

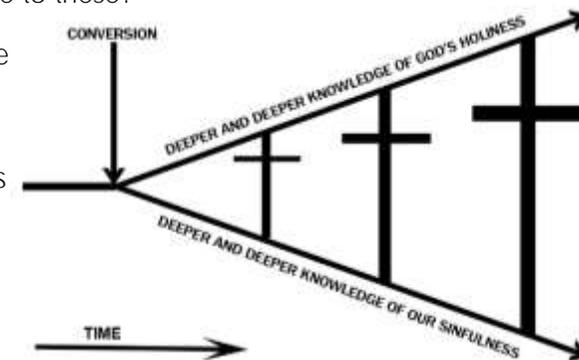
# ENCOUNTERING THE ONE YOU NEED

MARK 2:1-12

- Encountering Jesus happens primarily through God's WORD. 2:1-2
- Encountering Jesus begins by recognizing our great DAILY need for the GOSPEL. 2:3-5
- Encountering Jesus demands that we decide if we believe He is LORD. 2:5-7
- Encountering Jesus is our only hope for FORGIVENESS because of His unique AUTHORITY. 2:8-11
- Encountering Jesus should propel a response of FAITH. 2:12

# FURTHER UP, FURTHER IN

1. Why do you think sometimes our relationship with God becomes a matter of routine instead of a living, daily relationship? What are some habits that have helped you to stay close to Jesus? What are some things that have made it difficult to have a daily relationship with Jesus?
2. Do you believe that we primarily encounter Jesus through His Word? Why or why not? What are some Scriptures that come to mind about this? What are some other ways we encounter Jesus?
3. Why is the gospel an important daily reality for believers today? On a daily basis, what does it look like to let the gospel shape our lives? What needs do you have right now in your life, and how does the gospel relate to these?
4. How does this picture help explain how we grow as Christians? What are some ways we can fail to grow? How would you change this picture to describe your life?
5. What are some ways that we can respond to Jesus just like the people in Mark 2:5-7? When you think of the gospel of Jesus' unique Lordship, what emotions does that make you feel?
6. How does Mark 2:8-11 show Jesus' authority to forgive? Why is the question Jesus asks such genius? How would you encourage someone who struggles to accept Jesus' forgiveness?
7. In this whole chapter (Mark 2:1-12) how do we see faith propelling people into action? What is a way God calling you to step out in faith this week?



"I have come home at last! This is my real country! I belong here. This is the land I have been looking for all my life, though I never knew it till now. . . . Come further up, come further in!" — C.S. Lewis, The Last Battle