

Introduction:

1. Series... all then God Himself
Find - a plumber? A lawyer? A doctor? -weekends?
2. A sense - none seek God true
But - CS Lewis' ill. Of man has a basic need
Made for God
Further - evidence God exists is our thirst for God - like water
Evidence - worlds religions - fill that hole
And here - seeking Him - finding Him
A need for God - unsatisfied without Him
3. Scripture

I. He Reveals Himself

1. Creation
 - declare the glory of God
 - Rom. 1:20
 - some basic principles - but limited
 2. The Bible - Laws and Prophets
 - Laws - thou shalt nots - corollary
 - precepts, commandments
 - Prophets - Isaiah, Jeremiah, Micah, Nahum, Ezekiel, Daniel, Zephaniah, Zechariah, Malachi, Hosea, Amos, Jonah and Obediah
 - Applied the laws with attention to the heart of the laws
 - Bible records that God sent messengers, sent messages, His will, His person
 3. People - the messengers themselves
 - Example - Moses - this is what God says
 - This is what God wants
 - Example - Hosea - this story of a relationship
 - Example - New Testament - Paul
 4. Christ
 - literal person
 - at a literal time
 - touchable
 - not invisible but visible
- So... God came to us
- John - Jesus talked about Jacob's ladder
 - Way thrown open
 - God comes to us - a way made for us to God - to Him
5. So... God revealed Himself - the will of God
 - We find God
 - We know God
 - We represent God

Find God

Know God

Represent God
Segue - God Reveals Himself - but...

II. Sometimes:

1. -in the furnace - hard times
Shadrack, Meshack and Abednego - the fourth man
What about your hard times?
Across the wilderness - water, manna, and protection
Abraham and Isaac - Jehovah-Jireh - God Provides
2. -on the pathway
-I mean, not at church
-tabernacle and temple - a place of meeting
-but God often shows up in our day-to-day
Saul to Paul -on the Damascus Road
Emmaus Road
Zacchaeus - in a tree
3. -sometimes we find God within His people
-we experience His love - I see you, I care about you
-we've often said - heard about Him
-but experience Him through His church
Habitation of the Spirit - dwelling place - Eph. 2:21-22
-experience His care and love
-experience His correction
-experience His guidance
4. -the "only God" place
-"only" God can heal my loved one
-in a dark place - a little light
5. Sometimes... Just a Touch
Emmaus Road - Jesus appears, He instructs, He leaves
-did not our hearts "burn" within us?

III. There are Obstacles to Finding God

1. Unaware
-He exists - He's real
-He cares
-He sent Jesus to make a bridge
Part of our job:
A) recommend - teach - spiritual things
B) the person of Jesus
2. Pharisees
-people who see the laws but not the person
-are there "church pharisees?" yes
3. No time for God
-so busy with life
-so focused on:
-groceries, supper

- career
- even family
- miss what matters most

4. Rejection of God

- get mad at Him
- know the will of God - know God - just reject Him
- ex- Jonah

5. Sin

- huge obstacle to finding, knowing and experiencing God
- ex - drugs - get into pleasure, forget God, get into self
- sin is self-centeredness
 - thinking only of self
 - what would make ME happy
 - what I want
 - very addictive

6. Apathy

- don't care
- lose hope?
- lose energy?
- lose vision?
- Caring - about people
 - about life
 - is exhausting
 - is difficult

IV. God has Made a Way

For us to find Him
 His way is... Jesus
 I am the way
 He reached out to us
 Before we ever even know
 He made a way!
 Purpose I am come to seek and save the lost

Jeremiah 29:13 - read

You will find me when you seek with all your HEART
 A relationship with God is just that a relationship

The heart