



Jesus Followers

Having the Mind of Christ

**Eight Axioms to Cultivate a
Robust Faith**

Ben Sternke and Matt Tebbe

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1. God is always present and at work.



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2. God is just like Jesus.



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 - 2. God is just like Jesus.**
 - 3. God meets us in our messy reality.**
 - 4. God cares more about all of this than I do.**
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**5. What He does through you He
first does in you.**



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6. The goal is divine union.



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7. We learn to love through embodied participation.



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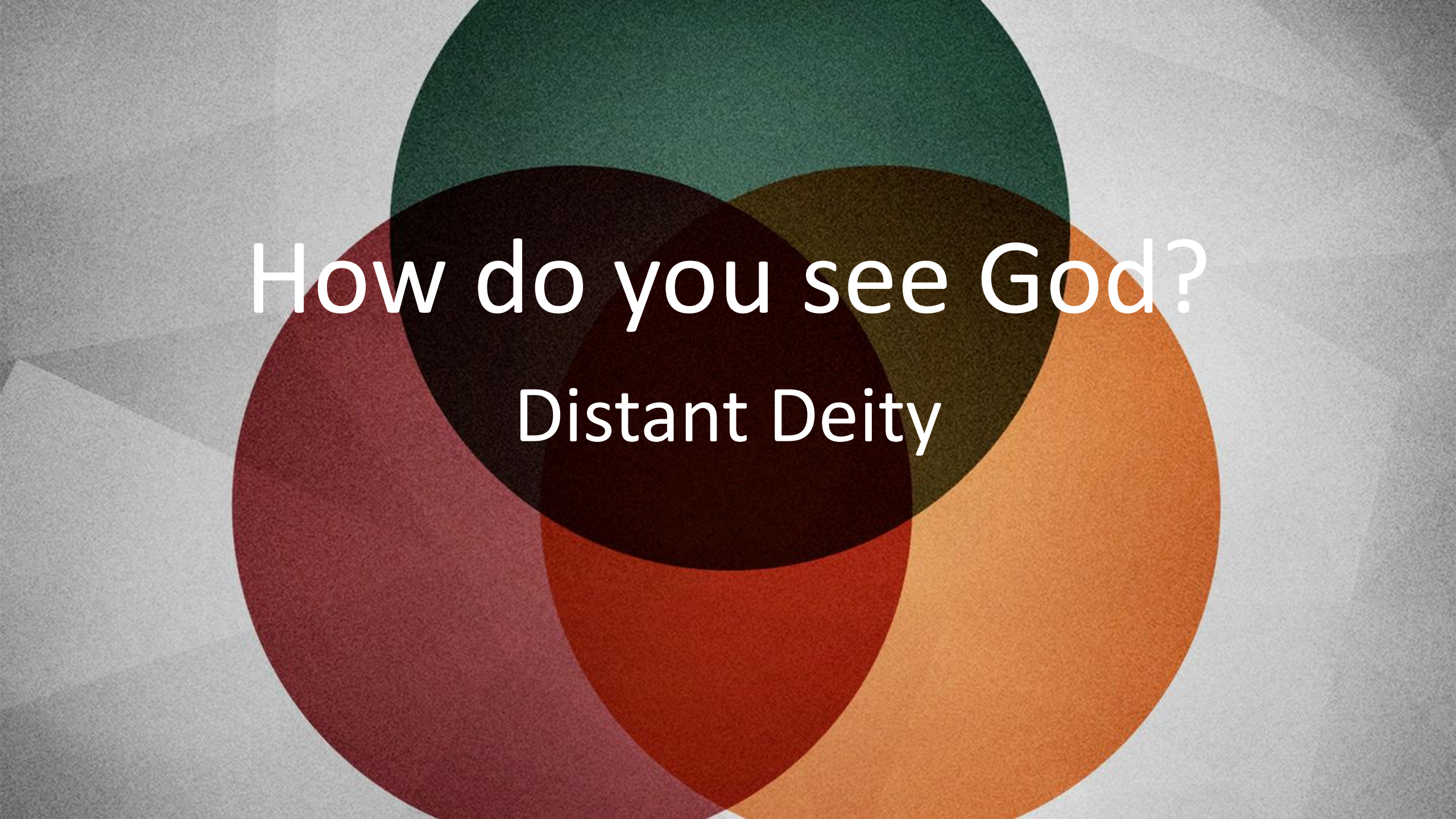
7. We learn to love through embodied participation.

8. God is love, so it's all about love.

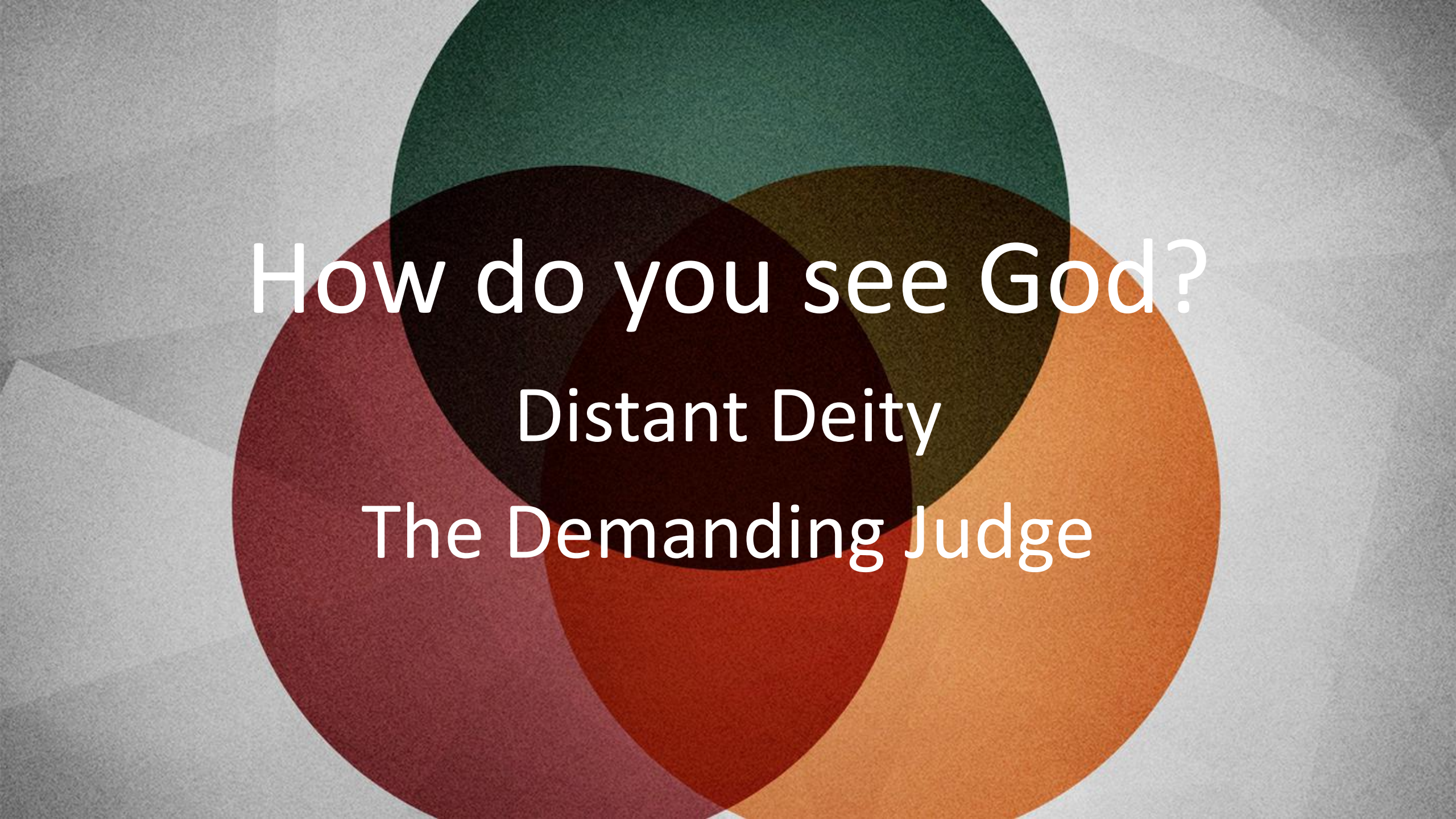
A decorative graphic consisting of four overlapping circles in muted colors: teal, olive green, burnt orange, and a dark reddish-brown. The circles are arranged in a cluster, with the dark reddish-brown circle being the largest and most central, partially overlapping the others.



How do you see God?



How do you see God?
Distant Deity



How do you see God?

Distant Deity

The Demanding Judge



How do you see God?

Distant Deity

The Demanding Judge

The Micromanager

God is Just Like Jesus

“What people think about God cannot be divorced from their place and time in a definite history and culture.”

- James Cone



**If you want to know who God is,
look to Jesus, because Jesus is
just like God.**



¹ Afterward Jesus appeared again to his disciples, by the Sea of Galilee. It happened this way: ² Simon Peter, Thomas (also known as Didymus), Nathanael from Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two other disciples were together. **John 21:1-3**



3 “I’m going out to fish,” Simon Peter told them, and they said, “We’ll go with you.” So they went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.



John 21:1-3

**1. The God of our mind is not
always the God of our lives.**



⁴ Early in the morning, Jesus stood on the shore, but the disciples did not realize that it was Jesus.

⁵ He called out to them, “Friends, haven’t you any fish?”

“No,” they answered.

John 21:4-6



⁶ He said, “Throw your net on the right side of the boat and you will find some.” When they did, they were unable to haul the net in because of the large number of fish.



John 21:4-6

1. The God of our mind is not
always the God of our lives.

**2. What are the assumptions we
make about God?**



⁷ Then the disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, “It is the Lord!” As soon as Simon Peter heard him say, “It is the Lord,” he wrapped his outer garment around him (for he had taken it off) and jumped into the water.

John 21:7-14



⁸ The other disciples followed in the boat, towing the net full of fish, for they were not far from shore, about a hundred yards.



John 21:7-14

⁹ When they landed, they saw a fire of burning coals there with fish on it, and some bread.

¹⁰ Jesus said to them, “Bring some of the fish you have just caught.”



John 21:7-14

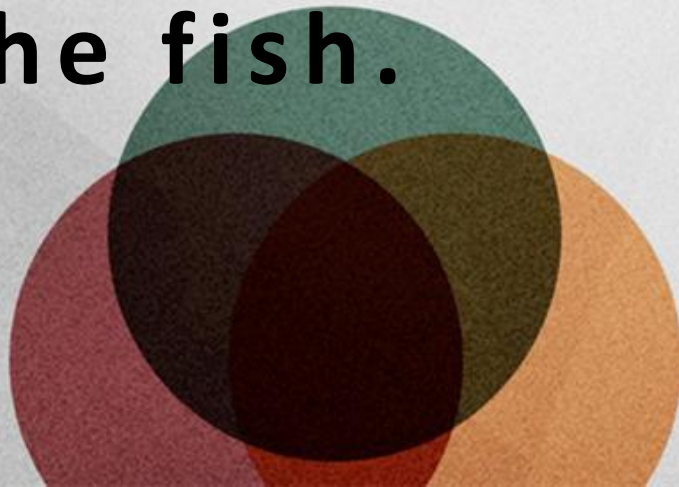
11 So Simon Peter climbed back into the boat and dragged the net ashore. It was full of large fish, 153, but even with so many the net was not torn.



John 21:7-14

¹² Jesus said to them, “Come and have breakfast.” None of the disciples dared ask him, “Who are you?” They knew it was the Lord. ¹³ Jesus came, took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish.

John 21:7-14



**14 This was now the third time
Jesus appeared to his
disciples after he was raised from
the dead.**



John 21:7-14

1. The God of our mind is not always the God of our lives.
2. What are the assumptions we make about God?
- 3. The Posture of Jesus**



**15 When they had finished eating,
Jesus said to Simon Peter, “Simon
son of John, do you love me more
than these?”**

**“Yes, Lord,” he said, “you know
that I love you.”**

Jesus said, “Feed my lambs.”

John 21:15-17



**16 Again Jesus said, “Simon son of John, do you love me?”
He answered, “Yes, Lord, you know that I love you.”
Jesus said, “Take care of my sheep.”**



John 21:15-17

17 The third time he said to him, “Simon son of John, do you love me?”

Peter was hurt because Jesus asked him the third time, “Do you love me?” He said, “Lord, you know all things; you know that I love you.”

Jesus said, “Feed my sheep.”

John 21:15-17

1. The God of our mind is not always the God of our lives.
2. What are the assumptions we make about God?
3. The Posture of Jesus
4. **The God of our imagination**



**If you want to know
who God is, look to Jesus
because Jesus is just like God**



**Is believing that God is always present and
at work good news to you?**



**Is believing that God is always present and
at work good news to you?**

How do you imagine God?



**Is believing that God is always present and
at work good news to you?**

How do you imagine God?

**When you are bad, how do you experience
God?**



**Is believing that God is always present
and at work good news to you?**

How do you imagine God?

**When you are bad, how do you experience
God?**

**How does your imagination and experience
line up with the gospels?**

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