

## A God Encounter

### Part 4

#### The Expected and the Unexpected

God is Alive. He is not a figment of our imagination and he is not something that we have created to patch together hopes for life after death. He is Real and he is not controlled by man. He is not controlled by Religious organization or anything else. He is not a thing, He is a person and because he is a person he is to be experienced. God has given us his Word and in His word we see many instances when He showed up in an Unexpected way. There were also moments when he Showed up just as he said he would like with the Disciples in the Upper Room - Acts 2. We serve a God that we should anticipate moving in our lives and Encountering both in the Expected and Unexpected moments of life.

#### **Genesis 28**

10 Jacob left Beersheba and set out for Harran. 11 When he reached a certain place, he stopped for the night because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones there, he put it under his head and lay down to sleep. 12 He had a dream in which he saw a stairway resting on the earth, with its top reaching to heaven, and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. 13 There above it stood the Lord, and he said: **“I am the Lord, the God of your father Abraham and the God of Isaac. I will give you and your descendants the land on which you are lying.** 14 Your descendants will be like the dust of the earth, and you will spread out to the west and to the east, to the north and to the south. All peoples on earth will be blessed through you and your offspring. 15 **I am with you and will watch over you wherever you go, and I will bring you back to this land. I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you.”**

16 When Jacob awoke from his sleep, he thought, “Surely the Lord is in this place, and I was not aware of it.” 17 He was afraid and said, “How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God; this is the gate of heaven.”

**Jacobs Encounter with God Revealed - God can show up when you least expect it...**

- Jacob was doing what he was suppose to do... His Mother and Father told him to go to Haran to his Uncle Laban.
- Jacob was on the Journey God had for him... It was there Jacob found his wife Rachael and Leah.
- Jacob found God when he was afraid and on a lonely, unfamiliar path...
- God showed up Unexpectedly...

### **Jacobs Encounter with God Revealed - Jacob was Special to God...**

- Jacob found Favor in God's sight...
- Jacob found favor with God for many reasons...
- One being because of his lineage... He literally was special to God and didn't know it.
- He was of Abraham and Isaac...
- His Fathers honored God and were men of Faith...
- There was a Spiritual Legacy passed down and he inherited something special...
- How Much Prayer and Obedience was sown before him that lead to that moment...
- Many of us have found ourselves in a place with God not because we deserved it, but because someone went before us and paid the price in Prayer and Obedience...
- We all Stand on the shoulders of someone. It could be a praying Grandmother, Mother, Father, Grandfather, Aunt, Uncle, Husband, Wife, Cousin, Friend, Pastor or Minister...
- There is a good chance that the Encounter you received or are about to receive from God is linked to someone else's Pursuit after God and Intercession for you...

**Story:** When God woke me up as a young boy

### **Jacobs Encounter with God Revealed - God's plans were much bigger than Jacob's...**

- It didn't occur to Jacob until now that the Blessing he received from his father carried this magnitude...
- Jacob thought he was going for a job. God was thinking your going for your Destiny.

- The Bible is full of people who encountered God both Unexpectedly and out of Expectation.

### Jeremiah 29

11 For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. 12 Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. 13 You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart. 14 I will be found by you,”

### Luke 5

16 But Jesus **often withdrew** to lonely places and prayed.

David Yonggi Cho - Prayer That Brings Revival

“God has created us in such a way that we need to know the purpose and benefit of something if we are going to be motivated to work for that thing.”

“Motivation works on the basis of desire. For someone to pray, He must learn to desire prayer.”

“How can you develop a great desire to pray? You must see the benefits of prayer, both eternal and temporal.”

### Ephesians 3

10 His intent was that now, through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms, 11 according to his eternal purpose that he accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord. 12 **In him and through faith in him we may approach God with freedom and confidence.**

### Daniel 10

12 Then he continued, “Do not be afraid, Daniel. Since the first day that you set your mind to gain understanding and to humble yourself before your God, your words were heard, and I have come in response to them. 13 But the prince of the Persian kingdom resisted me twenty-one days. Then Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me, because I was detained there with the king of Persia. 14 Now I have come to explain to you what will

happen to your people in the future, for the vision concerns a time yet to come.”

**Through out Scripture there is a consistent theme of Angelic Presence where there are people pursuing the Lord.**

Abraham witnessed and even entertained Angels as he obeyed the call of God on his life.

Jacob witnessed Angels ascending and descending as he saw the Lord at Bethel.

The Angel of the Lord was in the Camp of Israel as the Lord lead them out of Egypt.

Daniel sought God for understanding and humbled himself in Prayer and fasting then received a message from the Lord by an Angel.

Jesus as he was lead by the Spirit into the wilderness and fasted 40 days was tended to by angels.

Angels are Servants of the Lord...  
They are a part of what God does...

As we press into the Lord the Bible promises we will find him if we seek him with all our hearts... As we draw closer and closer to the Lord expect to experience

There is a greater presence of God coming as we continue to press into and desire the Encounter of the Lord...

There will be an entourage of heaven that will fill this place...  
People will come and say surely this is the house of the Lord and I never knew it...

“The prerogative of man is to seek God; the prerogative of God is to let us catch him”

## **In Exodus 33**

15 Then Moses said to God, “If your Presence does not go with us, do not send us up from here. 16 How will anyone know that you are pleased with me and with your people unless you go with us? What else will distinguish me and your people from all the other people on the face of the earth?”

“What else will Distinguish me and your people from all the other people on the face of the earth?”

Moses desired the Presence of the Lord

My Prayer:

Lord Make me Hungry for God like never before

Hungry for the Presence of God

Hungry for time with God

To know the Heart of God

To have Understanding like Daniel

To have Dreams like Jacob

To have Fellowship with God like Moses

May we be a Church that is Hungry for God

Hungry for the Presence of God

Known as people of the Presence of God