A Personal Encounter With Jesus
(Mark 10:46-52)

Sunday, February 2nd, 2020  AVBC 10:30 am

SOLITUDE is a gift from the Lord that I must choose to embrace, enabling me to withdraw from the pressures of life in stillness and silence in order to be restored by Him.

1. To have a personal encounter with Jesus you must _____________ that Jesus is ______________.

2. To have a personal encounter with Jesus you must openly _______________ that you need His ____________.

No, O people, the LORD has already told you what is good, and this is what He requires: to do what is right, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God. (Micah 6:8)(NLT)

He has no use for conceited people, but shows favour to those who are humble. (Proverbs 3:34)(GNT)

“...That evening, when I was at my lowest, confounded by obstacles, bewildered by the darkness that surrounded us, unable to even to continue preaching, I discovered an astonishing truth: God is attracted to weakness. He can’t resist those who humbly and honestly admit how desperately they need Him. Our weakness, in fact, makes room for His power.” (Jim Cymbala, “Fresh Wind, Fresh Fire”)

3. To have a personal encounter with Jesus you must make connecting to Jesus your number one ________________.

4. To have a personal encounter with Jesus you must ________ Him for what you ____________.

You parents— if your children ask for a loaf of bread, do you give them a stone instead? Or if they ask for a fish, do you give them a snake? Of course not! So if you sinful people know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give good gifts to those who ask him. (Matthew 7:9-12)

DIGGING DEEPER
(For use in personal/family devotions or with your care group)

Q1: Can you remember some of the first times you did something "solo"? What was that experience like? What did you learn or how did you grow from that experience?

Q2: Pastor Dave said that “desperate people do desperate things”. Have you found that to be true? Why? Why not? Have you seen any positive fruits in your own life coming out of a time of desperation? If so, explain.

Q3: What do the following verses teach you about pride and humility?

Q4: Can you think of some biblical characters that had their need met because they were willing to humbly declare their need? How about some that did not experience healing or transformation because of their pride? Explain.

Q5: Have you ever experienced a time in your life when the Lord was asking you to let go of something only to discover He had something better in mind? If so, describe.

Q6: Read Luke 23:32, 39-43. How does this passage emphasize the importance of our own personal walk with Jesus? What opened the door for the one thief to have a personal encounter with Jesus?