

# Lifelines

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Topic: An Encounter with God

## **An Encounter with God By Dr. Ed Jordan © 2026**

Have you ever been in the presence of the Awesome Living God? What kind of experiences have you had while encountering God? Some people have had very vivid, and perhaps overwhelming experiences while encountering God. Some people have sensed God's presence and knew that God was there and speaking with them. Some people are not sure if they have encountered God or not.

The amazing thing about the God of the Bible is that He is a living Being, all knowing, all powerful, and most amazingly Mighty God and our Creator, Who desires to have a personal relationship with us. How does this relationship happen? It is a personal encounter and interaction. Down through the millennia of human history, humans sought to discover and know what they conceived to be a power and/or person more powerful than them. Mankind in their very nature have a need to discover and know the God who created them and who created everything else, the God who controls nature, and designed it to flourish.

It is in the Bible we discover not only that man is seeking to know God, but that the God of the Bible is desiring to reestablish a personal relationship with each one of us. In Genesis God created Adam and Eve (humans) and would interact with them each day in the Garden of Eden. After man sinned, humans tried to hide from God. Yet God sought them out. God still seeks to establish a personal relationship with each of us today through Jesus Christ, who came to provide forgiveness for our sins, and to reestablish a daily living relationship with God.

In the book of Exodus, God had chosen the children of Israel to be His representative people, and invited them to meet God on the mountain to receive the Rules of their Covenant relationship, i.e., the Ten Commandments. God's presence enshrouded the mountain in a thick cloud. In Ex. 20:16 (NASB) we read that Moses went up to dialogue with God, then in verses 18-19: "All the people perceived the thunder and the lightning flashes and the sound of the trumpet and the mountain smoking; and when the people saw it, they trembled and stood at a distance. Then they said to Moses, "Speak to us yourself and we will listen; but let not God speak to us, or we will die." Again in Ex. 20:21 we read: "So the people stood at a distance, while Moses approached the thick cloud where God was."

In John 1, we read that God became flesh in the person of Jesus and comes to live among humanity. Multitudes flocked to be with Him, to hear Him teach, heal, and to confront the abusers of power. Jesus lived a perfect life, died in our place to pay the penalty for our sins, and comes to live within every believer to restore God's living presence in our lives. Christians converse with God every day, and God with them. One day, Jesus will return in clouds of glory. The graves will open, those who rejected God and Jesus will tremble, crying for mercy; those who know and love Jesus will be caught up to meet Jesus, and their bodies will be transformed to sinless glorious eternal bodies with which they will join the saints of Heaven in the air in a grand celebration (1 Thessalonians 4:13-5:3).

God has gone to every effort to provide a way for you to come to know Him today, even at this moment. Jesus modeled the life and teachings that bring us "life as God intended it to be, abundant, alive, growing and overflowing" (see: John 7:37-39; 10:10; 11:25-26; 14:23). To begin this

relationship, talk to God, saying: “Dear Lord Jesus: I realize that I have sinned and fallen short of your expectations. I ask you to forgive me for my arrogance and resistance to your love. Come into my life, fill me with your love and presence. Open my eyes to your reality, help me understand the message of Jesus and the New Testament. Help me know and love You as I should, and to serve You with my gifts, time, and energy! Thank you! I ask this in Jesus’ name! Amen.”

If you prayed that prayer, welcome to a new life lived in God’s presence and by His power. Life is a daily growth experience as you get to know God better and better. Now find a good, Bible-teaching church where you can study the Bible and be encouraged in the growth of your new life! Celebrate!

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