



en·coun·ter  
 in 'koun(t)ər, en 'koun(t)ər/  
 verb  
 verb: encounter; 3rd person present: encounters; past tense: encountered; past participle: encountered; gerund or present participle: encountering

1. an unexpected meeting with someone or something.

Synonyms: meeting, chance meeting, "an unexpected encounter"

Encountering God...

- is a common experience for characters throughout the Bible
- can be quiet and subtle or loud and dramatic (1 Kings 19:11-13, Acts 9:3-9)
- should be part of the normal Christian Life (Acts 2: 16-21)

We position ourselves to encounter God...

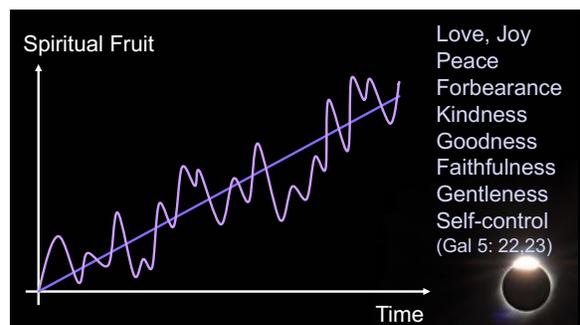
By seeking Him  
*'You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.'* (Jeremiah 29:13)

Fixing our eyes on Jesus  
*'Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith.'* (Hebrews 12:2)

Individually and together  
*When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place.* (Acts 2:1)

Encountering God on the Journey...

- The Christian life is a journey of becoming more like Jesus  
*'God chose you as first fruits to be saved through the sanctifying work of the Spirit and through belief in the truth.'* (2 Thessalonians 2:13)
- This is through a process of pruning and growth  
*"I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful"* (John 15:1-2)



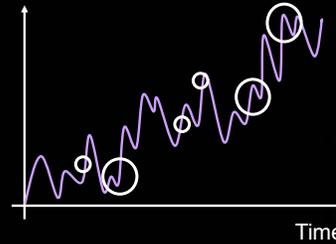
### Encountering God on the Journey...

- The Christian life is about becoming more like Jesus
- This is through a *process* of pruning and growth
- God also does it through *events*. We need times of encounter with Him to grow.

*"Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with that person, and they with me." (Revelation 3:20)*



### Spiritual Fruit



Encounters with God can be major or minor, but are always transformative if we engage with them.

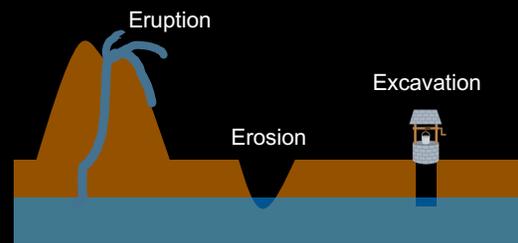


### What kind of encounters might we have?

- A strong sense of His presence
- New 'heart level' understanding of our relationship with Him or of a scriptural truth
- Conviction that we need to engage in an action
- 'Shoulder taps'
- Deliverance or comfort in times of Crisis
- Dreams and / or visions
- Healing or other physical manifestations of the Spirit



### Different ways encounter happens...



*'You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.'*  
*(Jeremiah 29:13)*

