

ENCOUNTER

Reconnecting With God

5 September 2010

“O God, do not be so distant from me.” Psalm 71:12 (LB)

The Miracle of the Floating Ax Head

“One day the group of prophets that Elisha was in charge of complained to him, ‘The place where we live is too small! Give us permission to go to the Jordan and cut down some trees, so we can build a place to live,’ ‘All right,’ Elisha answered... When they arrived at the Jordan, they began to work. As one of them was cutting down a tree, suddenly his iron ax head fell in the water. ‘What shall I do, sir?’ he exclaimed to Elisha. ‘It was a borrowed ax!’ ‘Where did it fall?’ Elisha asked. The man showed him the place, and Elisha cut off a stick, threw it in the water, and made the ax head float! ‘Take it out,’ he ordered, and the man reached down and picked it up!” 2 Kings 6:1-7 (GN)

WHEN YOU’VE LOST YOUR CUTTING EDGE...

1. ADMIT _____

“As one of them was cutting down a tree, suddenly his iron ax head fell in the water. What shall I do, sir?” he exclaimed to Elisha. ‘It was a borrowed ax!’” 2 Kings 6:5 (GN)

”The love you had at first is gone. Remember how far you have fallen. Return to Me and change the way you think and act, and do what you did at first.” Rev. 2:4-5 (GW)

“I had almost stopped believing: I had almost lost my faith.” Ps 73:2 (NCV)

2. ACKNOWLEDGE _____

“Where did it fall in?” Elisha asked. The man showed him the exact place...”
2 Kings 6:6a (GN)

Causes:

- Distractions/Busyness
- Disobedience – not doing what you know God wants
- Relying on your own power/Pride
- Carelessness/Laziness

3. EXPECT _____

“... so Elisha cut a stick and threw it into the water at that spot. The ax head floated to the top of the water.” 2 Kings 6:6b (CEV)

“Humanly speaking, it is impossible. But with God everything is possible.”
Matt. 19:26 (NLT)

“The Lord says, ‘If you return to Me, I will restore you so you can continue to serve Me.’”
Jer. 15:19 (NLT)

4. REACH OUT _____

“Now get it,’ Elisha told him. And the prophet reached in and grabbed it.”
2 Kings 6:6b-7 (CEV)

“I long to be able to enter your courtyard and come near to the Living God.”
Psalm 84:2 (Mes)

“Now bring us back to loving You, O Lord.” Psalm 85:4

“Give me back the joy of Your salvation.” Ps. 51:12 (NCV)

“My friends, if you know people who have wandered off from God's truth, don't write them off. Go after them! Get them back.” James 5:19 (CEV)

Who do I need to help reconnect with God this week?
