

THE CURIOSITY OF GOD

May 17, 2026 | Kent Denlinger

Scripture *(Consider reading one or more of these)*

Genesis 3:1-13 | John 4:4-30 | Job 40:1-14, 42:1-6 | John 21:15-19 | Jeremiah 2:4-8

- What is something you were endlessly curious about as a kid?
 - What made you want to know more?
- What is one question someone asked you that stuck with you?
 - Why do you think it stayed with you?

Diving IN

- In Genesis 3, God asks Adam, “Where are you?” even though God already knows the answer. What do you think God is inviting Adam to do with that question?
 - How is this different from God simply accusing or condemning him?
- In John 4, the Samaritan woman hides part of the truth of her life but eventually runs back to town speaking openly about Jesus. What do these two stories show us about our instinct to hide?
 - What does Jesus show us about the kind of truth that leads to freedom?
- In Job 40, God asks Job, “Would you discredit my justice? Would you condemn me to justify yourself?” What does that question reveal in Job’s heart?
 - Why do you think God uses questions instead of simply giving Job an explanation for his suffering?
- Job eventually says, “My ears had heard of you, but now my eyes have seen you.” How did God’s questions move Job from knowing about God to encountering God more deeply?
- In John 21, Jesus asks Peter three times, “Do you love me?” Why do you think Jesus brings Peter back to love instead of only focusing on his failure?
 - What does this teach us about how Jesus restores people?
- In Jeremiah 2, we read about the priests failing to ask, “Where is the Lord?” Why is that such an important question for God’s people to ask?

- How might asking questions like “where is the Lord?” or “what is God up to here?” change the way we walk through the goings-on in our life?

Living It OUT

- The sermon talked about curiosity in three directions: curiosity about God, curiosity about others, and curiosity about ourselves. Which of those feels most natural for you right now?
 - Which one feels most uncomfortable?
- Where are you tempted to hide from God instead of being honest with Him?
 - What would it look like to answer God’s questions with honesty this week?
- Think about your relationships, family, friendships, or group life. How could better questions help someone feel more seen, known, or loved?
 - What kinds of questions tend to open people up rather than shut them down?
- If we answer honestly, sometimes questions reveal things in us we would rather not see. Where might God be using a person, a question, or a conversation to reveal something in your heart?
 - How can that become an invitation to the light instead of the dark?
- Peter’s failure did not disqualify him from being loved and used by Jesus. Where do you need to hear Jesus calling you back instead of letting failure define you?
 - How might your weakness(es) become a place where you depend more deeply on the Holy Spirit?
- As a group, what would it look like for us to become more curious in a Christlike way?
 - How can we ask better questions without self-serving?
 - How can we create space for Scripture and the Holy Spirit to guide the conversation?

Lifting it UP

- Ask God to make us more honest with Him, with ourselves, and each other
- Pray for the Holy Spirit to reveal where we are relying on ourselves too much
- Pray that our curiosity would help us live with our eyes UP on God, more present IN community, and OUT into our world on mission