Who Is God? What's God Up to?

Last week the terrorists continued to terrorize. Nations continued to make war. There were multiple murders and rapes and kidnappings. Nearly 17,000 families were torn apart by divorce in the US alone. And poverty, homelessness, and hunger was still rampant. It kinda makes you wonder what God is doing these days. Just where are all those good and perfect gifts he promised? In the midst of the Christmas season that's supposed to usher in hope, peace, joy, and love, we'll wrestle with this question as we continue our series on Who Is God??

James 1:17–18

Which Kind of God Do You Worship? 1. A God who isn't ______ about His _____. 2. A God who is _____ to ____ . 3. A God who is ______ to _____. 4. A God who requires an ______ to _____. 5. A God who is in ______. 6. A God who has a _____ and seeks ____ What's God Up To These Days? 7. Freeing people of their ______ 8. _____, ____, and ______ His Vision – His Plan. 9. Desperately trying to ______. My Count Me In! Commitments ☐ I'll be here next Sunday ☐ I'll invite a friend ☐ I'll explore my place in God's plan (include email address for links) ☐ I want to attend the next Getting Started Class (1/14) ☐ I want to be a part of the next Directions Discipleship Course

Additional Notes

Digging Deeper and Going Further

Read James 1:2–18. In this passage, James – the brother of Jesus – is correcting the belief that God was in the tempting business, that God was trying to "trip us up." But the question goes deeper than that – just how involved is God in the things of creation, including our own lives.

1.	spiritual, or physical discomfort. A temptation is an attractive lure that invites us to sin. What are some common trials people struggle with?
2.	According to James, is God involved in trials? In temptations?
3.	Read John 14:15–21. Jesus promises to send the Spirit of Truth to us. What does the Spirit of Truth do in a disciple's life?
4.	Read 1 Corinthians 12:1–14. How does the Holy Spirit empower the church?
5.	Read John 14:12–14. What does Jesus say disciples are equipped to do?
6.	Read Genesis 3:17–18. According to this passage, why does the earth "misbehave" (earthquakes, droughts, floods, etc.)?
7.	Read John 16:1–15. What promises did Jesus make to his disciples this passage?
8.	Read 2 Peter 3:8–9. What is God's vision for humanity?
9.	How is God active in bringing his vision to reality? What is your part in His action?
	