



# Seeing The God Who Sees Me

Week of May 13, 2018

These Digging Deeper questions can be used the week following the Sunday message. You can use these questions for personal growth and development, or as a guide for your family or Connect Group discussions.

## Message Recap:

### Read Read Genesis 16:1-16

For all that we know and have heard what worship is, we still fall into the trap of putting worship into a box that includes signing praise songs on Sundays. But God wants more of us than thirty or so minutes on day a week. Worship is our grateful response to the saving presence of a loving God. Worship is meant to be the rhythm of our lives as an everyday response to God's love. In this story, Sarah gave up on God and tried to solve her problems on her own. Hagar got caught in the middle, and when things got bad, she ran away. Both women tried to solve their problems on their own, but God reached out to Hagar and showed her the plan that he had for her. When Hagar realized that God saw her in her pain, she responded in true worship.

## Pray

Lord, the busyness of our lives so often drowns out the quiet whispers that you speak to us. We constantly struggle to find the answers, looking everywhere, but never fully stopping to listen for your wisdom to guide us. Thank you for your extravagant love and grace, despite our brokenness and imperfections. Jesus, help us learn to slow down and listen, pausing in worship so that we can hear your guiding words drawing us down the path that leads towards the perfect purpose you have for us.

## Getting Started

- What is one thing that you're grateful for in the last week or two?
- How often in life do you stop to recognize all the things you're grateful for?

## Digging Deeper

1. Discuss why we tend to either solve our own problems, ignore our problems, or run away from our problems.
2. In Genesis 16:1-16, do you relate more to Sarai, Abram, or Hagar? Why?
3. Has God ever pursued you when you ran away from him? What happened? How did you respond?
4. Do you have some issues trusting God? Why? How do you think this impacts your worship?
5. In Kings 19:11-12, God appears to Elijah, though not in a way that we might expect. In these verses there was a violent windstorm, and fierce earthquake, and a roaring fire, but God was found in a quiet whisper after all of that. Why do you think God revealed himself in the quiet whisper?
6. Read John 4:23-24. What do you think it means to "worship in the Spirit and in truth"?
7. What are some practical, everyday ways that we can worship within in our own lives?

## Living Jesus

In Luke chapter 4, Jesus ventures into the wilderness where he is tested by Satan. Satan knows that he can win if he can keep us disconnected from God, but Jesus resists his temptations. Though we often fall prey to them, we can learn from Jesus' testimony, and we can find strength in trusting in him. It's easy to let our fears take us away from God, but if we can learn to lean on him through our uncertainties, then we too, just as Jesus did, can remain in connection with the Father as he leads us into a future far beyond anything we could ever imagine for ourselves.

## What's Your Story?

In order to hear God, we need to tune out the loud noises and listen intently. Share a story about how you heard God and responded in worship.

**Share your personal story with us [here](https://www.mysevernrun.com) or online. Go to [MySevernRun.com](https://www.mysevernrun.com) and choose Share Your Story under Forms.**