

We begin by deconstructing false images—tearing down idols in the tradition of Jeremiah 1—before commencing with the work of construction. To this initial demolition we now turn.

### Pausing to think

- What are some images of God common to our broader culture? How might those who don't profess faith imagine God? How do you think they differ from God as he truly is? How might they have developed such an image of God?
- Compare the image of God among various church-cultures and Christian movements. Contrast the images of God in different religions. How might these variant visions of God reflect the worshipers themselves?
- What suspicions do you have about the God of your tradition? Of your personal understanding? If God were bigger and better than those boxes, what is it that God might want to reveal to you?
- If we are prone to distorted or limited images of God, how might we break *out* into a clearer vision? How might God break *in* to show us the truth?
- What was it that Jesus wanted us to see about God? How was his vision of God different than anything previous? How might his vision of God still be different than your own?

**Pausing to pray**

*God, who are you? I want to know you but my vision is so distorted, my mind is so small, my heart is so constricted. How could you live in such tiny boxes? Ah, but you don't! I do! Rescue me from the prison of my puny understanding! Turn on the lights so I can catch a glimpse of the same Eternal Love that Jesus revealed. Give me the gift of Christlike vision that burns through the fog that blinds me to pure Goodness. Lord, let it be!*