

the shallow **END**



6-WEEK STUDY

DIVING INTO THE DEEP THINGS OF GOD

WEEK 1

DISCUSSION GUIDE

GOD HAS A NAME

the shallow END



WEEKLY READING

Primary text from this week: Exodus 34:6-7

Secondary texts from this week: Exodus 32:1-35; Exodus 33:1-23

GETTING STARTED

Goals for this session: To grow in our understanding of what God is like so we can know Him better

Missed the sermon? Watch it at www.youtube.com/venturamissionary

Break the Ice: Who was your favorite teacher in school? What qualities made him/her your favorite?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. If you had the opportunity to describe God to someone else, what words would you describe Him?
2. In this week's sermon, Pastor Doug read the following quote from A.W. Tozer: "What comes into our mind when we think about God is the most important thing about us." Why do you think this statement might be true?
3. Have someone in the group read **Exodus 34:6-7** out loud. What words and phrases does God use to describe himself? Ask each person in the group to share which description word or phrase stands out to them.
4. Spend a few minutes discussing the last part of Exodus 34:7. Does that part shock you? Surprise you? Confuse you? (**note:** we will discuss this section in detail on Week 5 of the series)
5. Pastor Doug pointed out that the Old Testament writers quote Exodus 34:6-7 more than any other passage. Look up each of the following passages and read them out loud. Discuss which words or phrases are borrowed from Exodus 34:6-7:

Deuteronomy 4:31

Joel 2:13

Micah 7:18-19

Psalms 86:15

Psalms 103:7-11

6. With the Exodus story in your mind and the words of Exodus 34:6-7 still ringing in your ears, have someone in the group read John's introduction of Jesus in John 1:14. What descriptions or phrases does John use that point back to the story of God in Exodus? (see *hints below*)

made his dwelling—think of the tabernacle where God's presence dwelt (see Exodus 25:8)

seen his glory—think of Moses asking to see God's glory (see Exodus 33:18)

full of grace—the word "gracious" can be translated "full of grace" (see Exodus 34:6a)

[full of] truth—the Greek word for "truth" can be translated "faithfulness" (see Exodus 34:6b)

7. Many people feel God is far away and distant. Have you ever felt that way? How does this story in Exodus remind you that God invites us to know Him intimately?

