

# FALSE VIEWS OF GOD

EXAMINING THE THINGS WE TELL OURSELVES ABOUT GOD

## PART 3: GUILT GOD AND BUDDY GOD

God is full of both truth and grace, but it's easy to view him as someone who focuses on one more than the other.

### WIN

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

### CONNECT

What's something you believed as a teenager or young adult that you've completely changed your mind about? It could pertain to relationships, career, money, or something else.

### 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 ways we have exaggerated certain views of you at the expense of neglecting other things that are true about you. Amen.*

After praying, watch the video for Part 3.

### APPLY

Discuss the following questions as a group:

1. Growing up, was the idea of Guilt God emphasized to you? Explain. If you didn't grow up in church, what was your perception of God and why?
2. What are some things about our current culture that could cause you to see God as Buddy God?
3. Talk about a time when too much of either Guilt God or Buddy God prevented you from growing in your faith.
4. Would the people closest to you say you currently drift more toward Guilt God or Buddy God? Why? Would they say you lean heavily or just slightly toward one or the other?



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5. Read **John 8:10–11** aloud, where Jesus speaks to a woman caught in adultery. Based on this encounter, how would you describe Jesus as being full of both grace and truth?
6. 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?

## WRAP UP

Before you pray, discuss any takeaways from these three sessions. As a reminder, here are the six false views of God we discussed:

**Bodyguard God**

**On-Demand God**

**Check-Your-Brain-at-the-Door God**

**All-the-Feels God**

**Guilt God**

**Buddy God**

## PRAY

To close your meeting, spend some time praying as a group. Ask for wisdom to see God as full of both truth and grace.

