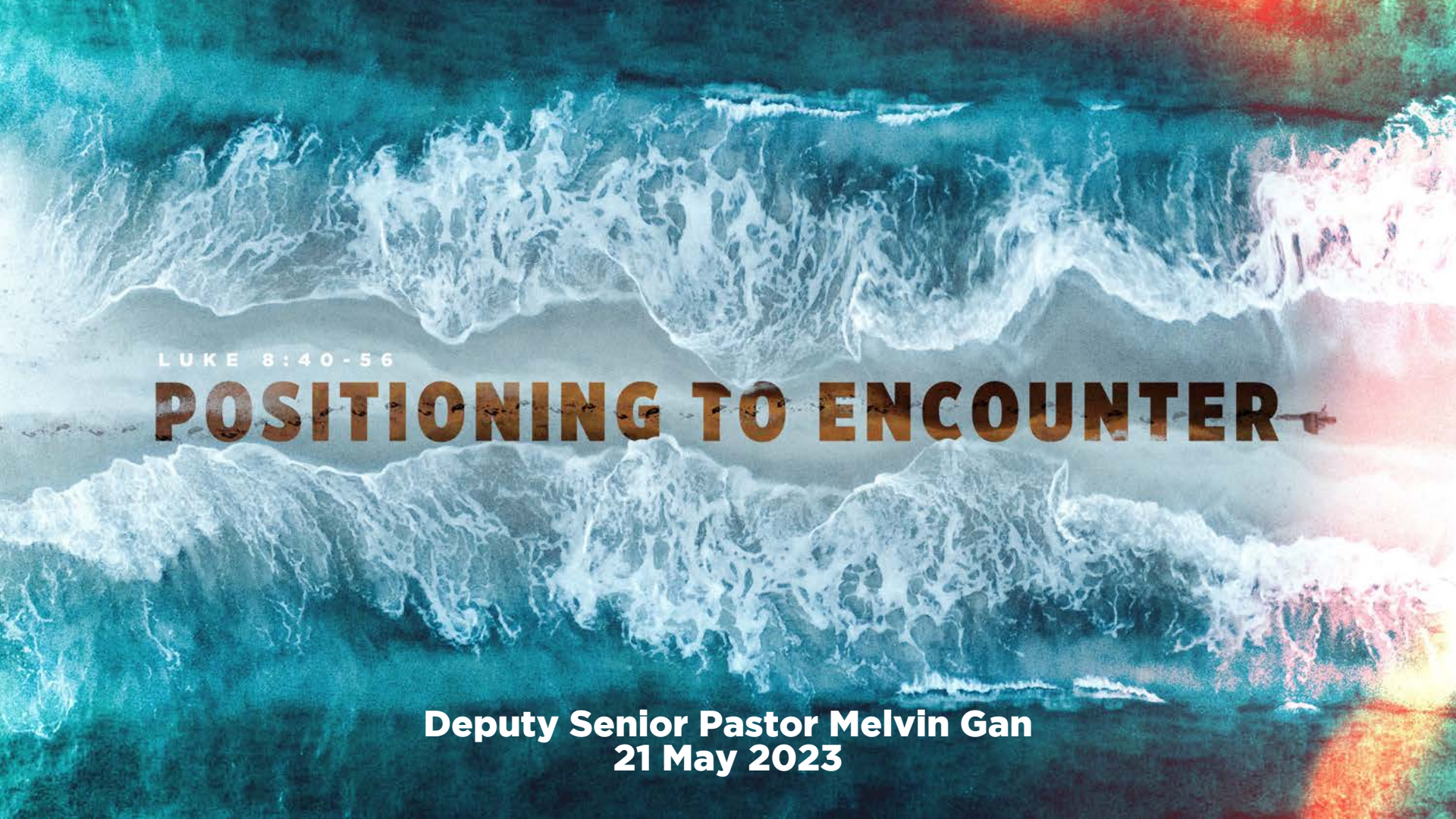
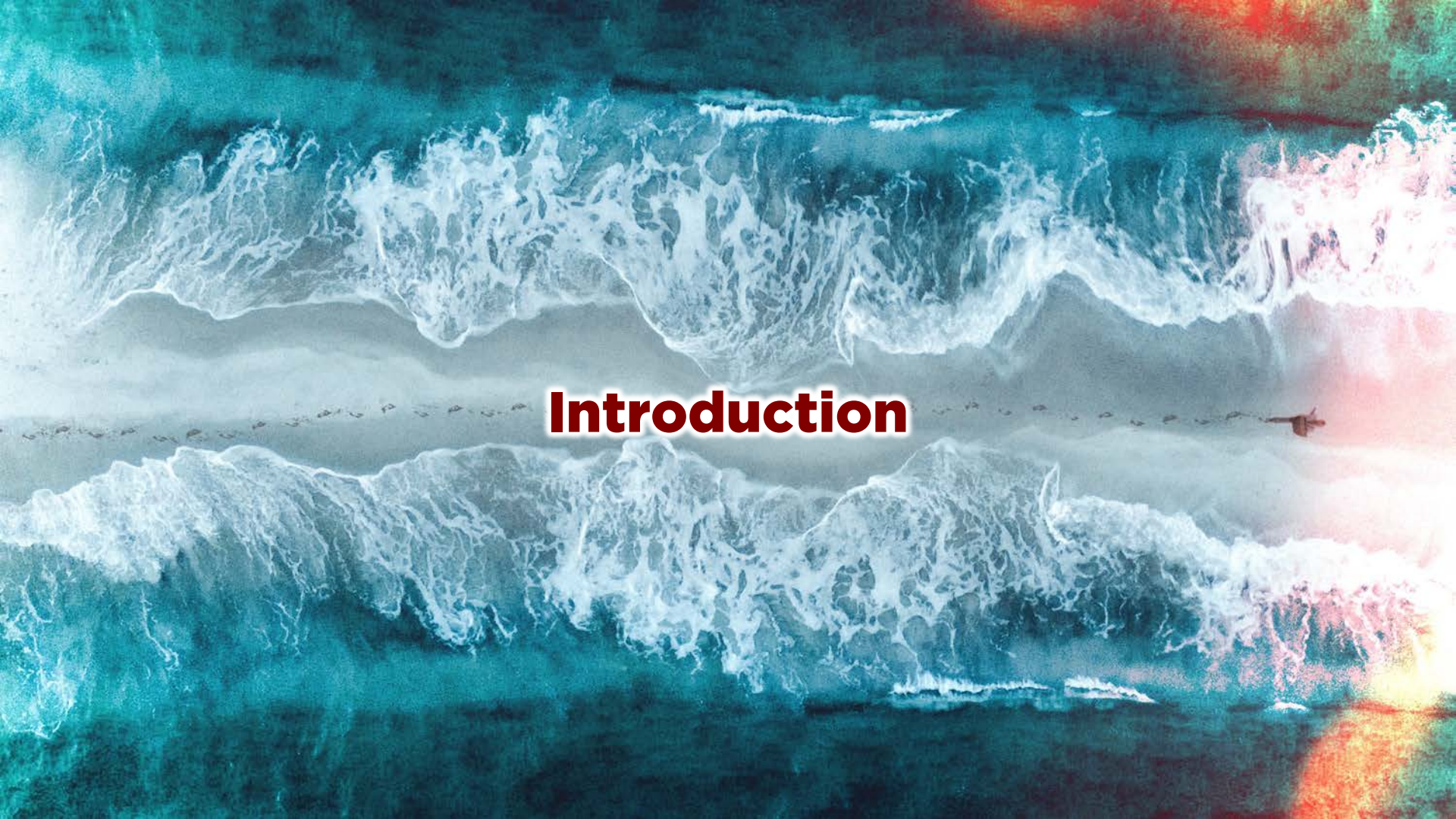



**Deputy Senior Pastor Melvin Gan**
**21 May 2023**


Introduction

## Introduction

"encounter", which simply refers to a meeting

- Firstly, when we talk about an encounter with God, it can a physical encounter or a spiritual encounter.

## Introduction

- Secondly, an encounter with God should not be desired only when we have a need.
- Thirdly, encounters with God are not confined to specific place, time or conditions.

## LUKE 8:40-56 (NIV)

NOW WHEN JESUS RETURNED, A CROWD WELCOMED HIM, FOR THEY WERE ALL EXPECTING HIM. 41 THEN A MAN NAMED JAIRUS, A SYNAGOGUE LEADER, CAME AND FELL AT JESUS' FEET, PLEADING WITH HIM TO COME TO HIS HOUSE 42 BECAUSE HIS ONLY DAUGHTER, A GIRL OF ABOUT TWELVE, WAS DYING. AS JESUS WAS ON HIS WAY, THE CROWDS ALMOST CRUSHED HIM.

## LUKE 8:40-56 (NIV)

43 AND A WOMAN WAS THERE WHO HAD BEEN SUBJECT TO BLEEDING FOR TWELVE YEARS, BUT NO ONE COULD HEAL HER. 44 SHE CAME UP BEHIND HIM AND TOUCHED THE EDGE OF HIS CLOAK, AND IMMEDIATELY HER BLEEDING STOPPED. 45 "WHO TOUCHED ME?" JESUS ASKED. WHEN THEY ALL DENIED IT, PETER SAID, "MASTER, THE PEOPLE ARE CROWDING AND PRESSING AGAINST YOU."

## LUKE 8:40-56 (NIV)

46 BUT JESUS SAID, “SOMEONE TOUCHED ME; I KNOW THAT POWER HAS GONE OUT FROM ME.” 47 THEN THE WOMAN, SEEING THAT SHE COULD NOT GO UNNOTICED, CAME TREMBLING AND FELL AT HIS FEET. IN THE PRESENCE OF ALL THE PEOPLE, SHE TOLD WHY SHE HAD TOUCHED HIM AND HOW SHE HAD BEEN INSTANTLY HEALED.

## LUKE 8:40-56 (NIV)

48 THEN HE SAID TO HER, “DAUGHTER, YOUR FAITH HAS HEALED YOU. GO IN PEACE.” 49 WHILE JESUS WAS STILL SPEAKING, SOMEONE CAME FROM THE HOUSE OF JAIRUS, THE SYNAGOGUE LEADER. “YOUR DAUGHTER IS DEAD,” HE SAID. “DON’T BOTHER THE TEACHER ANYMORE.” 50 HEARING THIS, JESUS SAID TO JAIRUS, “DON’T BE AFRAID; JUST BELIEVE, AND SHE WILL BE HEALED.”

## LUKE 8:40-56 (NIV)

51 WHEN HE ARRIVED AT THE HOUSE OF JAIRUS, HE DID NOT LET ANYONE GO IN WITH HIM EXCEPT PETER, JOHN AND JAMES, AND THE CHILD'S FATHER AND MOTHER. 52 MEANWHILE, ALL THE PEOPLE WERE WAILING AND MOURNING FOR HER. "STOP WAILING," JESUS SAID. "SHE IS NOT DEAD BUT ASLEEP."

## LUKE 8:40-56 (NIV)

53 THEY LAUGHED AT HIM, KNOWING THAT SHE WAS DEAD. 54 BUT HE TOOK HER BY THE HAND AND SAID, “MY CHILD, GET UP!” 55 HER SPIRIT RETURNED, AND AT ONCE SHE STOOD UP. THEN JESUS TOLD THEM TO GIVE HER SOMETHING TO EAT. 56 HER PARENTS WERE ASTONISHED, BUT HE ORDERED THEM NOT TO TELL ANYONE WHAT HAD HAPPENED.

## Road Map

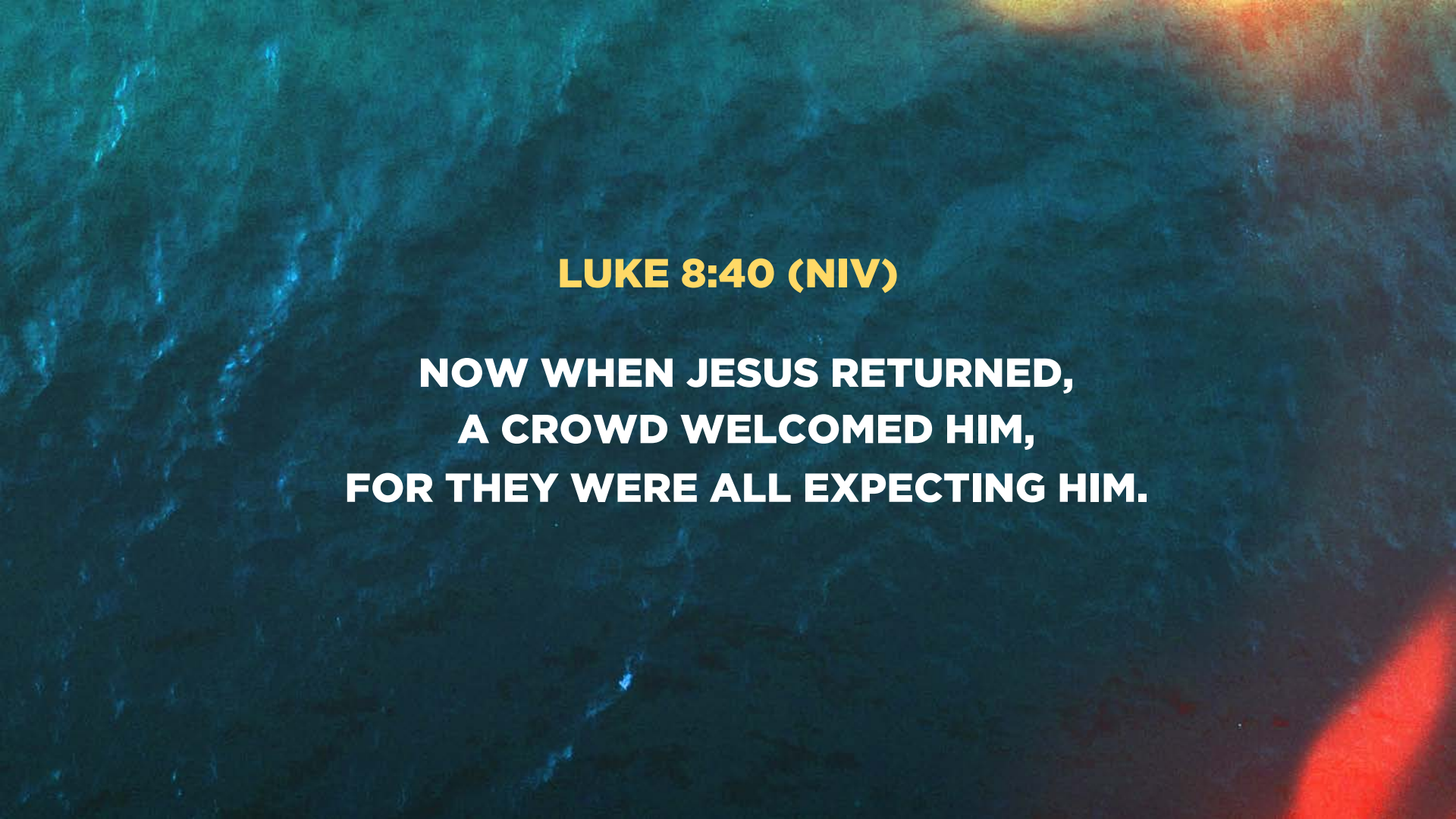
1) Recalling God's Willingness to Encounter
2) Having a Desperate Desire to Encounter
3) Believing that God Can Meet our Needs
4) Ushering the Presence of God


1) Recalling God's Willingness
to Encounter

## 1) Recalling God's Willingness to Encounter

- The first thing that we need to do, if we want to encounter God, is to be clear that God is willing to encounter us.

a) Jesus is Ready to Encounter Those Who Come to Him


LUKE 8:40 (NIV)
NOW WHEN JESUS RETURNED,
A CROWD WELCOMED HIM,
FOR THEY WERE ALL EXPECTING HIM.

## 1) Recalling God's Willingness to Encounter

a) Jesus is Ready to Encounter Those Who Come to Him

- **This is our God, one who is ready to encounter those who come to Him.**

## 1) Recalling God's Willingness to Encounter

**b) Jesus is Ready to go to Those in Need**

- **Jesus was ready to go to those in need and this same Jesus is still willing to come to us in our times of need.**

## 1) Recalling God's Willingness to Encounter

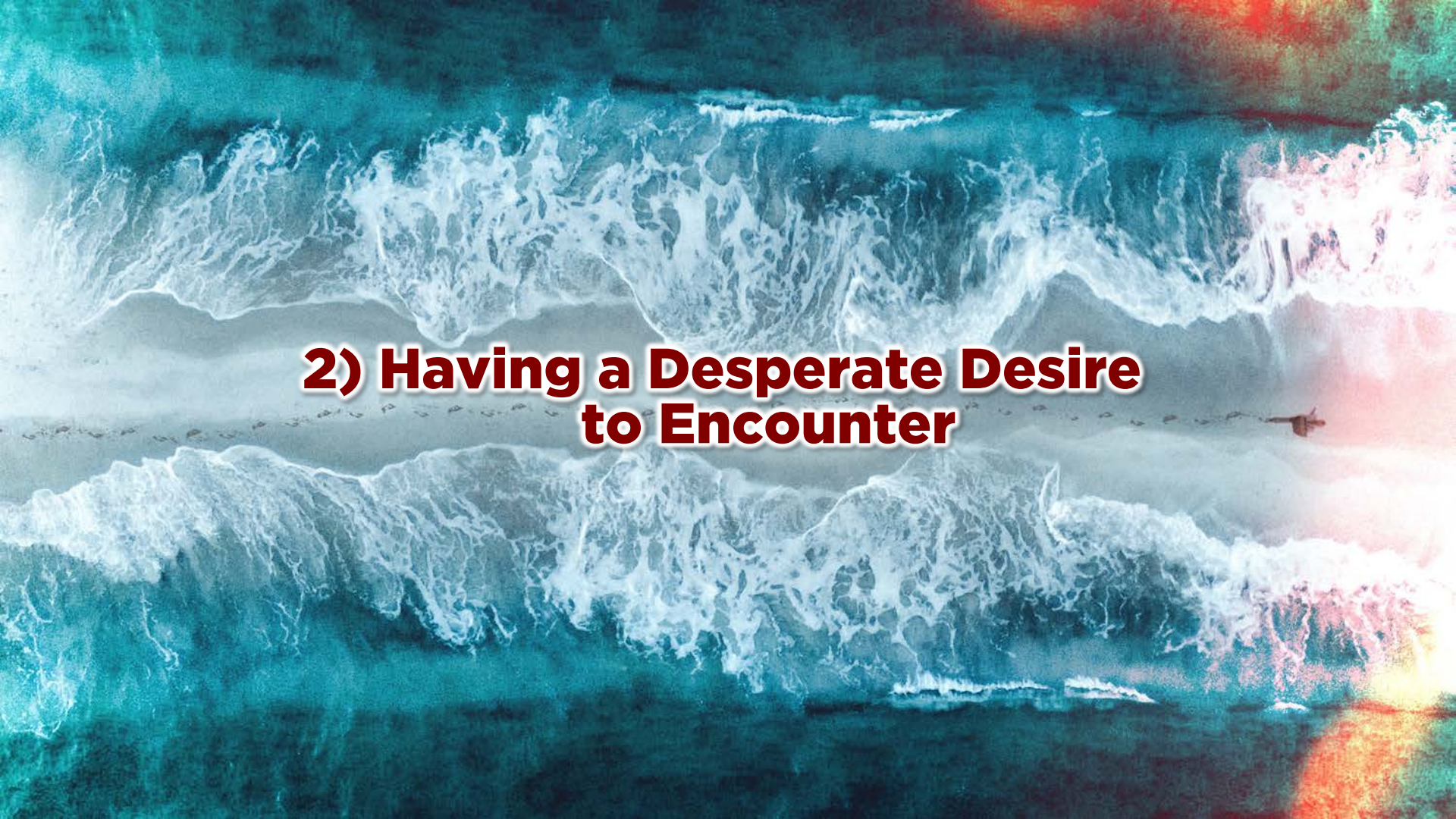
c) Jesus is Ready to go Out of His Way to Encounter us

- Jesus is ready to go out of His way to encounter us.

## 1) Recalling God's Willingness to Encounter

c) Jesus is Ready to go Out of His Way to Encounter us

- Hence, if we fully recall that our God is One who is willing to encounter those who come to Him, and even ready to encounter us when it is "out of the way", then we can be fully confident that God is willing to encounter us.


2) Having a Desperate Desire
to Encounter

## 2) Having a Desperate Desire to Encounter

- To position ourselves to encounter God, we need to check if we truly desire it.

a) Desire and seek

## PSALM 27:4 (NIV)

ONE THING I HAVE DESIRED OF THE LORD,
THAT WILL I SEEK: THAT I MAY DWELL IN THE HOUSE
OF THE LORD ALL THE DAYS OF MY LIFE,
TO BEHOLD THE BEAUTY OF THE LORD,
AND TO INQUIRE IN HIS TEMPLE.

## 2) Having a Desperate Desire to Encounter

# b) The Example of Jairus

## LUKE 8:41-42 (NIV)

41 THEN A MAN NAMED JAIRUS,
A SYNAGOGUE LEADER, CAME AND FELL
AT JESUS' FEET, PLEADING WITH HIM TO COME
TO HIS HOUSE 42 BECAUSE HIS ONLY DAUGHTER,
A GIRL OF ABOUT TWELVE, WAS DYING...

## 2) Having a Desperate Desire to Encounter

- Firstly, he was desperate for help.
- Secondly, he was willing to be open about his need.
- Thirdly, he was willing to lay down his pride to encounter Jesus.

## 2) Having a Desperate Desire to Encounter

A desperate desire to encounter God is to want it so much that one is willing to lay down our pride, be open of our need, and ask for the encounter.

## 2) Having a Desperate Desire to Encounter

A desperate desire to encounter God is a desire so great that we are willing to be open to God about our need, and not be conscious of how people around us will view us, just to get a touch from God.

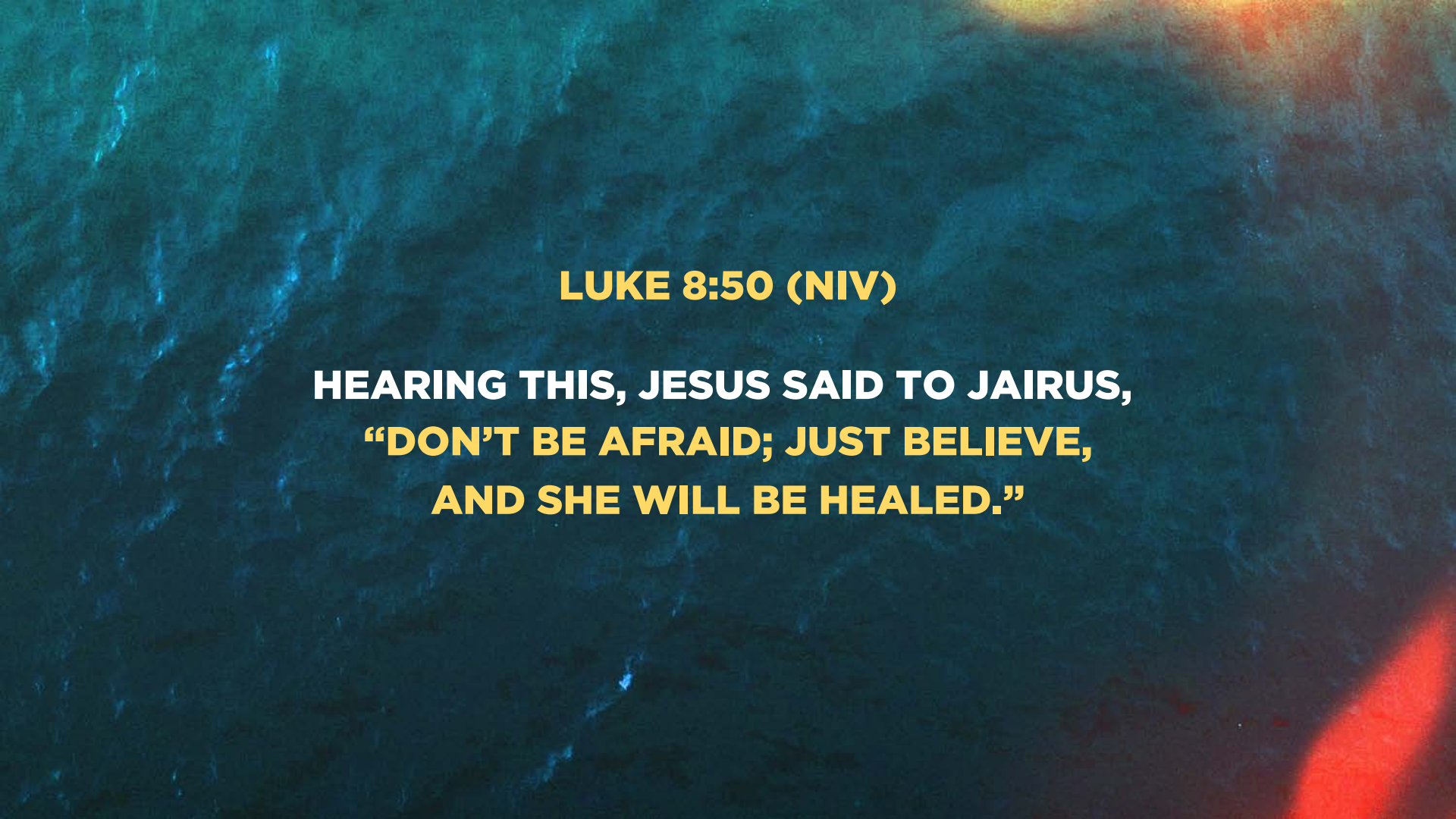
## 2) Having a Desperate Desire to Encounter

# c) The Example of the Woman with Blood Issue


3) Believing that God Can Meet
our Needs

## 3) Believing that God Can Meetour Needs

# a) The Faith of Jairus


LUKE 8:50 (NIV)
HEARING THIS, JESUS SAID TO JAIRUS,
“DON’T BE AFRAID; JUST BELIEVE,
AND SHE WILL BE HEALED.”

## 3) Believing that God Can Meetour Needs

a) The Faith of Jairus

- This is a demonstrated faith based on his true belief that God can act and He would act.

## 3) Believing that God Can Meetour Needs

**b) The Faith of the Woman with Blood Issue**

- **“her faith has healed her” *Luke 8:48***

## 3) Believing that God Can Meetour Needs

b) The Faith of the Woman with Blood Issue

- Sometimes we do not need mountain-moving and earth-shaking faith, we just need a faith to believe that God can touch us and we act on that faith.

## 3) Believing that God Can Meetour Needs

# c) Faith Despite Doubts around us


4) Ushering the Presence of God

## 4) Ushering the Presence of God

- What can we do to usher in the presence of God?

## 4) Ushering the Presence of God

- First, a desire to encounter Him.
  We have spoken about that earlier.
- Second, a climate of faith.
  We had touched on that too.
- Thirdly, honouring the presence of God in reverence.

## ACTS 16:25-26 (NIV)

ABOUT MIDNIGHT PAUL AND SILAS WERE PRAYING AND SINGING HYMNS TO GOD, AND THE OTHER PRISONERS WERE LISTENING TO THEM. 26 SUDDENLY THERE WAS SUCH A VIOLENT EARTHQUAKE THAT THE FOUNDATIONS OF THE PRISON WERE SHAKEN. AT ONCE ALL THE PRISON DOORS FLEW OPEN, AND EVERYONE'S CHAINS CAME LOOSE.

## 4) Ushering the Presence of God

- Firstly, God can encounter us anywhere.
- Secondly, God's presence is ushered in when He is revered.

## PSALM 22:3 (ESV)

"YOU ARE HOLY, ENTHRONED ON THE PRAISES OF ISRAEL"

## PSALM 22:3 (KJV)

"BUT THOU ART HOLY, O THOU THAT INHABITEST THE PRAISES OF ISRAEL".

## PSALM 22:3 (AMP)

YOU ARE HOLY, O YOU WHO ARE ENTHRONED
IN [THE HOLY PLACE WHERE]
THE PRAISES OF ISRAEL [ARE OFFERED].

# Conclusion