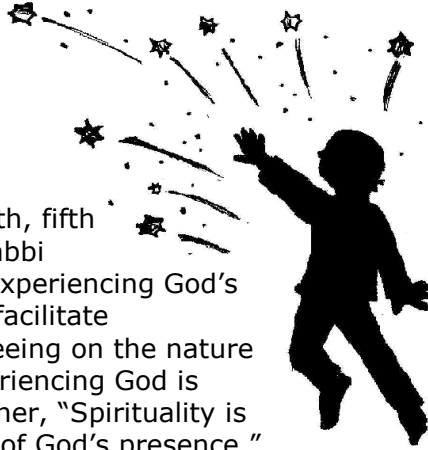


## WHEN IS GOD

by Marthajoy Aft

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This family program is designed for fourth, fifth and sixth graders. It was inspired by Rabbi Lawrence Kushner's approach to using experiencing God's presence — *WHEN IS GOD* — as a way to facilitate communication about *what is God*. Agreeing on the nature of God is difficult if not impossible; experiencing God is common to us all. To quote Rabbi Kushner, "Spirituality is personal immediacy and the immediacy of God's presence."

The *WHEN IS GOD* program facilitates family interaction on this vital topic through text study, discussion, experiential activities, bibliodrama, music, and prayer.

**Topic:** When is God?

**Target Audience:** Fourth, fifth and sixth grade students with their parents. The group can be as small as ten students with parents or as large as 150 students with parents. Staffing should be appropriate for the size of the group. See Staff, below.

**Time Frame:** The program will take a minimum of two hours. Additional activities are provided for a three hour program; these activities have been labeled to make them easy to identify.

**Staff:** A ratio of one staff person to 10-12 students and parents is suggested. Experienced staff can facilitate more than one small group.

1. Lawrence Kushner, *Eyes Remade For Wonder: A Lawrence Kushner Reader*, Jewish Lights Publishing, Woodstock, Vermont, 1998, p. 153.

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### Highlights:

- Meditation pinpoints *WHEN IS GOD* moments throughout a day.
- Text study provides new insights of our ancestors' experiences with God as they shed light into our lives.
- This is us—Bibliodrama — Let loose and learn!

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