



Sunday, 19.02.2012. Mike Griffiths

*My Church*  
**Encounters  
 God**

**Daniel 6:3** “Now Daniel so distinguished himself among the administrators and the satraps by his exceptional qualities that the king planned to set him over the whole kingdom.”

**Who can encounter God? Anyone. Where do people encounter God? Anywhere.**

*The Importance of Encounter*

**2 Corinthians 3:16-18 (Message)**  
 “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...”

**1. We need power  
 not just words**

**1 Corinthians 2:3-5** “I came to you in weakness and fear, and with much trembling. My message and my preaching were not with wise and persuasive words, but with a demonstration of the Spirit’s power, so that your faith might not rest on men’s wisdom, but on God’s power.”

**2. We need an experience  
 not just an explanation**

**John 9:17** “Finally they turned again to the blind man, “What have you to

say about him? It was your eyes he opened.”

**v25** ... 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!”

### **3. We need His presence not just His principles**

**Acts 2:28** “You have made known to me the paths of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence.”

**John 5:39-40** “You diligently study the Scriptures because you think that by them you possess eternal life. These are the Scriptures that testify about me, yet you refuse to come to me to have life.”

#### **Preparing for Encounter**

**Matthew 13:14-15** In them is fulfilled the prophecy of Isaiah: “You will be ever hearing but never understanding; you will be ever seeing but never perceiving. For this people’s heart has become calloused; they hardly hear with their ears, and they have closed their eyes. Otherwise they might see with their eyes, hear with their ears, understand with their hearts and turn, and I would heal them.”

**Hosea 10:12** Sow for yourselves righteousness, reap the fruit of unflinching love, and break up your

unplowed ground; for it is time to seek the LORD, until he comes and showers righteousness on you.

### **1. Humility: Wanting God’s Will**

**Luke 22:42** “Father, if you are willing, take this cup from me; yet not my will, but yours be done.”

### **2. Surrender: Wanting God’s Way**

**Matthew 5:6** Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

### **3. Repentance: Wanting God’s Work**

**Psalms 51:10-13** Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me. Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will turn back to you.

**Matthew 11:28-30** “Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.”

CHECK OUT MORE RESOURCES ONLINE

[www.elimchristiancentre.org.nz](http://www.elimchristiancentre.org.nz)