

# FALSE VIEWS OF GOD

EXAMINING THE THINGS WE TELL OURSELVES ABOUT GOD

## PART 1: BODYGUARD GOD AND ON-DEMAND GOD

God certainly brings good things to our lives. But when the focus of our relationship with God is on us, we can portray him as simply someone who protects us or gives us what we want.

### WIN

To clearly see any false views we may have about God and adjust our perspectives so we see him for who he really is

### CONNECT

Take a few minutes to discuss the following questions as a group:

1. What types of professions come to mind when you think of people who need bodyguards? If you had to choose, which of these jobs would you select for yourself?
2. If you could have one product on demand, what would it be?

### LEARN

Before watching the video together and discussing the questions provided, we suggest taking a few moments to pray. Here's a simple prayer you can use:

*Heavenly Father, help us to be open to see any false views we have about who you are. Amen.*

After praying, watch the video for Part 1.

### APPLY

Discuss the following questions as a group:

1. Talk about a time you prayed for God to do something, but it didn't happen. What are some ways your view of God could have been impacted? Do you feel like it was? Why or why not?
2. Does either of these false views—Bodyguard God or On-Demand God—bring to the surface a belief you might be carrying around about God? If so, which one, and what makes you say that?
3. Read **Matthew 7:7–12** aloud. Does this passage imply that God will give you whatever you ask for? Why or why not?



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4. Jesus taught us to think of God as a perfect heavenly Father. Why would a perfect father not act as a perpetual bodyguard or an on-demand father? What would be some potential downsides if he did?
5. How could addressing either or both of these false views help you get to know God better? How could not addressing them be a barrier?

## PRAY

To close your meeting, spend some time praying as a group. In your own words, ask your perfect heavenly Father to help you trust him in the midst of your circumstances.

