

# Connecting with God

Series: Connecting with God Begins with Locating Ourselves

## Life Group Discussion Guide

### I. Welcome & Getting to Know One Another

If money and time were no object, what would you be doing right now?

### II. Centering

Take a quiet moment to center your soul on God's presence. Have one member read the following Scripture aloud slowly, 3 times, allowing space for silent reflection after each reading. Participants may close their eyes, take a deep breath and prayerfully listen and allow the words to speak to them. Conclude with a brief opening prayer, inviting God to guide your discussion and open your hearts to His teachings.

**Scripture Reference:** Genesis 1: 26-27

*"26 Then God said, 'Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals,[a] and over all the creatures that move along the ground.' 27 So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them."*

### III. Exploring

This series aims to explore the foundational aspects of our connection with God. Today, we delve into the idea that our connection to God is often hindered by pride, leading us to "hide" from our own defiant independence. This separation can only be overcome with humility.

1. In light of the concept that our connection to God is personal and rooted in the image of God, how does the biblical scripture Genesis 1:27 ("So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.") deepen our understanding of our relationship with God? How does this understanding influence the way we perceive ourselves and our connection to an infinite God?
2. Consider the implications of viewing ourselves as children to a parent in our relationship with God. How does this perspective shape our understanding of God's love, care, and guidance in our lives?
3. Discuss any challenges or obstacles you face in maintaining a strong connection with God. How do you address these challenges, and what strategies do you employ to deepen your relationship with God despite them?
4. Reflecting on the idea that our connection to God is often hindered by pride, consider the biblical scripture James 4:6 ("But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, 'God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble.'"). How does this verse shed light on the significance of humility in fostering a deeper connection with God? How can we actively cultivate humility in order to overcome the barriers of pride and strengthen our relationship with Him?

### IV. Ending

Let's break into smaller groups of two or three to pray for one another concerning the challenges we're facing this week. Share one area of your life where you feel God is calling you to be trimmed or where you need His guidance to grow. Pray for each other, asking for the courage to let go and trust in His pruning process, being led by the Holy Spirit in how we can support and pray for one another.

