

## Week 10: What is God Like?

### Fellowship

- **Eat:** Ask someone else to bring the snacks and drinks to provide hospitality.
- **Check-Ins:** In a large group or small groups of 2-3 do an emotional check-in—When did you feel most alive this week? What does that reveal about yourself or this season of life?

### Adoration

- **Prayer:** Take a risk and don't plan anything for prayer. Just open up the space and invite people to rest in God's presence then pray out as they feel the Spirit leading (this could be words, pictures, scriptures, adoration, intercession, etc)
- **Worship:** Ask someone to lead worship or use a speaker with your favorite music App. You could try a [playlist of Gospel Music](#) or [Cory Asbury](#) on Spotify!

### Learning

- **Use a Resource to set the Stage:**
  - Give space for some reflections from last week. What did God teach you about the Kingdom through the Sermon on the Mount? How is it similar or different from what you expected from the OT storyline?
  - What are Parables? How should we read them? Watch the [Bible Project Video on Parables](#) or you could watch it and teach the group about parables to set the stage.
- **Scripture**
  - **Luke 15** You can judge based on time if you want to read all three parables or just focus on the *Parable of the Prodigal Son*. Similar to last week when we did *Lectio Divina* (see outline 9) we want to give space for the Lord to speak and guide as we reflect on this text. Remember as New Covenant people the Holy Spirit is present with us to help illuminate the meaning and significance of the Scriptures. Consider reading it together, but invite people to close their eyes and imagine being there for the scenes of the story (or stories). Then give space for everyone to re-read and prayerfully meditate on a small portion that is striking them.
- **Dialogue Questions:**
  - What is striking you about the story? What stood out as you imagined the narrative play out in your imagination?
  - What is God like based on these parables?
  - Focusing on the prodigal son story, what do we learn from each character's role and place? Older son? Younger son? Patient father?
- **Implication Ideas:**
  - Henri Nouwen writes, "As son and heir I am to become successor. I am destined to step into my Father's place and offer others the same compassion that he has offered me. The return to the Father is ultimately the challenge to become the Father" (*The Return of the Prodigal Son*, 123).
  - What implications does this parable teach for us as followers of Jesus? How would your life, vocation, relationships be changed if you took Nouwen's invitation to become like the Father? How would it change things for you?