 6:15)

Who alone has the right, wisdom, and power to do all that He pleases? Who rules over all? The “blessed” God. The word “blessed” means “happy.”

**God is HAPPY—He delights in being God.**

Why is it important to know that God is a happy God? Well, think about a time when you were super happy about something. Did you show it in a certain way? Did your happiness spill over into a big smile, laughing, jumping up and

down, cheering, or clapping? Could others see and hear your happiness? God's happiness in being God is millions of times greater. It's so great that it spills over too. What does this look like?

O LORD, how manifold are your works!

In wisdom have you made them all;  
the earth is full of your creatures.

Here is the sea, great and wide,  
which teems with creatures innumerable,  
living things both small and great.

There go the ships,  
and Leviathan,<sup>1</sup> which you formed to play in it. (Psalm 104:24–26)

Did God create the world in just black, white, and gray? (Think how boring that would be!) No. God created the world in all sorts of beautiful colors, interesting shapes, and different sizes. Just think of the “innumerable” (too many to count)

creatures that live in the sea—things like

clown fish, seahorses, octopuses,

starfish, jellyfish, sea urchins,

shrimp, eels, stingrays, seals,

otters, sharks, and so many

more. And then there are the

giant whales and dolphins

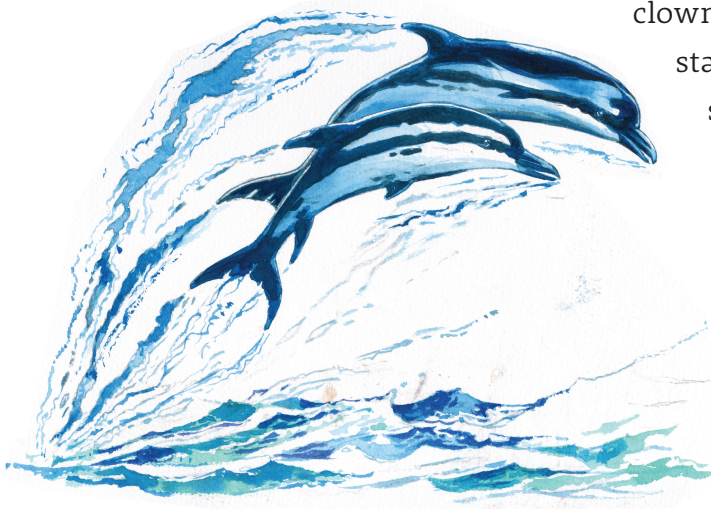
that jump and splash and

play. These amazing crea-

tures, in all their shapes,

sizes, and colors, show the

happiness of their Creator!



1. Possibly referring to sea “monsters”—large creatures such as whales and dolphins.

May the glory of the LORD endure forever;  
may the LORD rejoice in his works. (Psalm 104:31)

God's happiness doesn't just spill over into His creation. God's happiness can also be seen in what He does for His people.

The LORD your God is in your midst,  
a mighty one who will save;  
he will rejoice over you with gladness;  
he will quiet you by his love;  
he will exult over you with loud singing. (Zephaniah 3:17)

What does the Lord God do for His people? He saves them! What is His attitude in doing this? Is He grumpy about it, saying, "Oh, I guess I had better save them. What a bother"? No, not at all! God is happy to do it! He rejoices over His people with gladness. God is so happy that He even sings loudly over His people. Yes, the happy God sings!

Why is God's happiness important for you? Why does it matter? Because God made each of us with a very strong desire to be happy. We are always looking for things to make us happy—foods, activities, friends, hobbies, and more. But none of these things can make us happy forever. They will all get boring, break apart, move away, or disappoint us in some way. God wants you to be happy, and He knows that there is one way for you to *always and forever* be happy.

You make known to me the path of life;  
in your presence there is fullness of joy;  
at your right hand are pleasures forevermore. (Psalm 16:11)

God is happy to show you that He alone can give you "fullness of joy"—complete happiness. Being in God's presence means enjoying "pleasures"—wonderful,

exciting, and good things—forever! God is not like a grumpy old man. He is never boring. He will never stop being a happy God. His people will be able to enjoy His happiness all the time. But what is the “**path of life**” to enjoying the happiness of God always and forever?

[Jesus said,] “I am the way, and the truth, and the life.” (John 14:6)

## LEARNING TO TRUST GOD

- ✦ Have you ever thought about God being the happiest person in the universe? Suppose God was sovereign but not happy. Why would that be bad news? Why is it good news that God is happy and that He always delights in being God? Are you depending on God to make you happy? How does your life show this? Who is the “**path**” to enjoying “**fullness of joy**”?
- ✦ God is always happy being God. But we also learn in the Bible that there are things that sadden and even anger God. (For example, a man can enjoy being a daddy and yet be rightly saddened and angered by his child’s disobedience.) Can you give some examples from the Bible? Even when God is rightly saddened and angered by man’s sin, He is never frustrated. He is still the “**blessed and only Sovereign.**” God still delights in being God and is working out His perfect plans exactly as He pleases.
- ✦ **Activity:** With your parents’ help, find pictures of all kinds of sea creatures. Learn about several of them. How do they show the happiness of God? Read and talk about Psalm 92:4.