

The Big Question

Why does the Bible say that God has hands?

Your memory verse for this week says that the hand of the Lord is mighty (Joshua 4:24). You might conclude from that verse that God has actual hands. Perhaps you might imagine Him reaching down to earth to pat you on the back or even thump you on the head for doing something wrong. Other verses in the Bible say that God has an arm (Exodus 6:6), eyes (Amos 9:3), ears (Daniel 9:18), and feet (Genesis 3:8). Some verses say that God takes actions normally associated with our human bodies. Isaiah 7:18 says that God whistles, and Psalm 2:4 says He laughs. You probably have never thought of God whistling or laughing!

So, what should we make of all the references to God's "body" since the Bible is clear that God the Father is a spirit and has no body (John 4:24). Paul even wrote in 1 Timothy 1:17 that God is invisible, meaning He doesn't have a physical body at all.

Remember that the Bible is literature. As such, it uses figures of speech to make God's truth come to life. In fact, there are around two hundred different kinds of figures of speech used in the Bible. Anthropomorphism is the name of the figure of speech that gives human qualities to God. Anthropomorphisms help us understand God better by giving us a picture of His actions to form in our minds as we are reading the Bible. When the Bible says He has a hand, it does so to help us understand God's character and ways.

Jesus, unlike God the Father, took on a human body when He came to earth. Jesus' physical body is real. When He died on the cross, His human body actually died. And when He rose from the dead, it was His human body that came back to life, though it was raised perfect and glorified. Jesus will keep His human body forever. That means you can give Him a hug when you see Him in Heaven!



Amazing Facts

God's Fingerprints on Your Fingerprints

Fingerprints come in three basic patterns: loop, whorl, and arch. Look at your fingers to see what basic pattern you have. See the illustrations in the box to the right.

No two fingerprints are alike. Even identical twins have different fingerprints. Why is that? Fingerprints are in part shaped by the baby's environment as it is growing in his mother's womb. As the baby's skin is forming, he touches things and causes stress or pulling on the skin. That stress causes the ridges to form that become the foundation for his fingerprints. No two babies experience the same stress on their fingertips as they are developing.

Of course, God is responsible for a baby's development. Ultimately, your fingerprints were determined by God before the world even began. That means God's mighty hands shaped the tiny ridges on your fingers that are unique to you. You could say that God's "fingerprints" are all over your fingerprints!

Ponder Points

1. How else are God's "fingerprints" all over your life?
2. When you serve God, expect His mighty hands to help you. And then thank Him for His mighty help!



loop



whorl



arch

Rahab's Great Expectations

Find the words in all CAPS in the word search.

G D R E C A R G T L
 J T O H C I R E J D
 H R D Y L R E U R T
 G A B O C H D D O D
 T H D R B Y E J R Z
 H A Q T G T V A S T
 D B R S C H E E D G
 S T A E R G I G N I
 A J P D T I L T A L
 V X L R G M E H H C
 E A G T U D B E R G



RAHAB EXPECTED God to **DESTROY JERICHO** and everyone in it with His **MIGHTY HANDS**.

Rahab also **BELIEVED** in God and expected Him to **SAVE** her by His **GRACE**. Rahab had **GREAT** expectations because she believed God was the **TRUE** God.

Fingerprint Creations

Use a thin black marker to copy the fingerprint art. Then use the marker to make three creations of your own.



Look for God's "fingerprints" in your life. Make sure you thank Him for His mighty works on your behalf!

Measuring Growth



Measurables

Look for the following indicators that your child serves God expectantly.

1. My child goes out of his or her comfort zone to serve God.
2. My child prays about his or her service to God.
3. My child praises God for helping him or her serve God.

The Junior lesson for this week covered Israel's entrance into Canaan. The theme centered on serving God expectantly because He is awesome. Even the people of Jericho, including Rahab, knew God had mighty hands. Rahab chose to trust God. Your child was encouraged to step out by faith in service to God. Talk with your child about the measurables.

