# Have a Fresh Encounter with God

Forty is a significant measurement of time in the Bible, as forty years usually depicts a generation. As we celebrate our 40th anniversary, we are reminded that our church is all about God, and that He has given us a mission: to MAKE DISCIPLES. Even as we reach this milestone, we still have a lot of work to do and the work has just begun! In our metropolis alone, there are millions of people who need to hear about Jesus and we, believers also need to have a fresh encounter with God daily.

Let us look into the amazing life and ministry of Isaiah, who served God under five kings in Judah for almost 60 years and remained faithful to God because he had a fresh encounter with Him.

#### Isaiah 6:1-3

When King Uzziah died, the kingdom of Judah was filled with worries, fears, instabilities, and challenges — but it was also around this time when Isaiah saw the LORD on His throne (Isaiah 6:1). This served as a reminder that kings and leaders may come and go, but God is still ON THE THRONE (Psalm 135:6, Ephesians 1:11). God wanted Isaiah to know His majesty and greatness first and foremost. In 6:2-3, Isaiah described the Seraphim, the superbeings that are in God's presence, obeying Him, and exalting His absolute goodness and holiness. In the book of Revelation, they were also still praising our holy, holy, holy God (Revelation 4:8)!

God is HOLY, and we submit to His authority because of who He is. He is distinct as the Creator, His moral perfection is undisputed, and He is the example of moral purity (light). He has absolute power, and is absolutely pure and good (1 John 1:5). Out of His love, He sent His Son Jesus to die for the forgiveness of our sins.

God, in His sovereignty, also has absolute control. We can have peace knowing there are no accidents in life (Romans 8:28-29) and that He is the source of our confidence (Romans 8:31-32). As a church we reckon that we had to leave the previous place we were renting for our worship center. Although it was a sad decision, God provided for us our own home at the CCF Center, our base of operation for a global discipleship movement!

#### Isaiah 6:4-7

When Isaiah encountered the Lord, he saw his imperfection as a "man of unclean lips" (v.5). He saw his own sinfulness and regarded himself as ruined, even if it was just probably out of saying something bad

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LAST WEEK'S MESSAGE

(Matthew 15:18). This reveals that until we realize that we are sinners, we will not understand the grace of God and our need for a Savior. Comparing our holiness with others is useless, because compared to Jesus, we are broken and need grace and mercy.

The Seraphim drew near to the humbled Isaiah, and the angel provided forgiveness and purification for him (vv.6-7). This was a prophetic picture involving the altar where the burnt sacrifice is offered, and the sanctification that resulted after it. We come before God to admit we are sinners, and we receive God's gracious forgiveness. A high view of God and a proper view of ourselves will then allow us to see the needs of others.

#### Isaiah 6:8

After Isaiah was forgiven and cleansed, he heard the Lord asking, "Whom shall I send, who will go for Us?" (Isaiah 6:8). The moment Isaiah sensed this need, he immediately volunteered and said, "HERE AM I, SEND ME!". This shows that he knew the gospel and understood the ministry of the Messiah, even prophesying about it (Isaiah 53:5-6).

Romans 1:14-16 similarly shows the heart of the Apostle Paul. After encountering Jesus, he considered himself "under obligation", he was "eager to preach the gospel" and was not ashamed of it "for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes" (v.16). Sinners cannot escape God's judgment... and all of us are sinners (Revelation 20:11-12,15; 21:8)! God is holy and will judge evil — yet when we come to Jesus, admit we are sinners, believe in Him and accept the grace He offers for the forgiveness of our sins, we receive God's mercy and salvation.

People are lost without Jesus, and they need to hear the Good News — but you will not be able to share the gospel if you have not experienced it. Have you surrendered your life to God? Are you ready to volunteer and say, "Here am I, send me"? Stop playing games! Admit you are a sinner, believe in Jesus as Savior and Lord, and receive forgiveness for your sins.

Let us serve God and lead others to a fresh encounter with Him as we continue walking with Him in the next forty years! Blessed 40th anniversary CCF family and all praises, honor and glory be to God the Father, to the ever-present Holy Spirit, and to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

#### discuss this message

Why is it important to have the right view of God? Why is it important to have the right view of ourselves?

How do you see yourselves when put in contrast with God's holiness and perfection? How do you feel about drawing near to God with your imperfections?

What specific mission is God giving you after having been transformed completely by His grace? What should be your motivation in serving God?

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#### last week's memory verse

Then I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for Us?" Then I said, "Here am I. Send me!"

ISAIAH 6:8

## Hope in Jesus, He is forever faithful.

See you at the **Welcome Center** and let's discuss about it.

# Step Into the **Community**

Fellowship and learn together with people like you!

#### WOMEN2WOMEN ALL WOMEN

#### Be a Woman of W.O.R.T.H.

with Jireh de Jose September 5, Thursday, 10:00 AM, MPH ALSO STREAMED LIVE ONLINE Cfwomen2women

CCFWomen2WomenMinistry

#### B1G MINISTRY SINGLES

#### Call of a Witness: Run with Perseverance September 6, Friday, 7:30 PM, MPH

CONNECT WITH THEM ONLINE BIGMinistry

#### MOVEMEN+ ALL MEN

#### A Single Man's Pursuit

September 14, Saturday 2:00 PM, CCF Center CONNECT WITH THEM ONLINE Movingmentochrist

#### NXTGEN KIDS FROM 4-12 YEARS OLD

#### In Focus: Service in the Family Sundays, 9:00 AM, 12:00 NN, 3:00 PM G/F CCF Center (ages 4-12) ZOOM: for ages 7-12; 11:00 AM and 2:00 PM message us at facebook.com/ccfnxtgen to sign up

ONLINE: Bible Lesson Video Premiere 9:00 AM at **P** ccfnxtgen

## Learn More About Our Faith

Continue to be equipped in your discipleship journey.

#### Stay tuned for the upcoming GLC training cycle starting September!

GLC LEVEL 1

#### Book 1: One by One

ONSITE: September 15, Sunday, 10:30 AM ZOOM: September 18, Wednesday 7:30 PM

#### **Book 2: Spiritual Disciplines**

ONSITE: September 15, Sunday, 1:30 PM ZOOM: September 18, Wednesday 7:30 PM

#### GLC LEVEL 2

**Book 5: Starting Point for Small Groups** ONSITE: September 15, Sunday, 1:00 PM ZOOM: September 19, Thursday, 7:30 PM

#### **Baptism Class and Rites**

CLASS: September 15, Sunday, 1:30 PM G/F New Building RITES CEREMONY: September 22, Sunday, 1:30 PM Register: *bit.ly/BaptismReg2024* 

# Can't attend GLC F2F or on Zoom?

Use the Self-Paced Online format or do GLC in your DGroups! Register: *bit.ly/GLCinDGroupsSignUp* Enroll Here: *glc.ccf.org.ph/online* 

Visit **glc.ccf.org.ph** for more info on GLC trainings and schedules.



### Services at the CCF Center

Saturday Nights 5:00 pm Sundays 9:00 AM, 12:00 NN, and 3:00 PM 
 Online Livestream

 ⊕ ccf.org.ph
 ● ccfmain
 ● ccfmain

 • 0.00 AM, 12:00 NN, 3:00 PM, 6:00 PM

#### Visit ccf.org.ph/live/broadcast-channels/ for the list of broadcast TV channels and radio stations.

YOU BEING HERE IS NO ACCIDENT!

# God brought you here for His purpose.

#### God loves you.

He desires for you to have a meaningful life with Him in the present and gain eternal life with Him in the fut<u>ure.</u>

Know therefore that the Lord your God, He is God, the faithful God, who <u>keeps</u> <u>His covenant and His lovingkindness</u> to a thousandth generation with those who love Him and keep His commandments – Deuteronomy 7:9

#### God is holy.

We are sinful, and our sin separates us from Him.

Everyone has sinned and is far away from God's saving presence. – Romans <u>3:23</u>

#### God is merciful.

In His love, He made the only way for us to be reconciled to Him: through His son, Jesus Christ. Jesus had to die on the cross for our sins and be raised to life for eternity.

But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from the wrath of God through Him. – Romans 5:8

l am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me. – John 14:6

#### God is gracious.

By placing our faith in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven of our sins and saved from eternal death.

For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life. – John 3:16

For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, so that no one may boast. – Ephesians 2:8-9

## Would you like to place your faith in Jesus Christ today?

Lord Jesus, I need You. I confess that I am a sinner. I believe that You died on the cross to pay for all my sins. With Your help, I will turn away from my sins. Please come into my life and be my Savior and my Master. I accept Your gift of eternal life. Make me the kind of new person You want me to be. Thank You for giving me eternal life. Amen.

#### God keeps His promises.

You can be sure that you have eternal life when you trust in Jesus.

And the testimony is this, that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. He who has the Son has the life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have the life. These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life. — 1 John 5:11-13