

EST. 2010

MEN'S ENCOUNTER

"It is for freedom that Christ has set us free."

GALATIANS 5 : 1

REAL MEN • REAL FREEDOM • PAID IN FULL

WEEKEND GUIDE

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"We overcome by the blood of the Lamb and the word of our testimony."

REVELATION 12 : 11

Session 1 • Repentance

KEY SCRIPTURES

John 10:10

The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I have come that they may have life, and have it in all its fullness.

1 John 3:1

Behold what manner of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God. And that is what we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know Him.

Ephesians 1:7–8

In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace that He lavished on us with all wisdom and understanding.

Luke 15:11–24 — The Parable of the Prodigal Son

Then Jesus said, "There was a man who had two sons. The younger son said to him, 'Father, give me my share of the estate.' So he divided his property between them. After a few days, the younger son got everything together and journeyed to a distant country, where he squandered his wealth in wild living. After he had spent all he had, a severe famine swept through that country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed the pigs. He longed to fill his belly with the pods the pigs were eating, but no one would give him a thing. Finally he came to his senses and said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have plenty of food? But here I am, starving to death! I will get up and go back to my father and say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Make me like one of your hired servants."' So he got up and went to his father. But while he was still in the distance, his father saw him and was filled with compassion. He ran to his son, embraced him, and kissed him. The son declared, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his servants, 'Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let us feast and celebrate. For this son of mine was dead and is alive again! He was lost and is found!' So they began to celebrate.

Romans 3:23

...for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

Colossians 2:13–14

When you were dead in your trespasses and in the uncircumcision of your sinful nature, God made you alive with Christ. He forgave us all our trespasses, having canceled the debt ascribed to us in the decrees that stood against us. He took it away, nailing it to the cross!

Ephesians 2:8–9

For it is by grace you have been saved through faith, and this not from yourselves; it is the gift of God, not by works, so that no one can boast.

1 John 1:9

If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

WHAT IS TRUE REPENTANCE?

Repentance is MORE than just being SORRY for what we have done.

TRUE repentance will cause a 180-degree turn AWAY from sin — not just to escape the consequences, but to RECEIVE the benefit!

The KINDNESS of God is what DRAWS us to REPENTANCE.

Romans 2:4

Jesus did not come to make BAD men & women GOOD.

Jesus came to make DEAD men & women LIVE!

SALVATION PRAYER

Have you asked Jesus to be your Lord and Savior? To follow Him with your whole heart?

The Bible tells us that if we confess with our mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in our heart that God raised Him from the dead, we will be saved. — Romans 10:9

Heavenly Father, I come to You in prayer asking for the forgiveness of my sins. I confess with my mouth and believe with my heart that Jesus is Your Son and that He died on the cross at Calvary, that I might be forgiven and have eternal life in the Kingdom of Heaven.

Father, I believe that Jesus rose from the dead and I ask You right now to come into my life and be my personal Lord and Savior. I repent of my sins and will worship You all the days of my life! Because Your Word is truth, I confess with my mouth that I am born again and cleansed by the blood of Jesus! In Jesus's name, Amen.

Session 2 • Free From the Past

KEY SCRIPTURES

John 3:16–17

For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that everyone who believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through Him.

Galatians 5:1

It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not be encumbered once more by a yoke of slavery.

Matthew 6:19-21

19Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. 20But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. 21For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Romans 8:1

Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

Isaiah 43:18–19

"Do not call to mind the former things; pay no attention to the things of old. Behold, I am about to do something new; even now it is coming. Do you not see it? Indeed, I will make a way in the wilderness and streams in the desert."

2 Corinthians 5:17

Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away. Behold, the new has come!

1 Co 10:12

So the one who thinks he is standing firm should be careful not to fall.

Mt 16:25

For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it.

Revelation 12:11

They have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony. And they did not love their lives so as to shy away from death.

James 5:16

Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man has great power to prevail.

1 John 1:9

If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

2 Timothy 2:20–21

A large house contains not only vessels of gold and silver, but also of wood and clay. Some indeed are for honorable use, but others are for common use. So if anyone cleanses himself of what is unfit, he will be a vessel for honor: sanctified, useful to the Master, and prepared for every good work.

FREEDOM FROM CONDEMNATION

I AM FREE FROM CONDEMNATION.

"Therefore, there is now no condemnation
for those who are in Christ Jesus."

Romans 8:1

Recite it. Believe it. Receive it.

Session 3 • Forgiveness

KEY SCRIPTURES

John 10:10

The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I have come that they may have life, and have it in all its fullness.

Isaiah 54:10

Though the mountains may be removed and the hills may be shaken, My loving devotion will not depart from you, and My covenant of peace will not be broken," says the LORD, who has compassion on you.

Isaiah 41:10

Do not fear, for I am with you; do not be afraid, for I am your God. I will strengthen you; I will surely help you; I will uphold you with My right hand of righteousness.

Obedience

Matthew 6:12 & 14–15

And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive yours.

Mercy

Matthew 18:22

Jesus answered, "I tell you, not just seven times, but seventy-seven times!"

Matthew 18:26–27 & 32–33

Then the servant fell on his knees before him. 'Have patience with me,' he begged, 'and I will pay back everything.' His master had compassion on him, forgave his debt, and released him. — Then the master summoned him and declared, 'You wicked servant! I forgave all your debt because you begged me. Shouldn't you have had mercy on your fellow servant, just as I had on you?'

Love: Greatest motivation to forgive is unconditional love- God's love.

WHAT FORGIVENESS IS — AND IS NOT

FORGIVENESS IS:

- Canceling a debt owed to you
- Releasing the power and control your offender has over you
- Forsaking revenge
- Leaving justice in God's hands
- Wanting good for your offender

FORGIVENESS IS NOT:

- Denying that something happened or its seriousness
- Forgetting, condoning, or excusing offenses
- Saying you were not hurt by what the other person did
- Neglecting justice

- Letting go of deeply held negative feelings
- Recognizing the pain you suffered without letting it define you
- Equal to trust
- Necessarily a response to an apology
- Enabling sin

DO YOU SERIOUSLY THINK GOD CAN'T USE YOU?

Noah was a drunk • Abraham was too old • Isaac was a daydreamer • Jacob was a liar • Lazarus was dead • Joseph was abused • Moses had a stuttering problem and was a murderer • Gideon was afraid • Rahab was a prostitute • David had an affair and was a murderer • Elijah was suicidal • Jonah ran from God • Peter denied Christ • Paul was too religious

Now do you **SERIOUSLY** think God **CAN'T** use **YOU**?

Session 4 • Jesus in the Center

KEY SCRIPTURES

Matthew 6:24

No one can serve two masters: Either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money.

Jeremiah 10:23

I know, O LORD, that a man's way is not his own; no one who walks directs his own steps.

Jeremiah 26:11

Then the priests and prophets said to the officials and all the people, "This man is worthy of death, for he has prophesied against this city, as you have heard with your own ears!"

KEYS TO KEEPING YOUR LIFE CENTERED AROUND JESUS

Surrender Daily • Daily Secret Place — Bible & Prayer
Praise & Worship • Fellowship

WHAT WE SURRENDER TO → WE BECOME SLAVES TO:

- Fleshly temptations

WHEN WE SURRENDER TO GOD → WE RECEIVE:

- His desires

- Worldly influences
- Enemy's lies
- Selfish desires

Given enough time, these lead to slavery, captivity and bondage.

- His plans
- His will for you

Upon surrender: freedom, security, purpose, confidence, fruitfulness and fulfillment!

SURRENDER is key to freedom and living the life God designed for you to live.

4 KEY PARTS TO POWERFUL PRAYER

1. Begin with THANKSGIVING — Psalm 100:4

Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name.

2. Pray & Declare GOD'S WORD — Ephesians 1:17–18

3. BELIEVE You Will Receive — Isaiah 55:11

4. Close in JESUS' Name — Philippians 2:10

Session 5 • True Worth

KEY SCRIPTURES

Proverbs 28:13

He who conceals his sins will not prosper, but whoever confesses and renounces them will find mercy.

1 John 1:9

If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Jeremiah 29:11

For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, to give you a future and a hope.

1 Pe 5:8

Be sober-minded and alert. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.

2 Ch 7:14

and if My people who are called by My name humble themselves and pray and seek My face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, forgive their sin, and heal their land.

30 minutes a day Be in the Bible

Ephesians 1:4

For He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless in His presence. In love...

Ephesians 2:4–5

But because of His great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in our trespasses. It is by grace you have been saved!

Ephesians 2:10

For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance as our way of life.

Colossians 3:12

Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with hearts of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience.

2 Corinthians 5:17

Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away. Behold, the new has come!

1 John 3:1

Behold what manner of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God. And that is what we are!

Mt 25:34

Then the King will say to those on His right, 'Come, you who are blessed by My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.'

I AM... — YOUR IDENTITY IN CHRIST

Our TRUE IDENTITY is found when we stop being
"WHO WE ARE" and start becoming
"WHO JESUS CREATED US TO BE."

Jesus knows the worst about us,
yet He is still the one who loves us the most.

His	Isaiah 43:1
Chosen	Ephesians 1:4-6
Worthy	Zephaniah 3:17
Forgiven	Romans 3:23-24
Redeemed	Galatians 3:13
Complete	Colossians 2:10
Purposed	Jeremiah 29:11
Understood	Psalms 139:1
Strong	2 Corinthians 12:10
Blessed	Ephesians 1:3
Precious	Isaiah 43:4
Loved	Romans 8:38-39
Free	Romans 8:2
New	2 Corinthians 5:17

Session 6 • Purity

KEY SCRIPTURES

Colossians 2:20–23

If you have died with Christ to the spiritual forces of the world, why, as though you still belonged to the world, do you submit to its regulations: "Do not handle, do not taste, do not touch!"? These will all perish with use, because they are based on human commands and teachings. Such restrictions indeed have an appearance of wisdom, with their self-prescribed worship, their false humility, and their harsh treatment of the body; but they are of no value against the indulgence of the flesh.

Psalm 51:10

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

1 Corinthians 10:13

No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful; He will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, He will also provide an escape, so that you can stand up under it.

1 Corinthians 6:15–20

Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I then take the members of Christ and unite them with a prostitute? Never! ...Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore glorify God with your body.

Ephesians 1:4

For He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless in His presence. In love.

GOD'S STANDARDS FOR PURITY

Whatever is TRUE, whatever is NOBLE, whatever is RIGHT,
whatever is PURE, whatever is LOVELY, whatever is ADMIRABLE —
if anything is EXCELLENT or PRAISEWORTHY — think about such things.

Philippians 4:8

FLEE from sexual immorality... 1 Corinthians 6:18

Marriage should be HONORED by all, and the marriage bed kept undefiled,
for God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterers. — Hebrews 13:4

Session 7 • Financial Freedom

KEY SCRIPTURES

Matthew 6:24

No one can serve two masters: Either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money.

1 Timothy 6:7–10

For we brought nothing into the world, so we cannot carry anything out of it. But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with these. Those who want to be rich, however, fall into temptation and become ensnared by many foolish and harmful desires that plunge them into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is the root of all kinds of evil. By craving it, some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many sorrows.

Proverbs 15:16

Better a little with the fear of the LORD than great treasure with turmoil.

Proverbs 21:5

The plans of the diligent bring plenty, as surely as haste leads to poverty.

Philippians 4:11–13

I am not saying this out of need, for I have learned to be content regardless of my circumstances. I know how to live humbly, and I know how to abound. I am accustomed to any and every situation — to being filled and being hungry, to having plenty and having need. I can do all things through Christ who gives me strength.

Matthew 6:19–21

Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Malachi 3:10

Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, so that there may be food in My house. Test Me in this," says the LORD of Hosts. "See if I will not open the windows of heaven and pour out for you blessing without measure.

FIVE REASONS WHY TITHING BENEFITS YOU

1. Tithing helps you to **TRUST GOD** — Malachi 3:10
2. Tithing helps you to have **FAITH IN GOD'S PROVISION** — Proverbs 3:9-10
3. Tithing helps you to **OBEY GOD** with what is precious to you — Psalm 115:14
4. Tithing helps you to be **MORE GENEROUS** — Luke 6:38
5. Tithing helps you to understand your **REAL SOURCE OF PROVISION** — Deuteronomy 8:18

BONUS: Tithing helps God to be able to bless you even more.

"For whoever has will be given more, and they will have an abundance."

Matthew 25:29

Session 8 • Spiritual Warfare

KEY SCRIPTURES

Ephesians 6:10–12

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in His mighty power. ...For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this world's darkness, and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.

Isaiah 43:1–3

Now this is what the LORD says — He who created you, O Jacob, and He who formed you, O Israel: "Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by your name; you are Mine! When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you go through the rivers, they will not overwhelm you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be scorched; the flames will not set you ablaze. For I am the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior."

Ephesians 6:13–18 — The Full Armor of God

Therefore take up the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you will be able to stand your ground, and having done everything, to stand. Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness arrayed, and with your feet fitted with the readiness of the gospel of peace. In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. And take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. Pray in the Spirit at all times, with every kind of prayer and petition.

Hebrews 4:12

For the word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it pierces even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow. It judges the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

Matthew 4:1–11 — Jesus Defeats Temptation

Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. After fasting forty days and forty nights, He was hungry. The tempter came to Him and said, "If You are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread." But Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'" ...Jesus declared, "Away from Me, Satan! For it is written: 'Worship the Lord your God and serve Him only.'" Then the devil left Him, and angels came and ministered to Him.

John 8:44

He was a murderer from the beginning, refusing to uphold the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, because he is a liar and the father of lies.

Matthew 28:18–20 — The Great Commission

Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey all that I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

10 STRATEGIES OF THE ENEMY AGAINST MEN

Strategy #1 — AGAINST YOUR PASSION

He seeks to dim your desire for prayer, dull your interest in spiritual things, and downplay your most strategic weapons. (Ephesians 6:10-20)

Strategy #2 — AGAINST YOUR FEARS

He disguises himself so you end up focusing on the wrong culprit, directing your weapons at the wrong enemy. (2 Corinthians 11:14)

Strategy #3 — AGAINST YOUR IDENTITY

He magnifies your insecurities, leading you to doubt what God says about you and disregard what He has given you. (Ephesians 1:17-19)

Strategy #4 — AGAINST YOUR FAMILY

He wants to disintegrate your family, dividing your home, rendering it chaotic, restless and unfruitful. (Genesis 3:1-7)

Strategy #5 — AGAINST YOUR CONFIDENCE

He constantly reminds you of your past mistakes and bad choices, hoping to convince you that you're under God's judgment rather than under the blood. (Revelation 12:10)

Strategy #6 — AGAINST YOUR CALLING

He amplifies fear, worry and anxiety until they are the loudest voices in your head, causing you to deem the adventure of following God too risky to attempt. (Joshua 14:8)

Strategy #7 — AGAINST YOUR PURITY

He tries to tempt you toward certain sins, convincing you that you can tolerate them without risking consequences, knowing they'll only wedge distance between you and God. (Isaiah 59:1-2)

Strategy #8 — AGAINST YOUR REST & CONTENTMENT

He hopes to overload your life and schedule, pressuring you to constantly push beyond your limits, never feeling permission to say no. (Matthew 11:28-30)

Strategy #9 — AGAINST YOUR HEART

He uses every opportunity to keep old wounds fresh in mind, knowing that anger, hurt, bitterness and unforgiveness will continue to roll the damage forward. (Hebrews 12:15)

Strategy #10 — AGAINST YOUR RELATIONSHIPS

He creates disruption and disunity within the shared community of the body of Christ. (1 Timothy 2:8)

Session 9 • Freedom

KEY SCRIPTURES

Galatians 5:1

It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not be encumbered once more by a yoke of slavery.

John 8:36

So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.

Romans 8:1–2

Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit of life set me free from the law of sin and death.

Romans 6:6–7

For we know that our old self was crucified with Him so that the body of sin might be rendered powerless, that we should no longer be slaves to sin — because anyone who has died has been freed from sin.

Romans 6:14

For sin shall not be your master, because you are not under law, but under grace.

2 Corinthians 3:17

Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.

Galatians 5:13–16

You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh; rather, serve one another humbly in love. For the entire law is fulfilled in keeping this one command: "Love your neighbor as yourself." If you bite and devour each other, watch out or you will be destroyed by each other. So I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh.

2 Timothy 1:7

For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.

1 Peter 2:16

Live as free people, but do not use your freedom as a cover-up for evil; live as God's slaves.

IT IS FOR FREEDOM THAT CHRIST HAS SET US FREE.

Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery.

Galatians 5:1

COMMUNION

What we now call COMMUNION is the same as what Jesus celebrated with His disciples at the Last Supper.

**The bread symbolizes Christ's body, which was broken on the cross.
The juice or wine symbolizes His blood that was spilled to wash away our sins forever.**

KEY SCRIPTURES

Romans 5:8

But God proves His love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

1 Corinthians 11:23–25

For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you: The Lord Jesus, on the night He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, "This is My body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of Me." In the same way, after supper He took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood; do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

1 Corinthians 11:26–29

For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes. Therefore, whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of sinning against the body and blood of the Lord. Each one must examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the body eats and drinks judgment on himself.

While they were eating, Jesus took BREAD, and when He had given THANKS,
He broke it and gave it to His disciples, saying,

"Take and eat; this is My BODY."

Then He took a CUP, and when He had given THANKS,
He gave it to them, saying,

"DRINK from it, all of you.

This is My BLOOD of the covenant, which is poured out for many
for the FORGIVENESS of sins."

Matthew 26:26–28

Session 10 • 4 Pillars of a Godly Man

THE FOUR PILLARS

KING — PROVIDER

1 Timothy 5:8 • Matthew 6:33 • Proverbs 22:6 • Psalm 119:105 • Romans 11:29 • Genesis 29

WARRIOR — PROTECTOR

Numbers 13:30-31 • Ephesians 6:12 • 2 Samuel 11:14 • 1 Peter 3:7

MENTOR — WISDOM

Acts 16:1 • Philippians 2:19-24 • 1 Corinthians 11:1 • 1 Corinthians 4:16-17

LOVE — FRIEND

1 Corinthians 13:1-8 • John 13:35 • Galatians 5:22 • John 3:16

7 MARKS OF A GODLY MAN — FROM PSALM 1

1. His life is blessed — "Blessed is the one..." — v.1
2. He keeps himself from evil — He does not walk in step with the wicked — v.1
3. He has a love for God's truth — His delight is in the law of the LORD, and he meditates on it day and night — v.2
4. He lives a life of strength — He is like a tree planted by streams of water — v.3
5. He has a fruit-filled life — His life yields its fruit in season — v.3
6. God's favor is with him — His leaf does not wither — whatever they do prospers — v.3

7. God watches over his way — The LORD watches over the way of the righteous — v.6

KEY SCRIPTURES — SESSION 10

Matthew 7:24–27

Therefore everyone who hears these words of Mine and acts on them is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. The rain fell, the torrents raged, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because its foundation was on the rock. But everyone who hears these words of Mine and does not act on them is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. The rain fell, the torrents raged, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell — and great was its collapse!

1 Timothy 5:8

If anyone does not provide for his own, and especially his own household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.

Matthew 6:33

But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be added unto you.

Ephesians 5:28–29

In the same way, husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. Indeed, no one ever hated his own body, but he nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ does the church.

Psalms 119:105

Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

Jeremiah 1:5

"Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I set you apart and appointed you as a prophet to the nations."

Jeremiah 29:11

For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, to give you a future and a hope.

Romans 11:29

For God's gifts and His call are irrevocable.

1 Peter 3:7

Husbands, in the same way, treat your wives with consideration as a delicate vessel, and with honor as fellow heirs of the gracious gift of life, so that your prayers will not be hindered.

2 Samuel 11:1–4 — A Cautionary Tale: David & Bathsheba

In the spring, at the time when kings march out to war, David sent out Joab and his servants with the whole army of Israel. They destroyed the Ammonites and besieged Rabbah, but David remained in Jerusalem. One evening David got up from his bed and strolled around on the roof of the palace. And from the roof he saw a woman bathing — a very beautiful woman. So David sent and inquired about the woman, and he was told, "This is Bathsheba, the daughter of Eliam and the wife of Uriah the Hittite." Then David sent messengers to get her, and when she came to him, he slept with her.

1 Corinthians 11:1

You are to imitate me, just as I imitate Christ.

1 Corinthians 13:4–8 — The Definition of Love

Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no account of wrongs. Love takes no pleasure in evil, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never fails.

John 13:35

By this everyone will know that you are My disciples, if you love one another.

Session 11 • Fathers & Children

Children are a HERITAGE from the LORD,
offspring a REWARD from him.

Psalm 127:3

KEY SCRIPTURES

Proverbs 20:7

The righteous man walks with integrity; blessed are his children after him.

Psalm 103:13

As a father has compassion on his children, so the LORD has compassion on those who fear Him.

2 Corinthians 6:18

And: "I will be a Father to you, and you will be My sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty."

Be present emotionally, physically, spiritually. Fathers words shape identity.

Proverbs 18:21

Life and death are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruit.

Matthew 3:17

And a voice from heaven said, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased!"

Fathers Discipline Trains the Heart

Proverbs 3:12

...for the LORD disciplines the one He loves, as does a father the son in whom he delights.

A father should Demonstrate Repentance

Proverbs 28:13

He who conceals his sins will not prosper, but whoever confesses and renounces them will find mercy.

Honesty, Humility, Commitment to Growth

Fathers faith leaves a legacy.

Deuteronomy 6:6–7

These words I am commanding you today are to be upon your hearts. And you shall teach them diligently to your children and speak of them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up.

Joshua 24:15

But if it is displeasing in your sight to serve the LORD, then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve... As for me and my house, we will serve the LORD!

"As for me and my house, we will serve the LORD!"

Joshua 24:15

Use the declaration below, inserting your child's name in the blanks. Pray this aloud over them regularly.

I declare, in the Name of Jesus:

_____ has been CALLED for such a time as this. He/she is anointed, appointed and chosen by God.

_____ is and will be MIGHTY in the land. (Psalm 112:2)

_____ has GOD-GIVEN wisdom and a spirit of power, love and a peaceful mind. (2 Timothy 1:7)

That the JOY of the LORD is _____'s strength. (Nehemiah 8:10)

That NO EVIL shall befall _____ and no plague will come near him/her. (Psalm 91:10)

That _____ is a LEADER and not a FOLLOWER — an INFLUENCER and a difference maker.

That _____ is equipped for EVERY GOOD WORK. (Ephesians 2:10)

Session 12 • Marriage / Singles

TRUST in the LORD with ALL your HEART

and LEAN NOT on your OWN understanding;
in ALL your WAYS submit to HIM, and HE will make your paths STRAIGHT.

Proverbs 3:5-6

KEY SCRIPTURES

Ezekiel 18:21–22

But if the wicked man turns from all the sins he has committed, keeps all My statutes, and does what is just and right, he will surely live; he will not die. None of the transgressions he has committed will be held against him. Because of the righteousness he has practiced, he will live.

Psalms 95:3–7

For the LORD is a great God, a great King above all gods. In His hand are the depths of the earth, and the mountain peaks belong to Him. The sea is His, for He made it, and His hands formed the dry land. O come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the LORD our Maker. For He is our God, and we are the people of His pasture, the sheep under His care. Today, if you hear His voice...

Mark 3:25

If a house is divided against itself, it cannot stand.

Proverbs 18:21

Life and death are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruit.

Genesis 3:6 — A Cautionary Tale

When the woman saw that the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eyes, and that it was desirable for obtaining wisdom, she took the fruit and ate it. She also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate it.

Stand for your families. If it's against God's word, stand for your home.

1 John 3:18

Little children, let us love not in word and speech, but in action and truth.

Do not belittle, speak to her with respect.

1 Corinthians 16:14

Do everything in love.

Your tongue can bring life or death.

17 POWERFUL SCRIPTURES TO PRAY OVER YOUR WIFE

1. HER IDENTITY — 1 Peter 2:9

2. WISDOM — James 1:5
3. TO BE LED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT — Romans 8:14
4. HER CHILDREN — 3 John 1:4
5. A GODLY MENTOR — Titus 2:3-4
6. DESIRE FOR GOD — Philippians 2:13
7. PEACE — Philippians 4:7
8. HER WORK — Colossians 3:23
9. JOY — Nehemiah 8:10
10. FREEDOM FROM FEAR — Isaiah 41:10
11. HEALTH — 3 John 1:2
12. HER PURPOSE — Romans 8:28
13. HER NEEDS — Philippians 4:19
14. GOD-ORDAINED SEXUAL INTIMACY — 1 Corinthians 7:3
15. A GENTLE & QUIET SPIRIT — 1 Peter 3:4
16. GODLY FRIENDS — Proverbs 27:17
17. RESPECT FOR ME AS HER HUSBAND — Ephesians 5:33

Session 13 • Fishers of Men

WALKING IN YOUR PURPOSE

**IF YOU DON'T BECOME A RECONCILER OF THE LOST,
YOU WILL BECOME AN EVALUATOR OF THE SAVED.**

ALL OF US HAVE BEEN CALLED TO BE "FISHERS OF MEN" —
but when those who are called to fish don't fish, they FIGHT.

BUT, when those who are called to fish, FISH,
they FLOURISH. Souls are REACHED, lives are CHANGED,
and the WORLD IS IMPACTED.

KEY SCRIPTURES

Luke 16:19–31 — The Rich Man and Lazarus

Now there was a rich man dressed in purple and fine linen, who lived each day in joyous splendor. And a beggar named Lazarus lay at his gate, covered with sores and longing to be fed with the crumbs that fell from the rich man's table. Even the dogs came and licked his sores. One day the beggar died and was carried by the angels to Abraham's side. And the rich man also died and was buried. In Hades, where he was in torment, he looked up and saw Abraham from afar, with Lazarus by his side. So he cried out, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me...' But Abraham answered, 'Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things, while Lazarus received bad things. But now he is comforted here, while you are in agony. And besides all this, a great chasm has been fixed between us...' Then Abraham said to him, 'If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, they will not be persuaded even if someone rises from the dead.'

Ezekiel 22:30

I searched for a man among them to repair the wall and stand in the gap before Me on behalf of the land, so that I should not destroy it. But I found no one.

Matthew 4:19–20

"Come, follow Me," Jesus said, "and I will make you fishers of men." And at once they left their nets and followed Him.

Acts 1:8

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and you will be My witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.

Romans 2:4

Or do you disregard the riches of His kindness, tolerance, and patience, not realizing that God's kindness leads you to repentance?

John 21:6

He told them, "Cast the net on the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast it there, and they were unable to haul it in because of the great number of fish.

John 8:12

Once again, Jesus spoke to the people and said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows Me will never walk in the darkness, but will have the light of life."

Luke 1:37

For no word from God will ever fail.

...forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead,
I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 3:13-14 (ESV)

Session 14 • Holy Spirit

HOLY SPIRIT — YOU ARE WELCOME HERE

KEY SCRIPTURES

Genesis 1:2

Now the earth was formless and void, and darkness was over the surface of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the surface of the waters.

John 10:10

The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I have come that they may have life, and have it in all its fullness.

John 14:26

But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have told you.

John 16:8

And when He comes, He will convict the world in regard to sin and righteousness and judgment.

John 16:13

However, when the Spirit of truth comes, He will guide you into all truth. For He will not speak on His own, but He will speak what He hears, and He will declare to you what is to come.

Acts 5:3

Then Peter said, "Ananias, how is it that Satan has filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and withhold some of the proceeds from the land?"

Acts 8:29

The Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to that chariot and stay by it."

Acts 10:19–21

As Peter continued to reflect on the vision, the Spirit said to him, "Behold, three men are looking for you. So get up! Go downstairs and accompany them without hesitation, because I have sent them." So Peter went down to the men and said, "Here am I, the one you are looking for. Why have you come?"

Romans 8:2

For in Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit of life set you free from the law of sin and death.

Romans 8:14

For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God.

Ephesians 4:30

And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, in whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.

Isaiah 59:19

So shall they fear the name of the LORD where the sun sets, and His glory where it rises. For He will come like a raging flood, driven by the breath of the LORD.

Isaiah 63:10

But they rebelled and grieved His Holy Spirit. So He turned and became their enemy, and He Himself fought against them.

Zechariah 4:6

So he said to me, "This is the word of the LORD to Zerubbabel: Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit, says the LORD of Hosts."

Psalms 51:11

Cast me not away from Your presence; take not Your Holy Spirit from me.

Psalms 139:7

Where can I go to escape Your Spirit? Where can I flee from Your presence?

1 Corinthians 2:10–11

But God has revealed it to us by the Spirit. The Spirit searches all things, even the deep things of God. For who among men knows the thoughts of man except his own spirit within him? So too, no one knows the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God.

1 Corinthians 12:11

All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, who apportions them to each one as He determines.

Hebrews 9:14

...how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself unblemished to God, purify our consciences from works of death, so that we may serve the living God!

Matthew 13:3–9 — The Parable of the Sower

A farmer went out to sow his seed. As he was sowing, some seed fell along the path, and the birds came and devoured it. Some fell on rocky ground, where it did not have much soil. It sprang up quickly because the soil was shallow. But when the sun rose, the seedlings were scorched, and they withered because they had no root. Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up and choked the seedlings. Still other seed fell on good soil and produced a crop — a hundredfold, sixtyfold, or thirtyfold. He who has ears, let him hear.

Matthew 28:19

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

James 4:4

You adulteresses! Do you not know that friendship with the world is hostility toward God? Therefore, whoever chooses to be a friend of the world renders himself an enemy of God.

Proverbs 4:23

Guard your heart with all diligence, for from it flow springs of life.

Choose **LOVE**
Celebrate **JOY**
Seek **PEACE**

Have **PATIENCE**
Offer **KINDNESS**
Value **GOODNESS**
Encourage **FAITHFULNESS**
Practice **GENTLENESS**
Honor **SELF-CONTROL**

ENCOUNTER MINISTRY — MISSION & VISION

MISSION STATEMENT

To create an environment where real people can come as they are regardless of their past or present circumstances. To build a community of real people building authentic lifelong relationships with each other as they experience and grow in their personal relationship with Jesus through the truth of His Word and the power of His Holy Spirit. To establish a culture where we are not divided by church background or denominations but where the love, grace and freedom found in Jesus is our focus.

OUR VERSE

**WE OVERCOME BY THE BLOOD OF THE LAMB
AND THE WORD OF OUR TESTIMONY.**

Revelation 12:11

ENCOUNTER MINISTRY TODAY

As a result of Encounter Ministry weekends for men and women, thousands of salvations, re-dedications, restored marriages, families reconnected, addictions abandoned, dope dealers turned to hope dealers, and many are now walking according to their Designer's call and purpose. One Post location has multiplied to over 30 locations spanning several states.

For more information: www.encounterministry.org