

(Exodus 33:11) The LORD would speak to Moses face to face, as a man speaks with his friend.

(2 Corinthians 3:16-18 Message) Whenever, though, they turn to face God as Moses did, God removes the veil and there they are—face-to-face! They suddenly recognize that God is a living, personal presence, not a piece of chiseled stone. And when God is personally present, a living Spirit, that old, constricting legislation is recognized as obsolete. We're free of it! All of us! Nothing between us and God, our faces shining with the brightness of His face. And so we are transfigured much like the Messiah, our lives gradually becoming brighter and more beautiful as God enters our lives and we become like Him.

### Gideon's Encounter

√ God \_\_\_\_\_ and comes that I may \_\_\_\_\_.

(Judges 6:11) The Angel of the Lord came and sat down under the oak in Ophrah... where Gideon was threshing wheat in a winepress to keep it from the Midianites.

√ God comes that I may \_\_\_\_\_ as He \_\_\_\_\_.

(Judges 6:12-13) When the Angel of the Lord appeared to Gideon, he said, "The Lord is with you, mighty warrior." "Pardon me, my Lord," Gideon replied, "but if the Lord is with us, why has all this happened to us?"

√ God comes that I may \_\_\_\_\_ for my life.

(Judges 6:14-16) The Lord turned to him and said, "Go in the strength you have and save Israel out of Midian's hand. Am I not sending you?" "Pardon me, my Lord," Gideon replied, "but how can I save Israel? My clan is the weakest in Manasseh, and I am the least in my family." The Lord answered, "I will be with you..."

(Judges 6:21-22) When Gideon realized that it was the Angel of the Lord, he exclaimed, "Alas, Sovereign Lord! I have seen the Angel of the Lord face to face!"

√ God comes that I may experience \_\_\_\_\_.

(Judges 6:23-24) But the Lord said to him, "Peace! Do not be afraid. You are not going to die." So Gideon built an altar to the Lord there and called it The Lord is Peace.

### Paul's Encounter

(Acts 9:3-6) As he neared Damascus on his journey, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice say to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute Me?" "Who are you, Lord?" Saul asked. "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting," He replied. "Now get up and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do."

1. Take a \_\_\_\_\_.

(Acts 20:22) And now, compelled by the Spirit, I am going to Jerusalem, not knowing what will happen to me there.

(Hebrews 11:6) And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to Him must believe that He exists and that He rewards those who earnestly seek Him.

2. Expect \_\_\_\_\_.

(Acts 20:23) I only know that in every city the Holy Spirit warns me that prison and hardships are facing me.

(1 Thessalonians 2:18) For we wanted to come to you—certainly I, Paul, did, again and again—but Satan stopped us.

3. Focus on \_\_\_\_\_.

(Acts 20:24) However, I consider my life worth nothing to me, if only I may finish the race and complete the task the Lord Jesus Christ has given me—the task of testifying to the gospel of God's grace.

(2 Corinthians 4:16-18) Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. For our light and monetary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.

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### Gideon's Encounter

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#### 1. Take a step of faith.

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#### 2. Expect resistance.

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#### 3. Focus on eternity.

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