

**Our Need for Encounter:**

*Whenever, though, they turn to face God as Moses did, God removes the veil and there they are—face-to-face! They suddenly recognize that God is a living, personal presence, not a piece of chiseled stone. And when God is personally present, a living Spirit, that old, constricting legislation is recognized as obsolete. We're free of it! All of us! Nothing between us and God, our faces shining with the brightness of his face. And so we are transfigured much like the Messiah, our lives gradually becoming brighter and more beautiful as God enters our lives and we become like him. 2 Corinthians 3:16-18 (MSG)*

✓ **We need \_\_\_\_\_, not just performance.**

*My message and my preaching were not with wise and persuasive words, but with a demonstration of the Spirit's power,<sup>5</sup> so that your faith might not rest on human wisdom, but on God's power.*

**1 Corinthians 2:4-5**

✓ **We need \_\_\_\_\_, not just explanations.**

*Then they turned again to the blind man, "What have you to say about him? It was your eyes he opened." ...<sup>25</sup> He replied, "Whether he is a sinner or not, I don't know. One thing I do know. I was blind but now I see!"*

**John 9:17, 25**

✓ **We need \_\_\_\_\_, not just practice.**

*But if an unbeliever or an inquirer comes in ...they are convicted of sin...<sup>25</sup> as the secrets of their hearts are laid bare. So they will fall down and worship God, exclaiming, "God is really among you!"*

**1 Corinthians 14:24-25**

**Preparing for Encounter:**

## 1. \_\_\_\_\_

*You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.*

**Jeremiah 29:13**

## 2. \_\_\_\_\_

*In those days John the Baptist came, preaching in the wilderness of Judea<sup>2</sup> and saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near."<sup>3</sup> This is he who was spoken of through the prophet Isaiah: "A voice of one calling in the wilderness, 'Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.'" **Matthew 3:1-3***

## 3. \_\_\_\_\_

*Open up, you gates. Open wide, you aged doors and the glorious King will come in.<sup>8</sup> Who is this glorious King? The Lord, strong and mighty.*

*The Lord, the powerful warrior.<sup>9</sup> Open up, you gates. Open wide, you aged doors and the glorious King will come in.<sup>10</sup> Who is this glorious King? The Lord All-Powerful—he is the glorious King.*

**Psalms 24:7-10 (NCV)**

## Our Need for Encounter:

*Whenever, though, they turn to face God as Moses did, God removes the veil and there they are—face-to-face! They suddenly recognize that God is a living, personal presence, not a piece of chiseled stone. And when God is personally present, a living Spirit, that old, constricting legislation is recognized as obsolete. We're free of it! All of us! Nothing between us and God, our faces shining with the brightness of his face. And so we are transfigured much like the Messiah, our lives gradually becoming brighter and more beautiful as God enters our lives and we become like him. 2 Corinthians 3:16-18 (MSG)*

✓ **We need POWER, not just performance.**

*My message and my preaching were not with wise and persuasive words, but with a demonstration of the Spirit's power,<sup>5</sup> so that your faith might not rest on human wisdom, but on God's power.*

**1 Corinthians 2:4-5**

✓ **We need EXPERIENCE, not just explanations.**

*Then they turned again to the blind man, "What have you to say about him? It was your eyes he opened." ...<sup>25</sup> He replied, "Whether he is a sinner or not, I don't know. One thing I do know. I was blind but now I see!"*

**John 9:17, 25**

✓ **We need PRESENCE, not just practice.**

*But if an unbeliever or an inquirer comes in ...they are convicted of sin...<sup>25</sup> as the secrets of their hearts are laid bare. So they will fall down and worship God, exclaiming, "God is really among you!"*

**1 Corinthians 14:24-25**

## Preparing for Encounter:

### 1. PRAY

*You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.*

**Jeremiah 29:13**

### 2. PREPARE

*In those days John the Baptist came, preaching in the wilderness of Judea<sup>2</sup> and saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near."<sup>3</sup> This is he who was spoken of through the prophet Isaiah: "A voice of one calling in the wilderness, 'Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.'" **Matthew 3:1-3***

### 3. MAKE ROOM

*Open up, you gates. Open wide, you aged doors and the glorious King will come in.<sup>8</sup> Who is this glorious King? The Lord, strong and mighty.*

*The Lord, the powerful warrior.<sup>9</sup> Open up, you gates. Open wide, you aged doors and the glorious King will come in.<sup>10</sup> Who is this glorious King? The Lord All-Powerful—he is the glorious King.*

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