



Exploring Encounter Prayer

SESSION 1



Creating a space for people to meet with the Living God

If only you knew!

Pray



- Father, I pray that my heart and my mind would be open to what you want to show me through this study. Increase my expectation and help me to discover more of your love, your plans for my life and what it means to experience a life-changing relationship with the Living God.

Amen

Questions to think about



You may find it helpful to make a note of your answers

- Is your Christian life everything you would like it to be?
- What would you like to change?
- Are there 'highs' and 'lows' in your Christian life?
- Are there reasons for this, or does it seem quite arbitrary?

Video 1.1



This video looks at:

What Encounter Prayer is about

What it means to experience God

Should we be seeking to experience Him at all?

The effect our relationship with God has on others

Reflect on the video



- Was there anything in the video that stood out for you?
- What experience do you have of God's love for YOU personally?
- What difference would it make if you knew that love in a deeper way?

Scriptures quoted in the video: Romans 8:16, 1 John 4:18, John 5:44

Video 1.2

Introduction to an Encounter



This video is a recording of a time of Encounter Prayer.

It is designed to help create a 'space' for you to encounter God for yourself.

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

Personal reflection



Take time to write down what you felt Jesus was showing you during this time of encounter.

- What He was like?
- What did He share with you?
- Why did He particularly want you to know this?
- What difference will it make to you in the days ahead?

Keep coming back to these revelations over the next few days and ask the Holy Spirit to reveal more of God's hopes and dreams for your life.

Encounter prayer script

Father, Abba Father

Father you created this whole world and you created ME

Father you love this whole world and you love ME in a unique, individual personal way

Abba Father, you are our Father just as you were the Father of our Lord Jesus and the words of love you spoke to Him are words you long for us to catch, that we are your precious, beloved children, your sons and daughters in whom you delight.

And so Father we want to begin to touch the reality of that, as we say **“I am your beloved son / daughter in whom you delight.”**

Take time to make this personal and find the truth of that for you.

Father that's our worship to stand in this place of your love for us.

PAUSE in his presence

Jesus you are the Father's gift to this world, the Father's gift to us

Jesus you ascended that you might fill the whole universe and so you fill this place where I stand.

Jesus you promised you would be with us.

Ask yourself: “Where is Jesus is for you right now?”

There is no right or wrong answer to this, but what is that glimpse of His presence He has given to you. You might sense him in front of you, around you, beside you. You might have a picture of you and He somewhere together. Just find that, enjoy that, relax with that.

PAUSE in his presence

As Jesus is there, what is it you want to say to him, what do you want to share with him?

Just bring whatever is on your heart knowing you are speaking to one who loved you and gave his life for you.

PAUSE in his presence

What is it that He is seeking to communicate with you?

Maybe a word, a thought that drops in your mind, a picture, a bible verse. . . something that comes to you in this time. Dwell on that for a moment.

Holy Spirit, you again are God's gift deep within us.

You dwell deep within us.

You see everything within us and you love us.

You bring that love of Abba Father deep into our very being. Holy Spirit bring as well that transforming touch of Jesus.

Bring that power within us that we can find that fullness of life that Jesus came to bring us.

Pause and trust that he's working within you at this time.

Amen

Take time to write down anything that you feel God was showing you or that you experienced during this time.