

CONNECT *with* GOD



A YEAR OF
ENCOUNTERS & VISITATIONS
2026

7 DAYS *of*
SOLITUDE



Daily Encounter Guide

Daily Encounters are the greatest way to spiritually grow as a disciple of Jesus.

God invites us to meet with Him daily. Just as Israel gathered manna every morning, God teaches us to live in daily dependence, obedience, and intimacy with Him. Daily Encounters are daily discipleship. A disciple is someone who follows Jesus, obeys Him, and builds their life around Him every day. Discipleship is formed through repetition, obedience, intimacy, and trust, not information alone.

1. SET AN APPOINTMENT WITH GOD

Daily encounters begin with intention.

- Choose a **daily time**
- Choose a **daily place**
- Remove distractions
- Expect resistance, and show up anyway

Have an appointment with the Lord every day.

2. WELCOME THE HOLY SPIRIT

Begin by inviting God's presence. Pray:

- "Holy Spirit, You are welcome here."
- "No spirit but the Holy Spirit is welcome."
- "Give me ears to hear."
- "Teach me."
- "Speak, Lord."

3. WORSHIP

Minister to God's heart before asking for anything.

- Play worship music
- Sing, speak, or sit in reverence
- Thank God for who He is. (Ps. 110:4)

4. PRAY THE LORD'S PRAYER

Jesus gave us a daily prayer framework.

Pray slowly and intentionally:

- **"Our Father in heaven..."**
Declare God's holiness.
- **"Your Kingdom come, Your will be done..."**
Surrender your will to His.
- **"Give us this day our daily bread..."**
Ask God for what you need today.
- **"Forgive us our debts..."**
Repent and receive grace.
- **"As we forgive our debtors..."**
Forgive people by name.
- **"Lead us not into temptation..."**
Ask for strength and protection.
- **"Deliver us from evil..."**
Declare victory in Christ.

5. PERSONAL PRAYER LIST

Pray intentionally for:

- Yourself
- Your family
- Your friends
- Your workplace
- Your city
- Your church & leaders
- The Peace of Jerusalem (Psalm 122:6)
- + Add your own

6. READ THE WORD (DAILY BREAD)

God's Word was meant to be encountered daily, not occasionally.

Suggested Reading Plans:

- **15-Minute Plan**
1 Psalm, 1 Proverb, 1 Gospel
- **30-Minute Plan**
1 Psalm, 1 Proverb, 1 Gospel,
1 Old Testament, 1 New Testament,
1 Revelation

7. GIVE GOD ROOM TO SPEAK

Slow down. Listen. Pray:

- "Speak, Lord. Your servant is listening."
- Be still
- Write down what you sense
- Pay attention to Scripture, impressions, or the conviction of the Holy Spirit.

8. ASK HIM TO TEACH YOU HIS WAYS

God desires to form you, not just inform you. Pray:

- "Teach me Your ways."
- "I want what You want, show me what You want."
- Repeat what God says out loud.
- Obey what He reveals.

9. CLOSE WITH THE PRAYER OF ENCOUNTERS



PRAYER *of* ENCOUNTERS

This is where I tell You... I love You, I love You, I love You!

This is where I tell You... You're Holy, You're Holy, You're Holy!

This is where I tell You... Thank You, thank You, thank You!

This is where I tell You... I need You, I need You, I need You!

This is where I tell You... Speak Lord, Your servant is listening!

Twenty Six

Connecting with God through Solitude is when you desire to give God all of your attention and affection by being alone with Him. You can be intimate and vulnerable with the Lord when it is just you and Him in the room.

Solitude is not loneliness. Biblical solitude is intentionally getting alone with God. It is stepping away from distraction, noise, stimulation, and other voices so you can focus on His presence and hear Him clearly. **Solitude develops what crowds cannot.**

Throughout Scripture, solitude becomes a place of encounter, revelation, preparation, and spiritual growth. God met Moses in the wilderness, formed David in shepherd fields, strengthened John the Baptist in hidden places, and Jesus regularly withdrew to desolate places to pray. **Solitude strips away distraction, performance, and false dependence so intimacy with God becomes clear.**

Many people are constantly surrounded by noise but rarely alone with God. We live in a world filled with content, notifications, entertainment, and endless stimulation. **But God deeply desires for you to intentionally get away with Him and give Him your full attention.** This honors God and creates room for Him to speak, strengthen, form, and reveal Himself to you.

Private encounters with God prepare you for public battles in life. **Solitude teaches you how to recognize God's voice above every other voice.**

7 DAYS *of* SOLITUDE

Day 1: Being Alone With God

Day 2: Hidden Places Form You

Day 3: Solitude Removes Distraction

Day 4: Hearing God Above Every Other Voice

Day 5: What You Depend On Privately

Day 6: Solitude Prepares You for Spiritual Battles

Day 7: Private Encounters Create Public Authority

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DAVID AND GOLIATH

1 SAMUEL 17:31-47

This event likely took place around 1025–1000 BC during Israel's conflict with the Philistines. Goliath, the champion warrior of the Philistines, mocked God and intimidated Israel for forty days while Saul and the army remained afraid. David, a young shepherd, arrived at the battlefield after years of hidden preparation in solitude with God. Before David ever fought Goliath publicly, he encountered God privately in shepherd fields where he worshiped, prayed, and learned dependence upon God. Solitude prepared David for spiritual warfare

KEY FIGURES

- **David** - A shepherd, worshiper, warrior, and future king of Israel known as a man after God's own heart.
- **Goliath** - A Philistine warrior and enemy of Israel who opposed the people of God.
- **Saul** - The first king of Israel who was chosen to lead God's people.
- **Jesse** - David's father from Bethlehem and part of the family line through which God raised up kings.
- **The Philistines** - An enemy nation that frequently fought against Israel throughout the Old Testament.
- **The Israelite Army** - The people of Israel who were called by God to be His covenant nation.

BIBLICAL ROOT WORDS FOR SOLITUDE: HEBREW:

בָּדָד (badad) — alone, isolated, separated

physical separation, hiddenness, sacred withdrawal, and being set apart unto God

GREEK:

ἐρημος (erēmos) — wilderness, desolate place, solitary place.

SOLITUDE VS. ISOLATION

Solitude is **getting alone WITH** God.

Solitude **produces intimacy**.

Solitude **fills you with God's presence**.

Solitude is **where God speaks**.

vs.

Isolation is **pulling away from people WITHOUT** God.

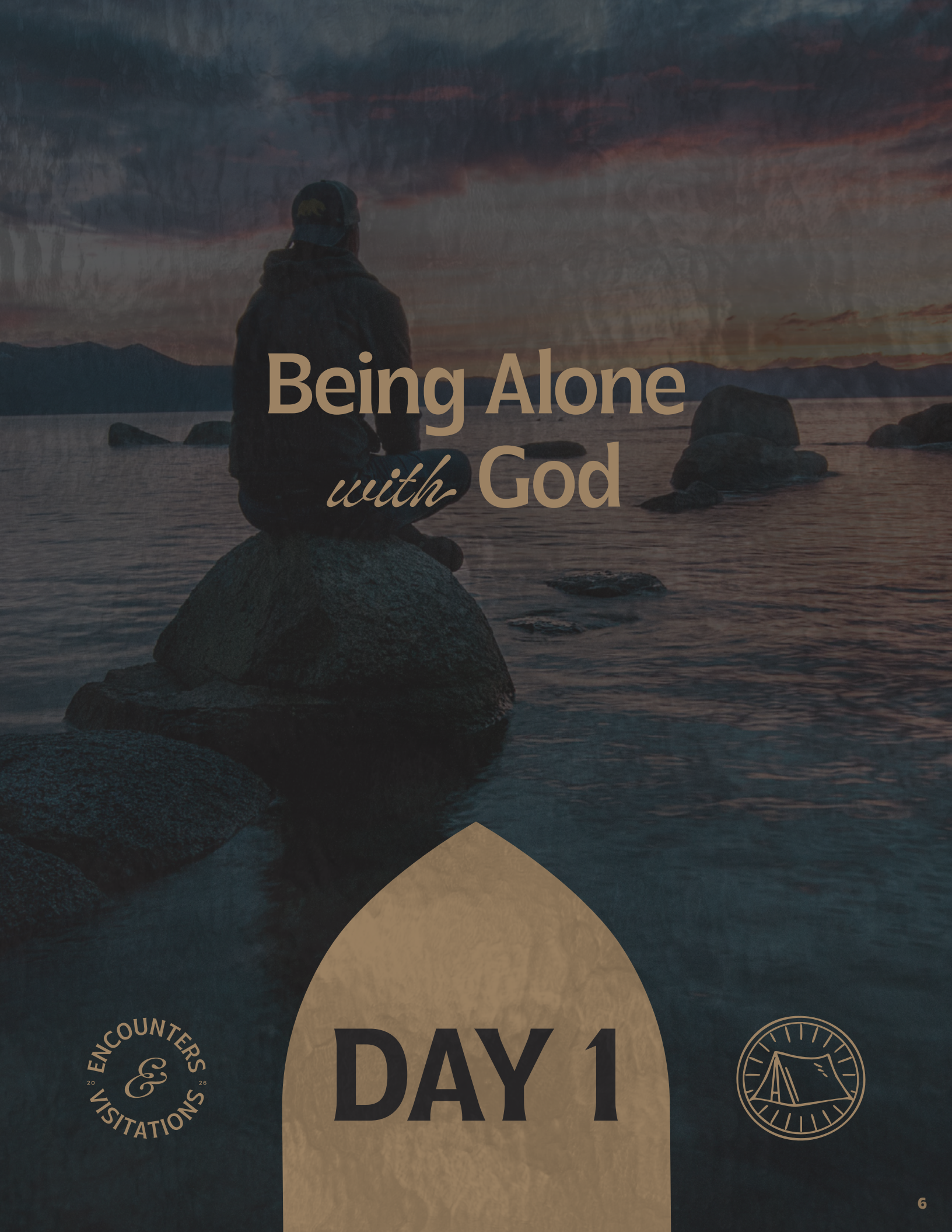
Isolation **produces disconnection**.

Isolation **empties you into loneliness**.

Isolation is **where the enemy gets loud**.

ENEMIES OF SOLITUDE

- **Noise & distraction**
- **Busyness**
- **Entertainment & constant stimulation**
- **Isolation**



Being Alone *with* God



DAY 1



Solitude is experiencing intimacy with God by getting alone with Him. David's relationship with God was formed long before the battlefield. While others overlooked him, God met him in hidden shepherd fields.

Get alone with God today. Step away from distraction and intentionally spend time in His presence.

PSALM 27:8; LUKE 5:16

PRAYER

Lord, I desire you. I choose to seek Your face.

PRACTICAL *Advice*

Schedule intentional alone time with God today.

Put your phone away during prayer time.

Find a quiet place where you can focus on God.

Hidden Places Form You



DAY 2



Before David ever fought Goliath publicly, he fought lions and bears privately. The field became David's place of solitude. While everybody else saw a shepherd, God was forming a king.

God often develops strong voices in hidden places. Solitude develops what crowds cannot.

LUKE 1:80; 1 SAMUEL 17:34-37

PRAYER

Lord, I choose to hide you in.
Form me in your presence.

PRACTICAL *Advice*

Ask God what He wants to
form in you privately.

Write down what God is
speaking to you.

Thank God for forming you.

Solitude Removes Distraction



DAY 3



Solitude is stepping away from noise so you can hear God clearly. David stepped toward the brook while everybody else listened to fear, intimidation, and pressure.

Distraction slowly numbs your sensitivity to the Holy Spirit. Many people are constantly surrounded by noise but rarely alone with God.

Remove distractions today and allow God to quiet every competing voice in your life.

PSALM 139:23-24; 1 SAMUEL 17:40

PRAYER

Lord, you are my focus.
You have my attention.

PRACTICAL *Advice*

Spend time with God in
silence and no electronics.

Sit quietly before the Lord
for several minutes.

Ask God what distractions
have been grabbing your
attention.

Hearing God Above Every Other Voice



DAY 4



In solitude you learn how to recognize God's voice above every other voice. David learned dependence upon God privately before he ever faced public battles.

You cannot hear God clearly if your life is constantly filled with noise and stimulation. Solitude creates space to listen to the Holy Spirit.

Slow down today and listen for God's voice.

JOHN 15:15; ACTS 17:28



PRAAYER

Speak, Lord. I want to hear You.



PRACTICAL *Advice*

Sit quietly after praying and listen.

Ask God a question and write down what you hear Him saying.

Read Scripture slowly and reflect on what God is saying.

What You Depend On Privately

ENCOUNTERS
&
VISITATIONS

DAY 5



Saul offered David armor, but David refused it because solitude had already taught him dependence upon God. What you depend on privately will determine how you fight publicly.

Solitude exposes fear, pride, insecurity, compromise, and false dependence. God wants to become your confidence and strength.

Allow God to reveal what you are leaning on besides Him.

1 SAMUEL 17:38-39; MATTHEW 7:5

PRAYER

Lord, I depend on You. You are my help.

PRACTICAL *Advice*

Ask God if there is anything you depend on in place of Him.

Surrender fear, pride, or insecurity to God.

Be honest with God about areas you struggle to trust Him.

Solitude Prepares You *for* Spiritual Battles

DAY 6



Before David faced Goliath publicly, he encountered God privately. Before Jesus confronted Satan publicly, He was led into the wilderness privately.

Private encounters with God prepare you for public battles in life. Solitude strengthens your faith, sharpens spiritual authority, and teaches dependence upon God.

Allow solitude to prepare you for what is ahead.

MATTHEW 4:1; 1 SAMUEL 17:45-47



PRAYER

Lord, prepare me in your presence.



PRACTICAL *Advice*

Spend intentional time praying before difficult situations.

Ask God to strengthen your faith in your encounters.

Reflect and thank God for past battles He already brought you through.

Private Encounters Create Public Authority



DAY 7



The giant was public, but the authority was private. David's confidence on the battlefield came from years of hidden intimacy with God.

Public victories are usually built in private encounters. God often prepares giant killers in lonely places. Solitude teaches you that God is enough.

Continue building a hidden life with God so your public life flows from intimacy with Him

1 SAMUEL 17:46-47; REVELATION 1:10



PRAYER

Lord, teach me to walk in
Your authority.



PRACTICAL *Advice*

Identify a consistent
rhythm of solitude with
God.

Spend time worshipping
God privately.

Share with someone what
God has been teaching
you in solitude.

What has God revealed to me in solitude this week?

(Truths, convictions, encouragement, or areas of growth.)

What distractions are keeping me from intimacy with God?

(Noise, busyness, entertainment, fear, insecurity, etc.)

What voice has been loudest in my life?

(God's voice, culture, fear, social media, pressure, opinions, etc.)

What has God been forming in me privately?

(Character, obedience, faith, spiritual maturity, dependence.)

What public battle might God be preparing me for privately?

(Leadership, ministry, family, spiritual warfare, calling.)

How will I intentionally grow in solitude moving forward?

(Time with God, removing distractions, prayer walks, journaling, hidden places.)



THIS IS *Holy* GROUND