ENCOUNTER JESUS / EMBRACE CHANGE

1. **Encounters with Jesus question who is in _____.**

> *3 Now as he went on his way, he approached Damascus, and suddenly a light from heaven shone around him. 4 And falling to the ground, he heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?"*
>
> ACTS 9:3-4 (ESV)

> *3 So Judas, having procured a band of soldiers and some officers from the chief priests and the Pharisees, went there with lanterns and torches and weapons. 4 Then Jesus, knowing all that would happen to him, came forward and said to them, "Whom do you seek?" 5 They answered him, "Jesus of Nazareth." Jesus said to them, "I am he." Judas, who betrayed him, was standing with them. 6 When Jesus said to them, "I am he," they drew back and fell to the ground.*
>
> John 18:3-6 (ESV)

2. **PROBLEM: Encounter is not the same as _____.**
   - **Falling down doesn't mean you've surrendered. Its means you've been confronted.**

3. **Authentic Faith _____.**
   - **Change isn't punishment, it's proof of encounter.**

> *25 About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them, 26 and suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken. And immediately all the doors were opened, and everyone's bonds were unfastened. 27 When the jailer woke and saw that the prison doors were open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, supposing that the prisoners had escaped. 28 But Paul cried with a loud voice, "Do not harm yourself, for we are all here." 29 And the jailer called for lights and rushed in, and trembl-ing with fear he fell down before Paul and Silas. 30 Then he brought them out and said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" 31 And they said, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household."*
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> Acts 16:25-31 (ESV)

4. **Encountering Jesus demands a _____.**
   - **Have you had encounters with Jesus but resisted change?**
   - **Are you holding onto control, comfort, or identity?**
   - **How can you help others encounter Jesus?**
   - **What direction are you walking after this encounter?**

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