



# Exploring Encounter Prayer

SESSION 3



Creating a space for people to meet with the Living God

## What do we mean by the presence of God? It's all about Jesus!

### Pray



- Father, I pray that during this session I would understand more of the effect and power of the presence of Jesus in me, around me and reaching out to others through me.

Amen

### Questions to think about



- How have you experienced God?
- Are there criteria for assessing whether an experience of God is genuine?

### **Video 3.1** Experiencing God



*This video looks at the reality that the presence of God is no longer confined to a particular place, but is embodied in the person of Jesus, and the implications of this.*

### Questions to think about



- Do you think there is anything you can do to bring about an awareness of God's presence?
- Why do you think this?

### **Video 3.2** Encountering Jesus



*This video looks at three aspects of fellowship with Jesus:*

*Glimpsing what happens as a result of enjoying his presence*  
*Friendship with Jesus*  
*Seeing his glory*

### Reflect on the video



*The script of this prayer time is printed on the next page*

- Write down anything you think Jesus may have showed you during this time
- Has the video changed the way you think about the presence of God and how you can communicate with him and enjoy his friendship?
- Can you recognise the different ways God may be communicating with you?

### Bible study



Have a look at the following passages and think about the effect these meetings had on those concerned and how they might effect me.

- What effect should an experience of God have on me?

Look at:

- Luke 19:1-27: The story of Zacchaeus
- John 18:1-6: The reaction of the soldiers who came to arrest Jesus
- Matthew 11:20-24: What Jesus expected to happen in the towns where miracles were performed

*Each of these stories is about what happened after people had met with Jesus, either as individuals or as groups.*

- What effect did meeting Jesus have on them?
- What effect do you think He wanted?

## **Encounter prayer script 3:2**

### **Remind ourselves of the Father's love:**

I am deeply loved by the Father

I am his beloved child. I am the son/daughter in whom he delights,

He loved me so much he gave Jesus for me.

### **Jesus, you are here.**

If you fill the whole universe then you certainly fill the room where I am

*Ask yourself:*

### **Where is Jesus for me right now?**

*You might have the sense of him beside you or around you or a picture of him and you somewhere, there might be a sense of his peace, calmness.*

*Whatever it is - hold on to that.*

*As He is there, what is it you want to bring to him. You can be as honest as you like.*

*As you share, I wonder, what do you sense He is seeking to communicate to you? It may be a picture that forms, a thought that drops into your mind, a line of a song, a verse in the bible, just catch that, hold on to it.*

*PAUSE - be still.*

*Record what you sense was happening in that time*

How did you find his presence?

What was it like for you?

How did you share with him?

What was he seeking to share with you?

Why do you think He wanted you to particularly know this?