

Is God A Girl Or Boy?

And How Will Your Answer Affect Your Life?

*As a father has compassion on his children,
so the Lord has compassion on those who fear him... - Psalm 103:13*

God says, "As a mother comforts her child so will I comfort you." - Isaiah 66:13

*In his incomprehensible nature God is father,
In compassion to us God became as a mother. - Clement Of Rome (150-215AD)*

*God who has promised us heavenly food has nourished us on milk,
having a mother's tenderness. - Augustine Of Hippo (354-406AD)*

IS GOD MALE OR FEMALE?

This might seem like a dumb question, but how you answer is important. Your answer will impact your sexuality, your relationships, your mental health, and it will impact your spiritual health.

1. GOD IS NOT THAT!

Genesis chapters 1 & 2. Note that there are various of understandings of Genesis at Immanuel The LCA (Lutheran Church Of Australia) statement on creation (from 1972) accepts this diversity. We do not insist that you read it in one particular scientific way. But you need to know that God made it! You must know that humans are specially created and have fallen and need saving. Without God, nothing makes sense.

Dividing the formless into pairs: Light/Dark, Earth/Sky, Land/Sea, Male/Female.

*So God created humankind in his own image, in the image of God he created him;
male and female he created them. - Genesis 1:27*

God is not like the created world. So God is not light or dark, earth or sky, land or sea and not male or female. If you call God male or female you are putting God into the category of created stuff.

*"Everything created in woman that sets her off from man comes from God and reflects something of God...
Woman was not modelled after some other god. There is no other god. She was modelled after God. When
the Bible says she and he were created in the image of God, it means she is also made after the model of
her Creator... God is not male and God is not female. Maleness and femaleness are God's creation, as
biological bearers of masculinity and femininity, both of which come from God" - John Piper*

Pronouns: He / She / It ?

Is God an it? No! "It" can't be used for something that's a person. And strangely, the ancient Hebrew (the first language of the Bible) has only He and She - no it. And He is generally used for the big things!

2. GOD MUST NEVER BE THAT!

*You, you love it how I move you You love it how I touch you, my one
And I, I feel it after midnight, A feelin' that you can't fight, my one
It lingers when we're done, You'll believe God is a woman. - Ariana Grande "God Is A Woman"*

Poor Ariana! In this song she is clearly not saying she believes in God. I think her song means, she thinks she is so sexy that when you see or touch her, you will believe she is a god. The most spiritual, above, transcendent thing she can imagine is sex. So sex is spiritual and that makes her god. She's very wrong!



ASHERAH

Sex, fertility, curvy,
Seductive god.
Worse than every
Hollywood airbrushed
model combined!



BAAL

Toxic masculinity.
Tough, hard, no weakness, no tears.
Means 'owner, master, overlord.'
Virile and sexy male god.
Sometimes depicted as a virile bull.

YAHWEH: I AM

Exodus 20:4-5

*You shall not make for yourself an image in the form of anything in
heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. You shall
not bow down to them or worship them for I am the Lord your God...*

God says, don't reduce me to the image of anything created - and especially not a gendered or sexual image. In opposition to all the other religions around them, the people of the Bible say only one God above all and above all human categories.

God is neither male or female, God is God! - The Catholic Catechism

*Today a growing number of feminists teach that the God/ess combines male and female characteristics.
They, like those who assume that God is exclusively male, should remember that any attribution of
sexuality to God is a reversion to paganism. - Mary Hayter quoted by Alister McGrath*

Attributing gender or sexuality to God leads to abuse... God must never be that!

The Old Testament use of the word "Father" for God is not sexual, gendered or sexy! But still uses many feminine concepts and descriptions for God too...

- Like a woman in labour (Isa. 42:14)
- A mother suckling her children (Num. 11:12)
- A mother who does not forget the child she nurses (Isa. 49:14-15)
- A mother who comforts her children (Isa. 66:12-13)
- A mother who births and protects Israel (Isa. 46:3-4)
- A mother who gave birth to the Israelites (Dt. 32:18)
- A mum who calls, teaches, holds, heals, and feeds her young (Hosea 11:1-4)
- A mum (Psalm 131:2)
- A seamstress making clothes for Israel to wear (Neh. 9:21)
- A midwife attending a birth (Ps. 22:9-10a, 71:6; Isa. 66:9)
- A woman working leaven into bread (Lk. 13:18-21).
- A female bird protecting chicks (Ps. 17:8, 36:7, 57:1, 91:1, 4; Isa. 31:5; Dt. 32:11-12)
- Like an eagle (Dt. 32:11-12; Ex. 19:4; Job 39:27-30)
- Like a hen (Mt. 23:37; Lk. 13:34; cf. Ruth 2:12)
- Like a mother bear (Hosea 13:8)
- Like a woman searching for coins (Luke 15:8-10)

3. GOD IS BIGGER THAN ALL THE THATS!

"If you have understood, then what you have understood is not God." - Augustine Of Hippo (354-406AD)

I don't believe in God because I understand God. I believe in God because of the miracle I don't understand. I believe because in my heart I hear that I am loved, and graced, and adopted. The greatest mystery is love - which is the very nature of God. Love that is bigger than male or female, and from which all the goodness of male and female come. Stop! Open up your heart to the idea that God might be bigger, more wonderful, and more love than you ever could imagine! "God is love" - 1 John 4:8b