

The Potter's Christian Life Center

SERMON NOTES
with Pastor Greg Formey



Overlooking God

Job 42:5

Sunday, January 25, 2026

“I had heard of you by the hearing of the ear, but now my eye sees you...”

God may stay hidden from our eyes, but He invites us to seek Him daily by faith.

Many people say they would believe in God if He would only make Himself more obvious. They imagine that faith would be easy if God spoke loudly every morning or wrote His will across the sky.

Scripture tells us something surprising. The problem is not that God is absent, but that He is present in ways we often overlook.

The Bible introduces us to a God who speaks, saves, and sustains, but who remains hidden from plain sight. This hiddenness is not cruelty or indifference. It is purposeful. God hides not to push us away, but to draw us in. He invites us into a daily relationship shaped by trust, not control, and by faith, not sight.

AN INVITATION TO SEEK, NOT A REASON TO QUIT

Isaiah 45:15

Truly, you are a God who hides himself, O God of Israel, the Savior. ESV

Isaiah speaks to Israel in exile, during which there is extreme tension. This is intentional. God is unseen in their terrible, embarrassing circumstances, but at the same time, active in the overall plan to redeem them. The fact that His presence cannot be detected does not set aside His interest and His concern. In fact, the way He chooses to relate with them reshapes how His people learn to trust Him.

In ancient times, gods were expected to show themselves through idols and rituals. Israel's God was different. He commanded the people not to make images. In the Torah, He met Moses in cloud and fire, revealing just enough to guide Israel, but never enough to control them.

The Hebrew verb behind “hides” carries the sense of being concealed, not absent. God is veiled, not absent. This means that seasons of silence are not signs of abandonment. They are invitations to pursue Him more diligently.

Job, for example, cried out, searched for, and questioned God. But He never stopped seeking. In the end, God did not give Him explanations, but He gave him Himself. Oh Job did not seek he would not have seen God move.

Job 42:5 - I had heard of you by the hearing of the ear, but now my eye sees you;

When God feels hidden, do you withdraw in disappointment, or do you lean in with deeper pursuit like Job did?

GROWTH THROUGH THE ORDINARY

Hebrews 11:6

And But without faith *it is impossible to please Him*, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and *that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him*. NKJV

Hebrews shows that faith is a practiced confidence. God rewards seekers, not because of feeling, but because of faithful dependence.

Faith is not a moment but a rhythm. In ancient Israel, worship was built around daily sacrifices, set prayers, and communal gatherings. These habits shaped trust when emotions failed.

God's mercies being "new every morning" does not mean life feels new. It means that He favors us even when circumstances stay hard. Your spiritual growth progresses through simple obedience - praying when distracted, Scripture when reading and meditation when dry, fellowshiping when tired, and faithfulness even in small the choices.

Daniel prayed three times a day, even when it became dangerous. His habits did not change his circumstances immediately, but they anchored his soul to the unseen God who ruled over kings and lions. And when all was said and done, he was delivered every time.

What small, daily habit could God use to train your heart to trust Him more deeply this year?

Conclusion

The God who hides Himself is not distant. He hides in order to be sought after, and He reveals Himself to those who pursue Him daily.

Jeremiah 29:13-14

13 You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart. 14 I will be found by you, declares the Lord, and I will restore your fortunes and gather you from all the nations and all the places where I have driven you, declares the Lord, and I will bring you back to the place from which I sent you into exile. ESV

As this new year progresses, God is not asking for grand promises or perfect faith. He is inviting you into steady, daily seeking.

Start the year not by waiting to feel close to God, but by drawing near in faith. Pray. Open Scripture. Walk in obedience. Gather with God's people. Trust that the hidden God is already at work. And as you seek Him, you will find that He has been with you all along.