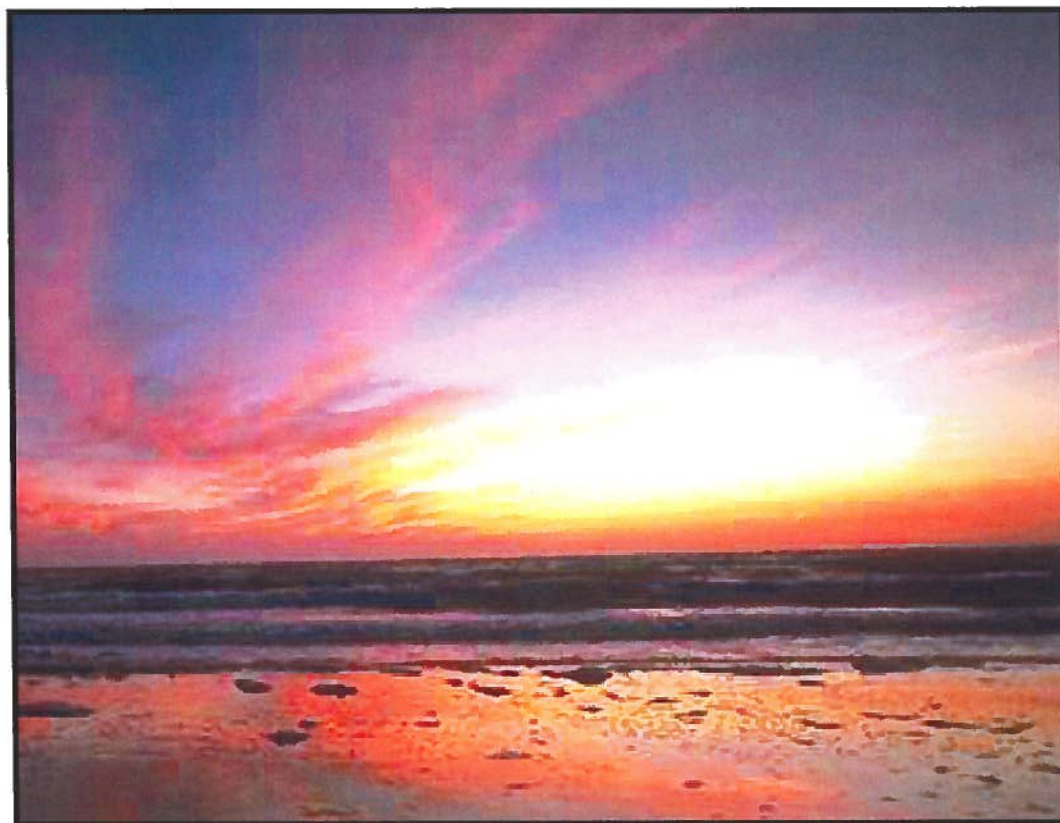




Crossroad Community Church

Encountering God



Joseph said to his brothers,
“God will surely visit you” (Gen.50:24a)

This is a study of how people’s lives had changed
once they encountered God.

Pastor Andy Lee &
Pastor Glen Lockwood

Encountering God Series

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Encountering God Lesson #1

(Adam & Eve's Encounter in Genesis 1-3)

1. What were the first words that Adam heard from God? (Gen.2:15-17)
2. What was the first thing that God gave to Adam and why? (2:18-25)
3. How does James 1:17 apply to this situation?
4. What did God first say to them as a new 'couple'? (1:27-30)
5. How does David respond to God after possibly reading those verses above in Psalm 8?
6. How would you describe their encounter with Satan? (3:1-5)
7. What happened to the both of them after they had sinned? (3:6-8)
8. How do you respond after you have sinned against God?
9. How should we respond after we have sinned? (1Jn. 1:8-10, Psalm 51)

10. How did God respond to their act of sin? (3:8-9)

11. Why did God come after them and call them?

12. How did Adam respond when he heard God calling him? (3:10)

13. Are you at this moment 'hiding from God' because of your sin and your fear of Him?

14. Why did God question them if He already knew what they did? (3:11)

15. What did Adam & Eve do when God confronted them? (3:12-13)

16. Do you ever blame others for your sin? Why?

17. What promise did God give to Satan that affects us today? (3:14-15)

18. What was the end result of their sin of disobedience? (3:23-24, Rom.5:12, 18-19)

19. Why did God make new garments and clothe them? (3:21)

20. What new clothes do Christians have? (Is.61:10, Galatians 3:27)

Encountering God Lesson #2

(Noah's encounter in Genesis 6-8)

1. How did God describe the world in Noah's day?(6:1-5,11-12)
2. What did it do to God & how did He react? (6:6-7)
3. How does God describe Noah? (6:8-9)
4. Is Noah a picture of how we should be living today? Why?
5. What was God's plan for the people and the earth? (6:13)
6. What was God's plan to save it? (6:14-21)
7. How would you have responded to that message?
8. How did Noah respond to this task? (6:22, 7:5, Heb.11:6-7)
9. Is there anything that God has told you to do that you are not doing right now? If so, what is your excuse? Will you obey?

10. What did God spare Noah from? (7:18-23)
11. What has God promised us to spare us from? (1Thess.1:10)
12. What did Noah do after he got out of the ark? (8:18-20)
13. What did God promise to the world? (8:21-22, 9:8-17)
14. Will there be another day like the days of Noah? (Matt.24:37-39)
15. Did the people of Noah's day make any adjustments to prepare for the flood of God's wrath? If not, why not?
16. What adjustments is Jesus telling us to make before He comes? (Matt.24:42-51, 25:1-46)
17. What will happen when He comes again according to 2Thess.1:7-9?
18. How should we live in light of these truths? (2Thess.2:13-17)
19. What should be we be praying for? (Col.4:2-6, & 2Thess.3:1-5)

ENCOUNTERING GOD – MOSES

Exodus Chapters 3 and 4

Key verse: *“Do not come any closer,” God said. “Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy ground.” Exodus 3:5*

1. How old was Moses when God appeared to him in the burning bush? _____

2. What lessons, do you think, did Moses have to learn before God could use him? _____

3. Why did Moses have to remove his sandals at the bush? What is the significance of that?

4. Did Moses feel adequate for the work God sent him to do? _____

5. God told Moses His Name. What is it, and what is its significance? _____

6. What is the first excuse Moses gave to God? _____

7. What was Moses' second excuse? _____

8. What was his third excuse? _____

9. Why didn't Moses want to obey God? _____

10. How did God calm Moses' fears? _____

11. What was the initial response of the Israelites to Moses and his message to them? _____

12. Read Exodus 14:12. What did they say later? _____

Applying the Lesson

1. Have you ever felt that God was speaking to you? _____

2. What did He want from you? _____

3. How did you respond? _____

4. How does Moses' encounter with God at the burning bush teach us how not to respond to God?

5. What has God used to get your attention in the past? _____

6. Are you in tune with God, so you can hear His voice from the Word and from the preacher? Is

He speaking to you about something now? What is it? _____

7. What are you going to do about it? _____

ENCOUNTERING GOD – JOSHUA

Joshua 1:1-9; 5:13-6:1-5

Key Verse: *“Have not I commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.” Joshua 1:9*

1. Why do you think God took Moses away at such a critical time? – vs. 2 (They were about to enter the promised land and fight for it.) _____

2. Why was Canaan called the “Promised Land”? _____

3. What were the boundaries of the land God was giving them? _____

4. What several things did God tell Joshua *not* to do or be in 1:6-9? _____

5. In these same verses, what did God tell Joshua to do and be? _____

6. Why was courage so important to Joshua? Even his people told him to be courageous (1:18).

7. Our president is the commander-in-chief of our armed forces. Who (be specific) is the commander-in-chief of the armies of God? (Check a commentary or two.) 5:13-14; Rev. 19:11-13)

8. Did Joshua immediately recognize the Commander? _____ Why did the commander reply “Neither” to Joshua’s question in 5:13? _____

9. What was the command that the Commander gave to Joshua concerning the conquering of Jericho? _____

10. Does this seem reasonable and logical? _____ Why or why not? _____

11. Is there any indication that Joshua hesitated to carry out the command? _____

12. Read Ex. 17:9-14 and 24:13. Also Num. 17:18 and Deut. 34:9. Why was Joshua ready to take over from Moses? _____

Applying the Lesson

As in the case of Moses, once again we are presented with a person whom God called to a difficult and dangerous work. There are many lessons for us to learn from Joshua's encounter with God.

1. God promised a very specific piece of real estate to Israel. (1:4) It was promised; yet they had to fight for it, and some died. What does this tell us about seeing God's promises to us fulfilled?

2. In 1:8, what three things did God say would make Joshua successful in the job He gave him?

3. What did God mean when He said that the Law should not depart out of Joshua's *mouth*? _____

4. After studying this lesson, what do you believe are the things a Christian should do/be if he is to be successful in God's work? _____

5. What is God asking you to do? A daily time with Him in the Word and prayer? To witness to a friend, relative or neighbor? To begin some specific service for Him? Whatever it is, how can you begin to be strong and very courageous, and do all that you have been commanded?

ENCOUNTERING GOD – GIDEON

Judges chapters 6 and 7

Key Verse: *“Ah, Sovereign Lord! I have seen the angel of the Lord face to face!” Judges 6:22b*

1. Read 6:1-10. Why had the Israelites become impoverished? _____

2. Gideon was anything but a mighty warrior. Why then did God call him that? (6:12) _____

3. Gideon wanted to know that it really was the Lord talking to him (6:17). How did God prove that He was the one talking to him? _____

4. What did God tell Gideon to do? (6:25-27) _____

5. What changed Gideon into the mighty warrior God saw in him? (6:34) _____

6. Gideon still wasn't sure God was directing him, so what did he ask God to do? _____

7. Why do you think that God was willing to indulge Gideon in his request? _____

8. How many men responded to Gideon's call to arms? _____

9. How many went home the first time? _____ The second time? _____

10. Why did God want so few? (7:2) _____

11. Do you suppose at this point, with just 300 men, Gideon was a little confused and afraid? _____

12. But what did he do? _____

13. What is there about Gideon that was the same as David? (6:15) _____

Applying the Lesson

1. Thinking about question 13, read 1Cor. 1:26-31. What does this mean in regard to you?

2. Read 1Samuel 15:17-23. What do you think God would have done if Gideon had not obeyed Him?

3. Have you ever set out a fleece, so to speak? _____ If yes, what were the circumstances?

4. Do you think this is a good way to discover God's will? _____ Why, or why not? _____

5. What did the altar of Baal represent? _____

6. Sometimes the enemy gets a sinful foothold or even a stronghold in our lives. How must we deal with that? _____

7. Gideon not only was told to tear down the altar to Baal, but to build an altar to the Lord. God never asks us to stop doing something sinful without telling us to do something right in its place.

What does God want you to tear down in your life? _____

8. What does God want you to build into your life? _____

Encountering God Lesson #6
(Samuel's encounter with God in 1 Samuel)

1. What does his name mean? (1:20) Why was it important? (1:27-28)
2. How was Samuel different from Eli's sons? (2:12-26)
3. What did God promise to the house of Eli and why? (2:27-36)
4. How does God define a 'faithful priest' in (2:35)?
5. What is God looking for 'in you' according to verses (2:30, 35)?
6. How does God describe the sad situation Israel was in? (3:1)
7. What did God do to reverse that situation? (3:4)
8. Why did Samuel confuse God's voice with Eli's? (3:5-7)
9. What advice did Eli give to Samuel? (3:8-10)
10. Have you ever had moment(s) where God came and spoke to you maybe at night to tell you something important? If so, what did He say?

11. What should we be praying before we hear a sermon? (3:10)
12. What did God tell Samuel that night? (3:11-14)
13. How did Samuel respond when Eli approached him? (3:15-18)
14. How do respond when you have to tell someone some hard news?
15. What did Samuel do with the words of the Lord? (3:19)
16. How did God reveal himself to Samuel? (3:21)
17. Is it easy for you to recognize the Lord's voice from other voices?
18. How do you show that you treasure His Word in your life?
19. Is there any danger in hiding God's word from others? (3:17)
20. When was the last time that God spoke to you & did you obey?
21. What is a good prayer to pray for our kids, or grandkids? (3:19-21)

Read 1 Samuel 15:22-23 to close out this section of study.

Encountering God Lesson #7
(David, a man who wanted to encounter God)

1. What question does he ask and how does he describe his souls situation?
(Psalm 42:1-2)

2. What was his one request to the Lord? (Psalm 27:4) Did God answer it?
(63:2)

3. What would be your one request of the Lord?

4. What is the cure for a 'dry and weary' spiritual life with God? (Ps. 63:1)

5. What motivated him to praise the Lord for all his life? (63:3-4)

6. What is the outcome of such a worshipper of God? (63:5)

7. Is your soul 'satisfied' with God, or does long for something else?

8. What did he think about when he went to sleep? (63:6)

9. Has God ever given you a 'song in the night' to praise him?

10. What did he command us to do in the Lord? (Ps. 37:4)

11. Is delighting yourself in the Lord a hard thing for you to do? If so, why?

12. How did David describe His God? (Ps. 43:4a)

13. Take a moment and write down who God is to you?

14. Read Ps. 95:1-7, What does true worship involve us doing?

15. Describe the person whom God blesses? (Ps. 119:1-8)

16. What is a good prayer before I read the Bible? (Ps. 119:18, 33-34, 133)

Summary: David was an ordinary man who had an extraordinary heart that longed for more of God. David ran to Him, confessed to Him, sat before Him, praised Him, worshipped Him, and delighted himself in Him.

Everything was about HIM. I just want to encourage you to write a letter, a psalm of worship and thanks for who God is to you and what He has done.

Then read it to your small group.

ENCOUNTERING GOD – ELIJAH

1Kings chapters 17-19

Key Verse: . . . (Elijah) *“prayed that he might die. ‘I have had enough, Lord,’ he said. ‘Take my life; I am no better than my ancestors’.”* 1Kings 19:4

1. How did God provide for Elijah’s needs? _____

2. Why did Elijah tell the widow to make him a bread cake for him, first, when she had only enough for herself and her son? _____

3. How many times in Scripture were the dead raised back to life as the son of the widow? _____

4. Several times in these chapters we read, “the word of the Lord came to Elijah.” How do you think God spoke to Elijah? _____

5. What was the question Elijah asked the people on Mt. Carmel? (18:21) _____

6. To what contest did Elijah challenge the prophets of Baal? _____

7. What did Elijah have to do before the contest could begin? (18:30) _____

8. What does Elijah’s mocking of the prophets of Baal tell us about him? _____

9. Read James 5:16b-18. Why did Elijah have such power with God? _____

10. After the great victory on Mt. Carmel, Elijah received a note from queen Jezebel. What did he do then? (19:3) _____

11. If Elijah was unafraid of all the enemies of God on Mt. Carmel, why did he run from Jezebel?

12. How far did he go? _____

13. What did Elijah ask God to do? (19:4) _____

14. How did God deal with His discouraged prophet? _____

Applying the Lesson

1. Satan's counterpunches are fierce! Never think that because you have won a victory the battle is over. It probably has just begun! What weapon did Satan use against Elijah? _____

2. What discourages you most in God's work? _____

3. Elijah's experience teaches us that even God's best servants can be defeated. How can we guard against this? _____

4. Elijah was undoubtedly emotionally and spiritually wrung out after his victory on Mt. Carmel.

Have you ever been tempted to quit God's work when you were weary? _____ If so, what did you do? _____

5. This story of Elijah teaches us that we should never make a major decision when we are weary and/or discouraged. If you have made this mistake, please share it so others can be helped. _____

6. "If the Lord is God, follow Him!" is what Elijah told the people. He is God! Are you following Him in your daily life? _____

ENCOUNTERING GOD – ISAIAH

Isaiah 6:1-13

Key Verse: *Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I. Send me!"* Isaiah 6:8

1. Isaiah was allowed by God to see into heaven. In relation to him, how was the Lord seated? _____

2. What is a seraph? See what you can find! _____

3. Why do you think the seraphs called "Holy is the Lord" to each other, rather than "God is Love"?

4. When Isaiah saw the majestic person of the Lord, the seraphs, and the whole scene, what effect

did it have on him? _____

5. What did he say? _____

6. Compare what Isaiah said when he saw the Lord with what Job said (Job 42:5-6) and Peter said (Luke 5:8) when they saw the Lord's glory. Was what they said similar? In what way? _____

7. Why was Isaiah's sin cleansed? (6:5; 1John 1:9) _____

8. The burning coal did not cleanse Isaiah's sin, God did. Why does seeing the Lord cause us to see our sinful selves? _____

9. To whom is the Lord speaking when He says, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?"

10. Even if you don't know Hebrew you can compare the construction of this sentence with Genesis

1:26a. To whom is God speaking there? _____

11. In Isaiah's response to what he hears, the Hebrew literally says, "Behold me! Send me!" Is

Isaiah saying, "OK, God, since you want me, I'll go," or is he saying, "Lord, how about me? I'll volunteer!" _____

12. Did the Lord promise Isaiah a fruitful ministry? _____ What did He promise him? _____

Applying the Lesson

1. In the light of the need for people to hear the gospel, should we wait for a definite call, or should we volunteer for God's service? _____

Why? _____

2. When was Isaiah ready to serve; before he saw the Lord, or afterwards? _____

Why? _____

3. Isaiah had a vision. Seldom do God's people have visions today. How then may we see and hear the Lord, and know His plan for us? _____

4. Do you believe God has as specific a plan for your life as He had for Isaiah's? _____

Why do you think so? _____

5. Read 2Cor. 3:18. In what specific ways can we behold the Lord's glory today? _____

6. According to this verse, what happens when we do see His glory? _____

Encountering God Lesson # 10

(Encountering God going to the cross in Luke 22-23)

1. How did Jesus prepare the disciples for what was coming ahead?
(Luke 22:1-23)
2. What does communion mean to you as you personally partake the bread and the cup?
3. Is what the guards did to Jesus in (22:63-64) similar to our sin? Why?
4. How are Pilates and Herods encounters with Jesus different? (23:1-17)
5. What would you be feeling if you were in 'Barabbass' shoes? (23:18-25)
6. How does it make you feel knowing that Jesus died in your place?
7. How would you describe Simon of Cyrenes' day. (23:26) circle one
interrupted wasted distraction blessed
8. Does Jesus' words to the weeping women seem harsh or wise? (28-31)
Why?

9. What do you think the criminals were thinking as they heard Jesus pray for those who crucified Him? (32-34)

10. How do you pray for your enemies or persecutors?

11. Could it be said that Jesus definitely 'saved others', yet not himself? (35-39) Why?

12. What was different in the two criminals confessions? (39-42)

13. Why do you think the sun stopped shining? (45)

14. What's the importance of the temple curtain being torn in two? (45b)

15. How would you have responded did to all of this? (47-49)

16. Do you think that you would have the same courage as Joseph did? (50-52)

17. Imagine what it would have been like to take the body of Jesus off the cross and carry Him to the tomb and prepare His body for burial? (53-56)

18. Has Jesus 'saved' you? Will you be with Him in paradise?

Encountering God Lesson #11
(People who encountered the resurrected Christ)

1. Who were the first ones to see the risen Lord? (Luke 24:1)
2. What were they prepared to do to Jesus? (24:1) What changed their plans?
3. What did they 'find' when they came to the tomb? (24:2-5)
4. Did the women 'hear' something new that day from the angels? (24:6-8)
5. How did the apostles respond to their news? (24:9-12)
6. Why is the details in (24:13) so important to the resurrection miracle?
7. Why were the disciples 'downcast' as they talked about Jesus? (24:14-24)
8. Compare verses (24:6-7 with 24:25-27). Are they the same or different?
9. What triggered their minds that they were talking to Jesus? (24:30-35)
10. Why do you think Jesus waited to see the 11 apostle? (24:36)

11. How did they respond when they saw Him? (24:36-43)
12. How did Thomas respond and what title did he call Jesus? (Jn.20:26-29)
13. Why do you think Jesus showed them from the Old Testament all the things that were written about Him when He was right there? (24:44-47)
14. What was their mission & why did they have to wait? (24:47-49)
15. Why is 'forgiveness of sins' so important that all the world needs to hear it?
16. What kind of 'proof' do we have that He rose again? (Acts 1:3-4)
17. What was of first importance to Paul in (1Cor.15:3-8) and why?
18. What are the disastrous results if Jesus did not rise from the dead? (1Cor.15:12-19)?
19. What are the awesome benefits to believers since He indeed rose again? (1Cor.15:20-23, 42-55)
20. Since we have Christ' victory, how then should we live? (15:56-58)

ENCOUNTERING GOD – THE JUDGMENT

1Corinthians 3:11-15 Romans 14:10-12 2Corinthians 5:10

Revelation 20:11-15

1. According to the above Scriptures, on what will God's judgment be based? _____

2. Who will be judged at the Judgment Seat of Christ? _____

3. Who will be judged at the Great White Throne? _____

4. In Matt. 12:36-37, what did Jesus say we would give account of in the judgment? _____

5. What is the foundation in a person's life on which he can build good works? _____

6. What are the three components of a work, or deed? _____

7. Our works will be tested by fire, according to 1Cor. 3:13. If some of our works stand the test, what will we receive? _____

8. If all our works fail the test, what will happen? _____

9. Who is it who sits on the Great White Throne? See John 5:22. _____

10. Do you think believers will be observers at the Great White Throne Judgment? _____

Why, or why not? _____

11. In the light of Luke 12:47-48, do you think there will be degrees of punishment in hell? _____

12. Find a verse in the Bible that teaches there will be degrees of reward for Christians. _____

13. Will the Christian ever be judged for his sins? Look at both of the following verses, which seem to contradict each other: 2Cor. 5:10; Rom. 8:1. _____

14. In Rev. 20:12,15, what is the "Book of Life"? _____

15. How do you get your name in the Book of Life? Prove your answer from Scripture. _____

16. When is the judgment of Christians? Rev. 22:12 gives us a hint. _____

Applying the Lesson

1. Read the description of Jesus in Rev. 1:12-18. What aspect of His appearance is the most awesome to you? _____

2. What are you doing in your life now that will qualify for reward in heaven? _____

3. How can you receive the Crown of Life? James 1:12. _____

4. How can you receive the Crown of Righteousness? 2Tim. 4:8. _____

5. 1Cor. 9:24 says we are to run (live our lives) so we can be winners and receive a crown. How do we do that? _____

6. 2John vs 8 says to "watch out" or be vigilant, so you don't lose your reward, but receive a full reward. What does this mean, and how must we watch out? _____
