



| **SMALL GROUP BIBLE STUDIES** |

WALKING
THE TEXT

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| BIBLICAL IMAGES OF GOD |

SERIES SUMMARY

The way you see God shapes the way you relate to Him. That's why the Bible uses vivid, everyday images to help us know Him more clearly and intimately. In this series, we explore powerful metaphors for God found in the Old Testament—and how Jesus picks up those same images in the New Testament. From God as Living Water, linked to the oasis of En Gedi, to Jesus entering Jerusalem as a humble king, these glimpses into God's character speak to our deepest desires. As you rediscover who He is, you'll find renewed strength, deeper connection, and fresh vision for carrying His presence into every corner of life. Because when your view of God expands, your experience of Him is transformed.

THIS CURRICULUM IS REALLY EASY TO USE

STEP 1: Click the link in each lesson to watch the video teaching.

STEP 2: Reflect on the discussion questions with your group.

STEP 3: Let these portraits of God reshape how you see Him—and walk with deeper trust and renewed purpose.



PART 1 | **LIVING WATER**

VIDEO

Click to Watch

KEY PASSAGE(S)

Jeremiah 2:13; 17:13; John 4:10; 7:37-38

DESCRIPTION

How you think about God determines how you interact with God. Therefore, it's essential to have an accurate understanding of who He is and what He's like. In this new series – Biblical Images of God – we unpack the vivid and concrete metaphors used of God in order to deepen our relationship with Him. Beginning with “living water,” we uncover the significance of this image by examining Jeremiah’s depiction of the oasis at En Gedi and Jesus’s declaration in the Gospel of John that He is the true source of living water. By seeing God as “living water,” you’ll gain a fuller picture of His character, experience His ability to renew dry and weary souls, and be inspired to carry His life-giving spirit into a thirsty world.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- What was your biggest takeaway from the teaching?
- Reflect for a moment on your own journey with Jesus. In what ways do you sometimes exchange God’s miraculous provision of “living water” for a second-rate version that doesn’t satisfy?
- Describe one or two moments in your life when it felt like God met you with “living water?” What form did that “living water” take? (Be specific: Was it a well-timed encouragement from a friend? Unexpected financial assistance when you needed it most, etc.?)
- Take a few moments to ponder the people in your community (friends, neighbors, co-workers, etc.), is there anyone you know that’s in the midst of a dry season? How might God’s Spirit be inviting you to be an expression of “living water” in their lives?
- How will you begin living out the truths of this teaching this week?



PART 2 | FAITHFUL FARMER

VIDEO

Click to Watch

KEY PASSAGE(S)

Genesis 2:8-10, 15; Isaiah 5:1-7; John 15:1-6

DESCRIPTION

A lot of us grow up with distorted ideas about who God is, and part of following Jesus is unlearning those false images and discovering the truth. In this episode, we're diving into the beautiful picture of God as a Faithful Farmer—someone who plants, nurtures, and invests deeply in what He's growing. This image shows us just how patient and committed God is, working tirelessly to see His creation—and you—flourish. As people created in His image, we're invited to reflect His heart by caring for the world and those around us with the same kind of love and intention. This teaching will remind you of God's relentless care for you and inspire you to do the same for others!

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- What was your biggest takeaway from the teaching?
- What is one false/distorted idea about God that you've had to overcome?
- Describe a time when you felt a deeper connection or commitment to something because you worked hard to build or improve it? (This is sometimes called the IKEA effect.)
- How does the reinterpretation of “cuts off” as “lifts up” affect your understanding of God's character?
- Where in your life (job, family, marriage, relationships, church, neighborhood) might the Holy Spirit be inviting you to invest in a situation or person in the same way God has cultivated and invested in you?
- How will you begin living out the truths of this teaching this week?



PART 3 | GOOD SHEPHERD

VIDEO

Click to Watch

KEY PASSAGE(S)

Psalm 23; Psalm 78:52; Ezekiel 34; John 10:1-30; Revelation 7:17

DESCRIPTION

Many of us struggle to trust that God is actively leading our lives, especially when things feel uncertain or difficult. But the Scriptures constantly liken God to a Good Shepherd who skillfully guides, protects, and provides for His people. In this episode, we explore the depth of this image, from the rugged realities of shepherding in the ancient world to Jesus’s bold declaration, “I am the Good Shepherd.” This isn’t a passive or distant role; a true shepherd is both savvy and sacrificial—navigating harsh landscapes, fighting off danger, and laying down their life for the flock. By the end of this episode, you’ll see that trusting God isn’t wishful thinking—it’s a response to His skillful care and reliable voice.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- What was your biggest takeaway from the teaching?
- In what areas do you struggle to believe that He is a Good Shepherd?
- How does understanding the real-world skill and vigilance of ancient shepherds change the way you see God’s care for you?
- What practical steps can you take to tune your heart more fully to His leading?
- How do you respond when God’s leadership doesn’t feel safe or predictable?
- In what ways is God inviting you to trust Him more fully, even when His guidance feels costly or unclear?
- How will you begin living out the truths of this teaching this week?



PART 4 | DIVINE WARRIOR

VIDEO

Click to Watch

KEY PASSAGE(S)

Psalm 18:15-16; Exodus 12:12; Exodus 15:3; 1 John 3:8; Revelation 19:15

DESCRIPTION

Many people go through life unaware that they're caught in the middle of a cosmic war, where the forces of good and evil are in constant conflict. The struggles we face—discouragement, temptation, and spiritual opposition—aren't random but part of this battle. The good news is that we're not defenseless; God is a warrior who fights for His people, and through Jesus, the ultimate victory has already been won. In this teaching, you'll gain a fresh perspective on how God fights against chaos, spiritual darkness, and injustice, but more importantly, how you can step into the fight armed with truth. If you're ready to wake up to the battle, claim your identity in Christ and join Jesus in pushing back the kingdom of darkness, this message will equip you to stand firm and take action.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- What was your biggest takeaway from the teaching?
- In what ways do you see spiritual warfare playing out in the world today? How does viewing history through this lens change how you see your daily struggles?
- Throughout the Bible, Satan's weapon of choice is deception. What are one or two of the lies the enemy uses most consistently to challenge your faith? How can the truth of God's Word counteract those lies?
- Scripture is described as our weapon in spiritual warfare. How can we be more intentional about arming ourselves with God's truth? What practical steps can you take to ensure that God's Word is deeply rooted in your heart and mind?
- How will you begin living out the truths of this teaching this week?



PART 5 | **BEDOUIN HOST**

VIDEO

Click to Watch

KEY PASSAGE(S)

Psalm 23:5; Isaiah 42:5; Luke 15:1-2; Luke 19:7

DESCRIPTION

Many people struggle to feel truly welcomed, accepted, and secure—especially in a world that often feels isolating and adversarial. But Scripture reveals a God who is not distant or indifferent; He is a gracious host, inviting us into His presence with the radical hospitality of a Bedouin patriarch. In Psalm 23, Isaiah 42, and the life of Jesus, we see a God who prepares a table, offers provision, and extends protection—even in the presence of our enemies. This episode explores how God’s hospitality redefines belonging and how Jesus models a love that welcomes without compromise. Discover how embracing this divine invitation can transform the way you see God, yourself, and the people around you.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- What was your biggest takeaway from the teaching?
- What’s the finest hospitality you’ve ever received? What was it about this hospitality that made it so special?
- Meals are powerful. They’re one of the primary ways Jesus embodied his kingdom announcement. How have you experienced the power of shared meals in your life?
- Reflect on a significant moment in your life when you experienced God’s provision and protection. What happened, and how has it impacted you?
- How do you personally navigate the balance between extending grace while encouraging growth in your own life and relationships?
- How will you begin living out the truths of this teaching this week?



PART 6 | **MASTER BUILDER**

VIDEO

Click to Watch

KEY PASSAGE(S)

Job 38:4-10; Proverbs 8:23-30; Matthew 7:24; 1 Corinthians 3:10-11

DESCRIPTION

Human beings are natural builders, but the problem is many of us build our lives on unstable foundations—worldly success, self-reliance, or fleeting ambitions—that ultimately collapse under pressure. The solution is to build on Jesus, the master builder, who is the sure foundation and cornerstone of God’s spiritual house. By trusting in him, aligning with his teachings, and allowing him to shape our lives, we gain stability and purpose. As a result, our lives remain steadfast even in uncertainty. What’s more, we’re called to join God in His work—building up others and participating in His mission to reunite heaven and earth. In the end, God is not just building something for us—He is building us into something lasting and eternal!

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- What was your biggest takeaway from the teaching?
- What are one or two foundations other than Jesus you’re regularly tempted to build your life on?
- Reflect on a moment in your life when you wondered, “God, how on earth can you make something purposeful and beautiful out of this?” Describe the situation. What did God do to redeem, restore, or renew that messy experience?
- Name a moment in your life when someone “built you up” and offered you encouragement right when you needed it most?
- Ask the Holy Spirit to bring to mind someone in your life who needs to be built up. Who are they, and how could you encourage them this week?
- How will you begin living out the truths of this teaching this week?



PART 7 | **ROCK OF REFUGE**

VIDEO

Click to Watch

KEY PASSAGE(S)

Psalm 31:1-3; Psalm 62:5-6; 2 Samuel 22:2-3; Matthew 11:28-30

DESCRIPTION

In a world that rarely slows down, many of us carry a constant undercurrent of anxiety, restlessness, and fatigue. Deep down, we long for more—for peace, stability, and a place of refuge where our souls can breathe and find rest. When David was fleeing from Saul, he found such a place in one of Israel’s most breathtaking and iconic locations—Masada! As we trace the biblical connections to David and the rich imagery of God being a fortress throughout Scripture, you’ll discover the powerful invitation to find a place of refuge to daily experience His presence, settle your soul, and remember who you are.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- What was your biggest takeaway from the teaching?
- When have you experienced a “rock of refuge” moment with God? Whether it was a physical place, a moment of peace in chaos, or an unexpected encounter with God’s presence, describe a time when you felt God’s stability and safety in a deeply personal way. What made that moment feel different from your usual pace of life?
- How does the image of God as a rock or fortress speak to your current circumstances, fears, or hopes?
- What does your current “pace of life” say about your relationship with rest—and with God?
- What does it look like for you to create a “Masada” space in your everyday life?
- How will you begin living out the truths of this teaching this week?



PART 8 | **HUMBLE KING**

VIDEO

Click to Watch

KEY PASSAGE(S)

Genesis 1:26-28; Exodus 15:18; Exodus 19:6; Matthew 4:17; Matthew 21:1-10

DESCRIPTION

Most of us are exhausted from trying to rule our own lives—carrying the weight of decisions, outcomes, and expectations we were never meant to bear. Deep down, we long for someone trustworthy to lead us, but we often resist surrender because we assume that giving up control means losing freedom. In this final episode of our mini-series, we explore the biblical image that brings all of the other images we’ve explored together: Jesus as the Humble King. From Genesis to Palm Sunday and Easter, we trace the biblical story of a king who doesn’t seize power, but lays it down in love—and invites us to do the same. If you’ve been worn out by self-rule, this teaching will help you step off the throne, lay down your crown, and discover the freedom, rest, and wholeness that come from living under the healing reign of King Jesus.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- What was your biggest takeaway from the teaching?
- Can you tell a story about a time when you tried to stay in control—but it totally backfired?
- What were you trying to protect or hold together? What did you learn?
- Jesus rode a donkey into a city packed with tension and danger. Can you think of a time you felt God show up in your life—but in a way that was unexpected, or different from what you were hoping for?
- If you were to step off the throne in one area of your life right now, what would that be?
- What would it actually look like to surrender that area to Jesus this week—not in theory, but in practice?
- How will you begin living out the truths of this teaching this week?



FOR FURTHER STUDY

Click on the Titles below for links to each of these resources.

- *Finding the Lost Images of God* by Timothy S. Laniak
- *The Good Shepherd: A Thousand-Year Journey from Psalm 23 to the New Testament* by Kenneth E. Bailey
- *Spiritual Warfare* - podcast by BibleProject
- *God Is A Warrior* by Tremper Longman and Daniel G. Reid
- Teaching Series Episodes
 - *Psalm 23 Series*
 - *EP 122 – Rabbis and Disciples Pt 6: Jesus’s Occupation*
 - *EP 124 – Rabbis and Disciples Pt 8: Jesus’s Yoke*
 - *EP 175 – Abiding in the Vine*

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