



WHAT GOD LOOKS LIKE

AUGUST 5-9 | DISCOVERTHEWORD.ORG



What does God look like? This isn't a throwaway question, especially in our deeply visual culture. But the Scriptures describe Him as spirit and say that He cannot be seen in His fullness. So then, how can we know what God looks like?

John's gospel not only acknowledges the problem, it offers the best of all possible answers *"No one has seen God at any time. The only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared Him"* (John 1:18 NKJV).

So then, what does God look like? He looks like Jesus! Not in physical appearance, but in heart, deed, spirit, and power. We see that idea lived out in an encounter Jesus has with a man with a withered hand in Matthew 12. Explore the nature of God with us on *Discover the Word*.



THIS WEEK'S DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Read Matthew 12:9–21. What was the significance of the Sabbath to the Jews of Jesus's day? Why do you think Jesus did so many of His miracles on the Sabbath? What does it mean to have a "divided heart"?
- Read Mark 3:5. In Mark's account of this encounter, Jesus responded with anger and grief. Why were there two responses, and how could they reveal the Father's heart for this man and the religionists?
- In Matthew 12:11–12, Jesus cites Mosaic law about caring for animals/property on the Sabbath. How does He use this to argue from the lesser to the greater? Why do humans have higher value than animals?
- This is just one occasion where Jesus's words and actions make the religious leaders want to kill Him. Why would they hate someone who was clearly doing good for people? What is at the heart of their issues with Jesus?



WHAT GOD LOOKS LIKE

AUGUST 5-9 | DISCOVERTHEWORD.ORG



CHALLENGE

Consider ways in which you value things and property above people. How can Jesus's example—and unveiling of the Father's heart—challenge you to see those around you through God's eyes?



COMMIT TO MEMORY

“No one has seen God at any time. The only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared Him”
(John 1:18 NKJV).



PRAYER

Dear Lord, I get so caught up in myself and my stuff that I lose sight of what matters most to You—people. Forgive me for being so self-absorbed, and help me to see what You see and respond with the love and kindness You have freely shown me. Amen.