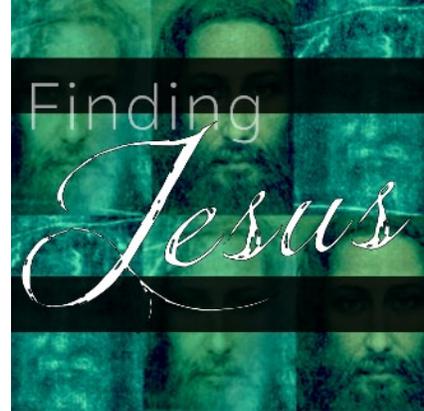


“Hidden Jesus”



Getting Started

Do you remember playing hide and seek as a kid? Tell the group a story about your most memorable game of hide and seek or the best hiding spot you can remember.

Going Deeper

Can you remember a time in your life when God’s presence was very obvious?
Can you remember a time when you were looking for God but he seemed hidden from you?

There are times in our lives when God seems hidden from us. Read [Psalm 42:1-3](#). How can you relate to the author of this psalm?

Jesus intentionally withdrew from people in need. Take a moment to read [Luke 5:12-16](#). What do these verses reveal about the priorities of Jesus.

It was Jesus pattern to withdraw from people. As we look at other moments in Jesus life where he withdrew ([Matthew 4:12](#), [Matthew 14:13](#), [Matthew 15:15,16](#), [Matthew 15:21](#)) it becomes obvious that Jesus wasn’t hiding. He was seeking.

Take a moment to read the following verses and discuss the priority that God places on seeking him.

[Jeremiah 29:13](#)

[Matthew 6:33](#)

[Matthew 7:7](#)

Do you have a designated finder in your home? Why is that person so good at finding things that others cannot find?

How much does the value of a thing determine how hard you seek after it? Talk about a time when you lost something of great value with the group.

Value can determine how hard we seek after something. With that in mind, what does it say about our relationship with God when we get distracted by life and stop seeking him?

From the beginning of time people have been better at hiding than seeking (see [Genesis 3:8-10](#)). What are some common ways that people hide from each other and from God?

Is it possible that you aren't finding God because you're not seeking, your hiding?

Take a moment to do a personal inventory on what you might be hiding from in your life right now.

Review the following list about what it means to be a seeker.

- Seekers seek God with all of their heart.
- Seekers put God first in all areas of their lives
- Seekers are honest not just when it's convenient but all the time
- Seekers pursue God on good days and when life gets rough
- Seekers ask God what they should do instead of asking God to bless what they are already doing.
- Seekers open God's word to try and stay close
- Seekers ask God's wisdom when seeking a life partner, they don't just ask God to bless the partner they chose without him.
- Seekers come clean with their issues. They don't hide them away. They are real with them. They confess them to God. They get accountability from others.

Which of these would you like to be better at in the coming year?

