

# Does God Hide?

## Lesson 1

TALK ABOUT IT!

10 MINUTES

### What are you proud of?

**A**mina's parents were very wealthy, so they decided to buy her a car. They told her she could have any care she wanted. So, Amina picked out her favorite—a shiny red V-boot. She drove it to school everyday. Her friends were very jealous and she loved all the attention she got from young men.

**Solomon** was also very popular, but not because of his money. He was admired for his athletic abilities. Everyone said that he would go to the Olympics one day because he could run so fast—even faster than boys much older than him. He had the respect of the teachers, and of all his classmates at his school.

**Emeka** had always been intelligent . He learned to read at a young age, and Maths came easily for him. Nor one was surprised when he got five A1s in GCE, and later had the highest JAMB score in the history of his school. His parent were so proud of him that they gave a party in his honor. He had plans to go to University on a full scholarship.

All these students have something they can boast, but all three are missing something very important. Do you know what it is?

#### WHAT'S IT ALL ABOUT?

By the time the group has finished this lesson, they should:

- know that the Almighty God reveals His thoughts to those who seek Him.
- experience the excitement about seeking God.
- start a devotional notebook and begin a daily study of God's Word.

#### WHAT DO I NEED?

- Bibles
- devotional notebooks & biros
- prepare the questions ahead of time for the Application.

BIBLE EXPLORATION

25 MINUTES

### Is God your friend?

**R**ead Jeremiah 9:22-24

1. What is more important than plenty of money, being good at sports or being the top student?
2. What two things does God say that we should boast about verse 24?
3. What do you know about God and how do you picture Him?  
Would you say He's your friend or more like a distant mystery?  
Explain your reasons.
4. What three things are told God wants us to know about His character (v. 24b)?

**Read Amos 4:13**

5. Think about God:  
imagine Him forming the mountains  
try to picture how He created the wind  
and turned the dawn to darkness.  
What is His Name? what does it mean?  
Why do you think the Lord would want to "reveal His thoughts to man"?

**Read 1 Chronicles 28:9**

6. What promise does the Lord give to those who seek Him?  
What are the conditions for seeking and finding God?  
Give an example of a time you felt that God was "hiding." What do you think might have been the reason you felt that God was hiding from you?

## “I have made you Known to them”

**R**ead Micah 4:11-12 and Psalm 25:14

7. Why are the people to whom Micah writes not able to understand God's thoughts?  
What is the warning about this lack of knowledge and understanding of God's plans for His people?
8. What is the contrast described in Psalm 25:14 for those “who fear him”?  
What is the encouragement of being able to trust in His covenant promises?

### Read John 17:25-26

9. This was part of Jesus' prayer for all believers.  
What was it that Jesus made known to His disciples while he was on earth?
10. In what way would that understanding continue to be “in them” (v. 26)?  
How can we also “know God” in this same way today?

### Read Acts 17:24-28

11. How is God described in verse 24?
12. What three activities of God in the world are described (v. 25-26)?  
What is God's purpose in these activities (v. 27)?  
How does this verse encourage us to “seek” Him?

## How can I get To know God?

**D**ivided into three groups to discuss for 10 minutes. Then come together and share the main points of your discussion.

### Group 1.

Look at the example of **Amina** and discuss the following questions:

1. Was it wrong for Amina to have such an expensive gift from her parents?  
Give reasons for your answer.
2. What are the dangers for Amina, having such a nice car?
3. How would you use Micah 4:11-12 to warn her about keeping God at the centre of her life?

### Group 2.

Look at the example of **Solomon** and discuss the following questions:

1. Why do his friends and his teachers give Solomon respect?
2. Discuss how you think pride in athletic ability should be used.
3. How would you use Acts 17:24-28 to encourage Solomon to give God the glory for his success in sport?

### Group 3.

Look at the example of **Emeka** and discuss the following questions:

1. Do you wish you had academic ability like Emeka? Why?
2. What does Jeremiah 9:23-24 tell us about the most important things in life?
3. Make a plan how you are going to get to know God better and understand His plans for you in the coming weeks.

### Before closing:

Spend the next few minutes asking god to teach you how to get to know him better.

## THIS WEEK'S ASSIGNMENT

Take a new exercise book and make it into a devotional notebook.

Write what you discover about God, the questions you have for Him, and the thoughts from your readings and prayers each day.  
Read and study the following verses. Each day write in your devotional notebook all the things you learn about God from these verses.

### Day 1

Read  
Isaiah 40:1-5

### Day 2.

Read  
Isaiah 40:6-11

### Day 3.

Read  
Isaiah 40

### Day 4.

Read  
Isaiah 40:15-20

### Day 5.

Read  
Isaiah 40:21-24

### Day 6.

Read  
Isaiah 40:25-26

### Day 7.

Read  
Isaiah 40:27-31