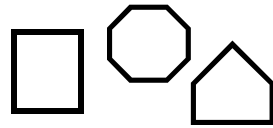
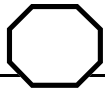


△ *A God Journey*



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***ENCOUNTERING  
GOD***



## Lesson #1

### References.....

Consider these in-depth reference points as you begin your journey through this lesson.

- Genesis 5:21-24
- Genesis 18:1-14
- Genesis 32:24-30
- Exodus 3:1-15
- Exodus 19:14-18
- Exodus 33:17-23
- 1 Kings 18:30-39
- 1 Chronicles 13:9-14
- Isaiah 6:1-8
- Daniel 3:1-30
- Acts 1:8; 2:1-41

### Guideposts.....

Information to help you gain a better understanding of the basic concepts of this lesson.

- **“Walked With God”:** Enoch was a man who went after God, experiencing God’s presence on a daily basis.
- **“Wrestled A Man”:** Jacob had an encounter with a manifestation of God in human form.
- **“Burning Bush”:** A bush consumed but not destroyed by the manifested presence of God.
- **“The Fourth Like The Son Of God”:** King Nebuchadnezzar sees a manifestation of God walking in the fire with the 3 Hebrew men.
- **“Were All Filled”:** All 120 believers were saturated with the powerful presence of God.

### Perspective.....

An application statement for this leg of the journey.

**“The Bible clearly proves that people can encounter the presence of God!”**

Written By: James R. Palmer

Do you have a sudden interest for the things of God? **Have you begun to read the Bible and found that it appears to be a fascinating roadmap to something far better than what you have experienced so far?** Well if you’ve come to that conclusion then you’re on the right track. In fact, you are about to discover the Bible is an open invitation into the very presence of God. Get ready to begin your lifelong adventure.

### THOSE WHO HAVE ENCOUNTERED GOD

1.) Are you aware there are many documented accounts in scripture of those who encountered God in their lifetime? Look up the following Bible references then draw a line from each reference to the phrase which best describes that particular passage of scripture.

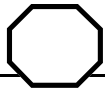
Genesis 5:21-24	God consumes Elisha's, sacrifice
Genesis 18:1-14	God greatly blesses Obedom's family
Genesis 32:24-30	Enoch is said to have walked with God
Exodus 3:1-15	God visits Abraham about a miracle birth
Exodus 19:14-18	Jacob wrestles to receive God's blessing
Exodus 33:17-23	Moses encounters God in a burning bush
1 Kings 18:30-39	Israelites encounter God at Mt. Sinai
1 Chronicles 13:14	God shows himself to Moses
Isaiah 6:1-8	3 Hebrew men with God in a fiery furnace
Daniel 3:1-30	Isaiah meets with God in a vision

2.) Now in **Acts 2:1-18** we find one of the most dynamic encounters with God ever recorded in all of the Bible. After you have read this passage, write down a brief overview concerning each of the following verses below.

- verse 1 \_\_\_\_\_
- verse 2 \_\_\_\_\_
- verse 3 \_\_\_\_\_
- verse 4 \_\_\_\_\_

3.) According to **Acts 1:8**, Christ explained in advance that this divine encounter would empower his disciples for a worldwide impact. To testify of the truth of this statement, how many people responded to the preaching of the gospel on the very day God began pouring out his Spirit? Note **Acts 2:37-41**.

\_\_\_ 10    \_\_\_ 25    \_\_\_ 100    \_\_\_ 500    \_\_\_ About 3,000



## Lesson #2

### References.....

Consider these in-depth reference points as you begin your journey through this lesson.

- Exodus 19:1-25
- Exodus 25:1-9
- Exodus 40:33-38
- Exodus 30:30-35
- Hebrews 9:1-7
- Matthew 27:24-51
- Hebrews 10:19-22
- Ephesians 2:12-18

### Guideposts.....

Information to help you gain a better understanding of the basic concepts of this lesson.

- **“A Sanctuary”**: A set apart place for God’s presence to dwell.
- **“The Glory Of The Lord”**: An awesome display or manifestation of God’s powerful presence.
- **“Make A Veil”**: A huge curtain used to separate the Holy of Holies from the rest of the tabernacle, symbolic of the separation between God and man because of his sin.
- **“From The Top To The Bottom”**: The ripping of the veil at Christ’s death, symbolizing the removal of the sin barrier by God himself.

### Perspective.....

An application statement for this leg of the journey.

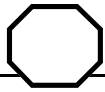
**“No longer do I have to stand on the outside looking in. God has made himself available to me!”**

Written By: James R. Palmer

For most people, God is a distant being somewhere in the far reaches of the universe. Yet when we study scripture **we find the God of the Bible continually presents himself on a very personal level** to those who earnestly desire and seek after his presence. In this lesson let’s do a little research to find out what our options are when it comes to personally encountering God.

### HOW CLOSE CAN I GET TO GOD?

- 1.) As you begin this lesson, take the time to read **Exodus 19:1-25**. Did the Israelites encounter God at Mt. Sinai? YES\_\_\_ NO\_\_\_
- 2.) Was their encounter with God up close or from a distance? \_\_\_\_\_
- 3.) Later in **Exodus 25:8** God gives these instructions to Moses.  
**“And let them make me a \_\_\_\_\_, that I may \_\_\_\_\_.”**
- 4.) According to **Exodus 40:34**, after the sanctuary or tabernacle was built, what happened? Write this verse on the lines below.  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_
- 5.) Yet after reading a little further in this chapter, they were not able to go into God’s presence, but could only view it from a distance. YES\_\_\_ NO\_\_\_
- 6.) In fact, in **Exodus 26:30-35**, what was to be hung that separated the most holy place from the rest of the tabernacle, displaying the people did not have direct access to God’s presence? Read **Hebrews 9:1-7** for further insight.  
 \_\_\_ Cross \_\_\_ Candle \_\_\_ Curtain (veil)
- 7.) Keeping this powerful dividing point in mind, let’s take a close look at the crucifixion of Christ as recorded in **Matthew 27:45-51**. At the moment of Christ’s death, what happened to the veil in the temple which had separated the people from God’s presence for so long.  
 \_\_\_\_\_
- 8.) The explanation of this event is seen more clearly in **Hebrews 10:19-22**. Here we discover the blood of Jesus, which was shed on Calvary for the removal of our sins, gives us direct access into the very presence of God.  
 YES\_\_\_ NO\_\_\_
- 9.) Finally, notice **Ephesians 2:13,14,18**. According to **verse 18**:  
**“For through him we both have \_\_\_\_\_ by one Spirit unto the Father.”**



**References.....**

Consider these in-depth reference points as you begin your journey through this lesson.

- John 10:1-10**
- John 14:1-11**
- Matthew 1:18-25**
- John 1:1-14**
- John 10:22-42**
- John 12:44-50**
- 1 John 5:5-7**

**Guideposts.....**

Information to help you gain a better understanding of the basic concepts of this lesson.

- **“But By Me”:** Jesus openly declares there can be no encounter with God but through him.
- **“Seen The Father”:** In essence, Christ reveals himself to be the manifested presence of God.
- **“Emmanuel”:** Meaning: God with us.
- **“Was The Word”:** A reference to Christ as the living word, or in other words: the expressed revelation of God to this world.
- **“The Word Was God”:** Another reference to the fact that Jesus was more than just a mere man, but rather God in the flesh.

**Perspective.....**

An application statement for this leg of the journey.

**“Contrary to public opinion, according to the Bible there is only one way to have an encounter with the living God and Jesus is that way!”**

Written By: James R. Palmer

Throughout human history **multitudes have missed their opportunity for an encounter into God’s presence.** It’s not that they lacked sincerity or desire when it came to their search for God, but because they chose to approach God through doors that were cleverly designed by Satan to keep them in the dark and out of touch with the almighty, everlasting, most high God.

**THE DOOR TO A GOD ENCOUNTER**

1.) In **John 10:9**, Jesus Christ makes a very profound statement when he says:

“I am \_\_\_\_\_.”

2.) Now on the lines below, write down the passage found in **John 14:6.**

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3.) According to the last half of this verse, what or who is the only entrance point to a personal encounter with God?

\_\_\_ Muhammad \_\_\_ Confucius \_\_\_ Jesus Christ \_\_\_ Buddha \_\_\_ Mary

4.) In fact, Christ emphatically emphasizes this point when he clearly states:

“... I am \_\_\_\_\_ way, \_\_\_\_\_ truth, and \_\_\_\_\_ life...”

5.) With this information in hand, it appears Philip figures they are now ready for their encounter with God. Look at **verse 8.**

“Philip saith unto him, Lord, \_\_\_\_\_ the Father...”

6.) Yet in the verses that follow Christ presents quite an eye opening response to Philip’s request. In essence he explains that those who encounter Christ, encounter God!

YES\_\_\_ NO\_\_\_

7.) Actually this is not the first time the deity of Christ is boldly presented. After looking up the following verses about Jesus in the Bible, write a one line summary of what is presented in each passage.

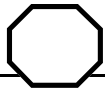
**Matthew 1:23** \_\_\_\_\_

**John 1:1** \_\_\_\_\_

**John 10:30** \_\_\_\_\_

**John 12:45** \_\_\_\_\_

**1 John 5:7** \_\_\_\_\_



**References.....**

Consider these in-depth reference points as you begin your journey through this lesson.

- Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-10**
- Isaiah 6:1-8**
- Acts 2:14-40**
- John 16:7-15**
- Matthew 3:1-8; 4:12-17**
- Proverbs 1:7; 9:10**
- Ecclesiastes 12:13,14**

**Guideposts.....**

Information to help you gain a better understanding of the basic concepts of this lesson.

- **“Hid Themselves”:** Adam and Eve hid from God because of a personal feeling of shame and guilt.
- **“I Am Undone”:** Isaiah’s encounter with God brought about an immediate feeling of personal conviction.
- **“Repent”:** A priority command that requires a turning away from sin, along with a strong desire to live a godly life.
- **“The Fear Of The Lord”:** An ongoing encounter of God’s Spirit, with a challenge to avoid sin and live holy; understanding the consequences of both.

**Perspective.....**

An application statement for this leg of the journey.

**“To open myself up to an encounter with God, is to first have my sins uncovered, then come face to face with the realization that repentance is my one and only option!”**

Written By: James R. Palmer

The road to encountering God is actually a continual journey into God’s presence. **It is a journey marked by many powerfully personal experiences which are designed to transform an individual into a dynamic man or woman of God.** In this lesson let’s begin at the beginning. **WARNING:** Your first God encounter promises to be most uncomfortable, yet absolutely critical.

**CONVICTION... A GOD ENCOUNTER**

- 1.) According to the dictionary, what does it mean to “convict”?  
\_\_\_\_\_
  
- 2.) In **Genesis 2:15-17** and **3:6-10** we read about Adam and Eve’s disobedience to God. What did they do in **verse 8** which clearly displayed a feeling of guilt?  
  
 Ate more fruit     Acted as if nothing was wrong     Hid themselves
  
- 3.) When Isaiah caught a glimpse of God’s glory in **Isaiah 6:1-8**, his first response was to be consumed by a feeling of uncleanness before the Lord.  
  

YES\_\_\_ NO\_\_\_
  
- 4.) Upon the conclusion of Peter’s powerful sermon on the Day of Pentecost, notice the peoples reaction as seen in **Acts 2:37**.  
  

“...they were \_\_\_\_\_ heart...”
  
- 5.) Now in **John 16:7-15**, Jesus explained to his disciples that after his ascension into heaven he would be sending the Holy Spirit to continue to deal with the people of this planet. According to this passage, the Holy Spirit would come to reprove or convict people of...  
  

“ \_\_\_\_\_ ” (What is wrong in God’s sight)

“ \_\_\_\_\_ ” (What is right in God’s sight)

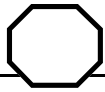
“ \_\_\_\_\_ ” (The consequences of living in sin)
  
- 6.) Since sin is what separates man from God, *every individual must have an encounter of Holy Spirit conviction.* They must be gripped by the seriousness of their sin, and the need to “repent” or turn away from their sin. Until this happens, all other encounters with God are on hold.  
  

\* John the Baptist’s priority message in **Matthew 3:1,2** was to \_\_\_\_\_.

\* Christ’s priority message in **Matthew 4:17** was to \_\_\_\_\_.

\* Peter’s priority message in **Acts 2:38** was to \_\_\_\_\_.
  
- 7.) In fact, *we must have an ongoing encounter of Holy Spirit conviction* if we are to remain on course for God. According to **Proverbs 1:7; 9:10** and also **Ecclesiastes 12:13,14**, another phrase describing this ongoing work of God’s Spirit is what?  
  

\_\_\_\_\_



**References.....**

Consider these in-depth reference points as you begin your journey through this lesson.

- John 3:16
- 1 John 4:8-19
- Romans 5:6-8
- Jeremiah 31:3
- Titus 3:4-6
- Ephesians 2:8,9

**Guideposts.....**

Information to help you gain a better understanding of the basic concepts of this lesson.

- **“While We Were Yet Sinners”:** God’s love was and is expressed towards those who are still living in sin.
- **“He First Loved Us”:** Even before we chose to love God, God chose to love us.
- **“Have I Drawn You”:** God’s everlasting, unconditional love is the tug God uses to impact the lives of sinners.
- **“For By Grace”:** God’s loving gift of salvation is given to us only because he has shown us unmerited, undeserving favor, and not because we have earned it.

**Perspective.....**

An application statement for this leg of the journey.

**“God does not expose my sinfulness to condemn me, but rather to powerfully display that in spite of my sins he loves me. No wonder I am drawn to want more of what he has to offer!”**

Written By: James R. Palmer

Our first encounter with God convicts or convinces us of the reality and the impact of the sin in our lives. In fact, **Romans 3:10,23** reveals that every person has a sin problem, and **Romans 6:23** pronounces that the impact carries a death sentence. It’s at this point God is able to not only cause man to come face to face with his guilt, but also face to face with God himself, thus opening the door for man’s next encounter.

**LOVE... A GOD ENCOUNTER**

- 1.) In **John 3:16** we read these words: **“For God so \_\_\_\_\_ the world...”**
- 2.) In fact, **1 John 4:8,16** says: **“...God is \_\_\_\_\_”**
- 3.) Here we discover God is declared to be the *source* and the *fullness* of all love.  
YES\_\_\_ NO\_\_\_
- 4.) Now the question is: When does a person first begin to encounter God’s love? To find the answer to this question, read the following scripture passages and answer the questions that follow.

**John 3:16** Did God express his love to this planet before or after they chose to believe in him?  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Romans 5:8** God’s love was expressed through the death of Christ while we were...  
\_\_\_\_\_

**1 John 4:19** What does this verse clearly state?  
\_\_\_\_\_

- 5.) This means a person living in sin can and will encounter God’s love even before they choose to love God. That is because God’s love has already been poured out and is flowing in their direction.  
YES\_\_\_ NO\_\_\_

- 6.) After reading **Jeremiah 31:3**, why does God allow people to experience his love even before they choose to love him? What is the purpose for his love?

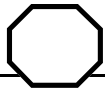
\_\_\_ To just make a good impression      \_\_\_ To draw a person to God

- 7.) Yes we are drawn to God because of his love towards us, in spite of our sinfulness. In fact, there are two powerful words in the Bible demonstrating the kind of love God shows towards sinners.

**Titus 3:4,5** Salvation is available to us because of his \_\_\_\_\_.

**Ephesians 2:8,9** Only because of God’s \_\_\_\_\_ are we saved.

- 8.) With this in mind, who can encounter God’s love?  
\_\_\_\_\_



**References.....**

Consider these in-depth reference points as you begin your journey through this lesson.

- Acts 16:16-34
- John 3:16-18
- Romans 1:15-17
- Romans 10:9-13
- Acts 4:1-21
- Romans 6:23

**Guidposts.....**

Information to help you gain a better understanding of the basic concepts of this lesson.

- **“Gospel Of Christ”:** Jesus Christ is the powerful focus point of the entire Bible. He’s the good news that our eternal future is hinged upon.
- **“Salvation”:** To the sinner, salvation is the encounter with God that provides deliverance from the bondage of sin and from the judgment of eternal punishment.
- **“Call Upon The Name Of The Lord”:** An act of faith in Christ, demonstrating dependency upon Christ.
- **“No Other Name”:** A declaration that access to God’s salvation is only available through a faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.

**Perspective.....**

An application statement for this leg of the journey.

**“A personal salvation experience through Jesus Christ delivers me from my past and introduces me to my future!”**

Written By: James R. Palmer

Of all the encounters God has designed for the people of this planet, **the encounter presented in this lesson has the most eternal significance of all.** Even the first two encounters already discussed are clearly designed to bring us to this life changing experience.

**SALVATION... A GOD ENCOUNTER**

1.) After reading the dramatic events found in **Acts 16:25-34**, what was the jailor’s urgent cry in **verse 30**?

“...Sirs, what must I do to be \_\_\_\_\_?”

2.) Whether this man realized it or not, he had just spoken man’s greatest need which would lead him to God’s greatest gift. On the lines below, write down the words you find in **John 3:17**.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

3.) Now let’s look at **Romans 1:16**. After you have read this passage, answer the following questions below.

- \* Salvation is an encounter designed by God. YES\_\_\_ NO\_\_\_
- \* It’s an encounter designed with everyone in mind. YES\_\_\_ NO\_\_\_
- \* The gospel of Christ opens the door to this encounter . YES\_\_\_ NO\_\_\_

4.) According to scripture, the encounter of salvation includes:  
...the forgiveness and removal of all sin (I John 1:9, Psalm 103:3,12),  
...the deliverance from sin’s eternal impact (John 3:16, Romans 6:23),  
...the adoption into the family of God (John 1:12; Romans 8:15-17).  
After reading these verses, which verse amazes you the most and why?

\_\_\_\_\_

5.) In the verses studied so far in this lesson, what or who is the link to securing this life changing experience of salvation?

\_\_\_\_\_

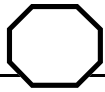
6.) In fact, **Romans 10:9,10,13** and **Acts 4:10-12** makes it clear that salvation is only possible if and when a person believes in and calls on the Lord Jesus Christ! That’s why **Romans 6:23** says:

“...the gift of God is eternal life \_\_\_\_\_.”

7.) Finally, let’s look at the A, B, C’s of this salvation encounter with God.

- |                               |  |
|-------------------------------|--|
| <b>A</b> Admit your sins!     | Admit and repent of your sins before God.      |
| <b>B</b> Believe in Christ!   | Believe that Jesus lived, died and rose again. |
| <b>C</b> Confess him as Lord! | Confess and commit your life to following him. |

8.) Have you had this God encounter called salvation? YES\_\_\_ NO\_\_\_



**References.....**

Consider these in-depth reference points as you begin your journey through this lesson.

**Revelation 3:20**

**Romans 8:8,9**

**John 14:16-26**

**1 Corinthians 6:19,20**

**Galatians 5:22-25**

**Ezekiel 36:25-27**

**Guideposts.....**

Information to help you gain a better understanding of the basic concepts of this lesson.

- **“The Temple Of The Holy Spirit:”** Here we see that God’s Spirit does not take up residence in buildings, but in people who invite him into their lives.
- **“You Are Not Your Own”:** When God is invited into a person’s life, that person transfers ownership of their body unto the Lord.
- **“The Fruit Of The Spirit”:** Those who have God’s Spirit in them will begin to produce the nature and character of God for all to see.

**Perspective.....**

An application statement for this leg of the journey.

*“Having my life swept clean of all sin is a blessing beyond words, but then to discover God has now chosen to occupy my life with his presence is beyond my wildest imagination. Oh God, the door is open!”*

Written By: James R. Palmer

What if you were to discover the God of the Bible not only wants to walk along beside you, but personally live in you? As mind boggling as that may sound, that’s exactly what God has to offer. **A relationship in which the presence of God takes up residence in your life.** What an opportunity!

**INDWELLING... A GOD ENCOUNTER**

1.) Notice the word picture found in **Revelation 3:20**. What do we discover Christ doing in this passage?  
\_\_\_\_\_

2.) In **Romans 8:9** we discover that a true believer who desires to follow after the Spirit must have God’s Spirit in them.  
YES\_\_\_ NO\_\_\_

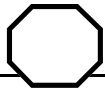
3.) When Christ was explaining this encounter to the disciples in **John 14:16-26**, he announced that this encounter would be the work of the Holy Spirit.  
“...but you know him; for he \_\_\_\_\_ with you, and shall be \_\_\_\_\_.”

4.) Now write down the passage found in **1 Corinthians 6:19** on the lines below.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

5.) What happens to a person who has God’s Spirit dwelling within? Does this encounter create any changes in that person’s life? The answer to these questions are clearly revealed in **Galatians 5:22-25**. In fact, there are at least nine characteristics of God’s Spirit which will begin to be evident in a person’s life when the Holy Spirit is in control. List those nine characteristics below.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

6.) We also discover in **verse 25** that a person who has had a real encounter with God’s indwelling Spirit should begin to follow the directions of the Spirit in their day to day walk.  
YES\_\_\_ NO\_\_\_

7.) Also take note of **Ezekiel 36:25-27**. Write **verse 27** on the lines below.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



**References....**

Consider these in-depth reference points as you begin your journey through this lesson.

**Matthew 16:13-17**

**John 14:16-26**

**John 16:13-15**

**1 Corinthians 2:9-16**

**Psalms 119:160**

**John 17:17**

**2 Timothy 3:16,17**

**Psalms 119:105**

**Guideposts....**

Information to help you gain a better understanding of the basic concepts of this lesson.

- **“Spirit Of Truth”**: A reference to the Holy Spirit who brings about divine revelation of the things of God, based on the Word of God.
- **“God Hath Revealed Them Unto Us”**: Revelation knowledge here refers to the uncovering or unveiling of the things of God to those who encounter the Holy Spirit.
- **“The Deep Things Of God”**: The knowledge of God available to believers is far superior than any and all of man’s accumulated knowledge put together.
- **“Perfect, Thoroughly Furnished”**: A revelation of God’s Word can fully prepare a person to live successfully.

**Perspective....**

An application statement for this leg of the journey.

**“An encounter of revelation knowledge causes God’s Word to come alive in me!”**

Written By: James R. Palmer

To the people of this world the Bible is nothing more than a book of fairy tales, or maybe a few history lessons at best. Others see it as just another book to be discarded among the mountains of worthless human literature. Yet something quite unusual happens when God’s Spirit begins to bring God’s Word to life.

**REVELATION... A GOD ENCOUNTER**

1.) According to Christ in **Matthew 16:13-17**, how did Peter come to the know that Jesus was actually “...the Christ, the Son of the living God”?

\_\_\_ Learned it in school    \_\_\_ His dad told him    \_\_\_ Revealed by God

2.) What we didn’t discuss when looking at **John 14:16-26** in the last lesson was what Christ said would happen as a result of encountering God’s indwelling presence. Take a closer look at **verses 17 & 26**, then answer the following questions below Also notice **John 16:13-15**.

\* What is the Holy Spirit referred to in **verse 17**? \_\_\_\_\_

\* He is called “**the Spirit of truth**” because according to Christ, the Holy Spirit reveals the things of God to the believer.

YES\_\_\_ NO\_\_\_

\* The rest of the world cannot encounter God’s divine revelation of knowledge and understanding simply because the Spirit of God does not dwell in them.

YES\_\_\_ NO\_\_\_

3.) Notice Paul’s statement in **1 Corinthians 2:9** as he proclaims what this world is just not able to comprehend. Write this verse below.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

4.) Yet according to the next verse, how are we able to know the things of God?

**“But God hath \_\_\_\_\_ them unto us by \_\_\_\_\_.”**  
(For further insight meditate on the remaining verses of this chapter.)

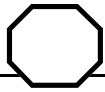
5.) According to **Psalms 119:160** and **John 17:17**, where is this truth that the Holy Spirit begins to suddenly unfold or reveal, to those who go after God?

\_\_\_ Philosophy    \_\_\_ History    \_\_\_ Psychology    \_\_\_ God’s Word

6.) So since the Bible is actually God’s Word as explained in **2 Timothy 3:16,17**, what the Holy Spirit reveals is an understanding of the *knowledge of God* from *the Word of God*.

YES\_\_\_ NO\_\_\_

7.) **Psalms 119:105** states that this revelation knowledge will \_\_\_\_\_ our path.



**References.....**

Consider these in-depth reference points as you begin your journey through this lesson.

- Hebrews 4:14-16**
- Psalms 145:17-21**
- Matthew 6:5-13**
- 1 John 5:14-15**
- Matthew 21:18-22**
- James 5:13-18**
- Acts 4:23-32**

**Guideposts.....**

Information to help you gain a better understanding of the basic concepts of this lesson.

- **“Pray Always”:** The emphasis here is that anytime is the right time to pray.
- **“Come Boldly Unto The Throne Of Grace”**  
This is God’s open invitation for us to come into his presence through prayer.
- **“According To His Will”:** Our prayers must not violate the will of God as revealed in scripture.
- **“The Prayer Of Faith”:** As we approach God in prayer, we must have an unshakeable faith that God will do what he says he will do.

**Perspective.....**

An application statement for this leg of the journey.

***“To discover I have access to God through prayer, is to realize that no matter what I may be facing in this life; I know somebody who is always listening and ready to respond to my need!”***

Written By: James R. Palmer

If you were to have the opportunity to literally travel this world, **one thing you would soon discover is that in every corner of the globe there are people who participate in some form of prayer.** Now even though much of the prayer practiced today is nothing more than an empty religious ritual, the Bible reveals that prayer is the avenue whereby we touch heaven and commune with God.

**PRAYER... A GOD ENCOUNTER**

1.) What does the Bible consistently teach in **Luke 18:1, 1 Thessalonians 5:17, Colossians 4:2, Ephesians 6:18** and **Luke 21:36**?

\_\_\_\_\_

2.) On the lines below, write down the invitation given in **Hebrews 4:16.**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3.) According to **Psalm 145:18**, how do we come into the presence of God?

\_\_\_ By holding a Bible    \_\_\_ By burning a candle    \_\_\_ By praying to God

4.) Even Christ taught that prayer was a direct encounter with God. Notice the opening statement of the model prayer Christ taught all of his followers in **Matthew 6:9-13.**

**“Our \_\_\_\_\_ which art in heaven...”**

5.) Another wonderful aspect of prayer is that unlike other gods who are prayed to around this world, **1 John 5:14,15** tells us the God of the Bible personally responds to the prayers of his people.

YES\_\_\_ NO\_\_\_

6.) In fact, **Matthew 21:22** says: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

7.) Powerful things happen when God’s people pray. To catch just a glimpse of the possibilities of prayer, read the passage found in **James 5:13-18** then answer the following questions below.

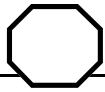
\* Healing is available when we pray.    YES\_\_\_ NO\_\_\_

\* Forgiveness is available when we pray.    YES\_\_\_ NO\_\_\_

\* A praying person can do very little.    YES\_\_\_ NO\_\_\_

\* Elijah’s prayers affected the weather.    YES\_\_\_ NO\_\_\_

8.) Which verse in **Acts 4** illustrates prayer as a God encounter? \_\_\_\_\_



**References.....**

Consider these in-depth reference points as you begin your journey through this lesson.

- Luke 24:45-49**
- Acts 1:4-8**
- Acts 2:1-18, 37-41**
- Acts 4:23-31**
- Acts 8:14-17**
- Acts 10:34-48**
- Acts 19:1-7**

**Guideposts.....**

Information to help you gain a better understanding of the basic concepts of this lesson.

- **“Endued With Power”**  
Meaning to be clothed with the power of the Holy Spirit.
- **“Baptized With The Holy Ghost”:** To be immersed, or covered with the Holy Spirit.
- **“Filled With The Holy Ghost:”** They were consumed, or saturated with the Holy Spirit.
- **“Speak With Other Tongues”:** Not only just a manifestation of one being filled with the Holy Spirit; but an ability given by the Spirit for the purpose of communicating with God.

**Perspective.....**

An application statement for this leg of the journey.

***“Not only am I thrilled to discover I have been called by God to literally impact this world for Christ; but I am also thrilled to know he has made it possible by giving me the power I need to get the job done!”***

Written By: James R. Palmer

During the closing days of Christ’s ministry here on this planet, **the scriptures show the Lord challenging his followers to go after a God encounter which would literally transform them into a people able to dynamically impact their world.** It’s this encounter we are going to focus our attention on as we continue to discover what God has for those who go after his presence.

**POWER... A GOD ENCOUNTER**

1.) Write down the words found in **Luke 24:49** on the lines below.

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2.) Was this a request or a command?      \_\_\_ Request    \_\_\_ Command

3.) Notice the Lord’s final instructions to his followers in **Acts 1:4-8**, then answer the following questions below.

- \* They were to wait for what? \_\_\_\_\_
- \* This referred to being “**baptized with** \_\_\_\_\_...”
- \* This encounter was to provide them with God’s power.    YES\_\_\_ NO\_\_\_
- \* The result would be the ability to impact the world with the gospel of Christ.  
YES\_\_\_ NO\_\_\_

4.) According to **Acts 2:4**, on the day of the initial outpouring of the Holy Spirit, how many of Christ’s followers present were filled with the Holy Spirit?

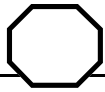
\_\_\_ Just a few            \_\_\_ Most of them            \_\_\_ All of them

5.) As Peter concluded his message in **Acts 2:38,39**, what was his announcement concerning others receiving this encounter of God’s promise of power? Place a mark next to the correct answers below.

- \_\_\_ All those who were in attendance could experience this encounter.
- \_\_\_ The next generation would be able to experience this encounter.
- \_\_\_ In fact, every generation to come would have the opportunity to have the encounter of being endued, baptized or filled with the Holy Spirit.

6.) There are actually several accounts of believers encountering this promise of power throughout the book of Acts. Notice **Acts 4:23-31, 8:14-17; 10:44-48, 19:1-7**. After reading these passages, it would appear this encounter was not only common, but also seen as a necessary part of a believers walk with the Lord.

YES\_\_\_ NO\_\_\_



**References.....**

Consider these in-depth reference points as you begin your journey through this lesson.

**Genesis 22:1-14**

**Exodus 16:1-36**

**1 Kings 17:8-16**

**2 Kings 4:1-7**

**Matthew 14:15-21**

**Philippians 4:10-19**

**Proverbs 3:9-10; 10:22**

**Malachi 3:10-11**

**Luke 6:38**

**Matthew 6:25-33**

**Guideposts.....**

Information to help you gain a better understanding of the basic concepts of this lesson.

- **“Jehovah-Jireh”** The covenant name of God declaring his promise of divine provision to those who believe and obey his word.
- **“According To His Riches In Glory”:** God’s ability to supply all our needs is firmly based upon God’s ownership of the vast riches of heaven
- **“All These Things”:** The tangles of this life will be taken care of by God if we will make the will of God and the work of God a priority in this life.

**Perspective.....**

An application statement for this leg of the journey.

***“It’s interesting to note not only that God is able, but he is also willing to abundantly bless his people if and when they are willing to keep their focus on the things of God!”***

Written By: James R. Palmer

Are you aware the God of the Bible is a God of abundance? Are you also aware this same God is personally concerned about the needs of your life and desires to pour out his abundance in your direction? Well prepare to discover the truth about God encounters of divine provision. It’s time to believe the Word of the Lord in spite of the way things may be looking at the present.

**PROVISION... A GOD ENCOUNTER**

- 1.) According to **Genesis 22:1-14**, Abraham had a divine encounter with God that caused him to discover something dynamic about the very nature of God. In fact, in **verse 14** we find that Abraham dedicates this place of encounter by using one of the Hebrew names of God. What was that name?

KJV \_\_\_\_\_ NIV \_\_\_\_\_

- 2.) The name **“Jehovah”**, translated in English as **“Lord”**, is a Hebrew name announcing God as the everlasting, covenant God who is committed to caring for his people. Could it be God has possibly changed since the days of Abraham? Write down the first half of **Malachi 3:6** to answer this question.

\_\_\_\_\_

- 3.) Would you say **Exodus 16:1-36, 1 Kings 17:8-16, 2 Kings 4:1-7** as well as **Matthew 14:15-21** are all clear examples of encounters of God’s provision?

YES\_\_\_ NO\_\_\_

- 4.) Write down the words found in **Philippians 4:19**. Keep in mind the word **“supply”** (KJV) in this passage specifically means: **“to make full”**.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

- 5.) Look up the verses listed below then draw a line to the phrase which best describes that particular passage.

- |                        |   |
|------------------------|---|
| <b>Proverbs 3:9-10</b> | God is ready to give more than you can handle.      |
| <b>Proverbs 10:22</b>  | God will use others to overflow you with blessings. |
| <b>Malachi 3:10-11</b> | God’s abundance is given to those who honor him.    |
| <b>Luke 6:38</b>       | The blessings of the Lord includes wealth.          |

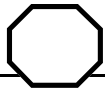
- 6.) Are the abundant blessings of God automatic or are there conditions which seem to bring about God’s provisions of blessing?

\_\_\_\_\_

- 7.) Finally notice Christ’s teaching in **Matthew 6:33**.

**“Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; \_\_\_\_\_.”**

\_\_\_\_\_.”



**References.....**

Consider these in-depth reference points as you begin your journey through this lesson.

**Exodus 15:23-26; 23:25**

**Deuteronomy 7:12-15**

**Numbers 21:2-9**

**2 Kings 5:1-14**

**Matthew 9:27-30,35; 4:23**

**Mark 3:1-5**

**Acts 5:12-16; 8:5-8**

**Acts 9:10-18; 14:8-10**

**James 5:14-15**

**Guideposts.....**

Information to help you gain a better understanding of the basic concepts of this lesson.

- **“Jehovah-Rapha”:**  
The covenant name of God revealing his promise to bring healing to those who suffer sickness and disease.
- **“Every Sickness And Every Disease”:**  
Christ demonstrates that there are no limits to God’s healing power.
- **“The Prayer Of Faith”:**  
Approaching God in prayer with a firm expectation that God can and will do what he says he will do.

**Perspective.....**

An application statement for this leg of the journey.

*“In a world filled with so much pain and suffering, it’s great to know in spite of man’s limited knowledge and ability, I can turn to the Lord and encounter God’s unlimited healing power!”*

Written By: James R. Palmer

With all of our modern day technical and medical advances, the people of this planet continue to be plagued by an every increasing number of physical diseases and disorders. **Man’s search for remedies to relieve the suffering seems to only lead to more questions than answers.** Deep down inside we are totally convinced that breakthroughs are just around the corner. What we fail to realize is that healing is just a prayer away!

**HEALING... A GOD ENCOUNTER**

- 1.) According to **Exodus 15:26, 23:25** and **Deuteronomy 7:15**, the God of the Bible has pronounced himself to be a sickness removing God.

YES\_\_\_ NO\_\_\_

- 2.) The Bible is filled with true stories of people encountering God’s healing power. Next to the scripture passages below, describe the healing which took place in each incident.

**Numbers 21:2-9** \_\_\_\_\_

**2 Kings 5:1-14** \_\_\_\_\_

**Matthew 9:27-30** \_\_\_\_\_

**Mark 3:1-5** \_\_\_\_\_

**Acts 9:10-18** \_\_\_\_\_

**Acts 14:8-10** \_\_\_\_\_

- 3.) After reading **Matthew 4:23, 9:35, Acts 5:12-16, and Acts 8:5-8**, would you say God’s Word only records a few people who were privileged to actually encounter the healing touch of God, or are we talking multitudes of people.

\_\_\_ Only a few healed \_\_\_ Multitudes healed

- 4.) In fact, go ahead and write **Matthew 9:35** on the lines below.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

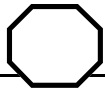
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

- 5.) Now let’s examine the passage of scripture found in **James 5:14-15**. Would you agree we have a definite promise that God’s healing power is available to anyone who believes in God, no matter what the illness?

YES\_\_\_ NO\_\_\_

- 6.) Where could you use a healing touch from the Lord? \_\_\_\_\_



**References.....**

Consider these in-depth reference points as you begin your journey through this lesson.

**Genesis 6:11-22**

**Genesis 41:1-57**

**2 Chronicles 20:1-30**

**Acts 10:1-48**

**Acts 13:1-4**

**Proverbs 3:5,6**

**Guideposts.....**

Information to help you gain a better understanding of the basic concepts of this lesson.

- **“And Set Himself To Seek The Lord”:**  
King Jehoshaphat demonstrates that we must seek after the Lord if we truly want to encounter God’s divine direction for our lives.
- **“Sent...By The Spirit”:**  
The decision for Paul and Barnabas to go together in ministry was by the direction of the Holy Spirit.
- **“Acknowledge Him”:**  
It is critical that in every area of our live we learn to depend and seek after God’s divine direction.
- **“He Shall Direct”:**  
Here we have a clear promise that God will always steer us in the right direction.

**Perspective.....**

An application statement for this leg of the journey.

***“Since many of the decisions I make impact my future, it is imperative that I seek the face of God, to know the will of God!”***

Written By: James R. Palmer

Life is filled with a multitude of decisions every single day, and the choices we make not only impact our life, but the lives of so many others who are influenced by our words and our actions. Now since we only possess a limited amount of knowledge and understanding, it’s extremely important we have a dependable compass to keep us on course and away from the pitfalls of potential disaster.

**DIRECTION... A GOD ENCOUNTER**

1.) How in the world did Noah know exactly what to do and how to do it when God confronted him about building a boat that would spare the lives of his family and a sample of all the animals on earth? Notice **Genesis 6:11-22**.

\_\_\_ Noah ordered a set of blueprints    \_\_\_ Noah hired an architect

\_\_\_ Noah listened to and followed God’s directions

2.) After reading **Genesis 41:14-36**, how was Joseph able to interpret the dream of Pharaoh which in turn spared the lives of an entire nation?

\_\_\_\_\_

3.) One of the most amazing encounters of God’s divine direction is found in **2 Chronicles 20:1-25**. Here we see God provided a plan when there seemed to be no answer or solution.

YES\_\_\_ NO\_\_\_

4.) In **Acts 10:1-8**, who did God instruct Cornelius to send for? \_\_\_\_\_

5.) In **Acts 10:17-23**, who did God instruct Peter to go and visit? \_\_\_\_\_

6.) After reading **Acts 10:44-48**, is it fair to say because these two men heard and followed the leading of the Lord, many lives were changed?

YES\_\_\_ NO\_\_\_

7.) How did Paul and Barnabas know they were to both go on a ministry journey together according to **Acts 13:1-4**?

\_\_\_ Just a guess    \_\_\_ Drew straws    \_\_\_ Flipped a coin    \_\_\_ Led by God

8.) Now write down the challenge found in **Proverbs 3:5,6**. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

9.) In fact, the Bible states in **Romans 8:14**, God’s people are those who continually encounter and follow after the direction of God’s Spirit.

YES\_\_\_ NO\_\_\_