

"Am I a God who is near," declares the LORD, "And not a God far off? "Can a man hide himself in hiding places so I do not see him?" declares the LORD "Do I not fill the heavens and the earth?" declares the LORD. Jeremiah 23:23-24

Icebreaker

Did you have a favorite hiding place when you were a kid?

Conversation Starters

- 1. Before listening to Alice's teaching, how would you have answered her opening question: Where does God live?
- 2. Talk about various ways you might still get stuck in the bad religious idea of "spiritual apartheid" **the belief that** we can divide the *world and our lives into holy and unholy, into sacred and secular.*
 - a. What's the problem with this? Especially in your life?
- 3. Alice talks about how spiritual apartheid can make us into "practical atheists" that is, people who say we believe in a God who is alive and active in our lives, but for all practical purposes, behave as if there is no God when we are outside the church, in our everyday lives. Do you ever find yourself stumbling into "practical atheism?"
- 4. What pressures of life cause you to go into hiding or attempt to separate your life into a Spiritual space and a "regular life space?"
- 5. Alice gives two questions that can help us battle spiritual apartheid. Have you ever asked this sort of question? Which question would be most helpful to you right now?
 - a. Where am I right now? Or, to put it more personally, "Where are you right now, <u>fill in the blank</u> <u>with your name</u>?
 - b. Where are you, God? Show me where you are in this moment.