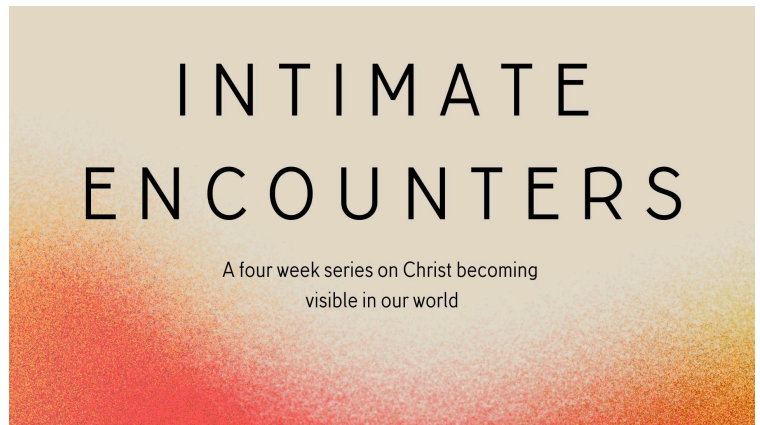


**Royal Redeemer  
Going Deeper Guide**

Based on the sermon for January 22, 2025  
Intimate Encounters: Preaching



**For personal reflection or for use as a devotion with a CGS Community or family**

● **Begin by reflecting on/sharing a high and/or a low from your week**

● **CONNECT**

- Have you ever had an experience where you felt misunderstood or rejected when you were sharing something important to you? How did you respond, and what did you learn from it?

● **GROW**

*He went to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and on the Sabbath day he went into the synagogue, as was his custom. He stood up to read, 17 and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. Unrolling it, he*

*found the place where it is written:*

*18 "The Spirit of the Lord is on me,*

*because he has anointed me*

*to proclaim good news to the poor.*

*He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners*

*and recovery of sight for the blind,*

*to set the oppressed free,*

*19 to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."*

*20 Then he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant and sat down. The eyes of everyone in the synagogue were fastened on him. 21 He began by saying to them, "Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing."*

*22 All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his lips. "Isn't this Joseph's son?" they asked.*

*23 Jesus said to them, "Surely you will quote this proverb to me: 'Physician, heal yourself!' And you will tell me, 'Do here in your hometown what we have heard that you did in Capernaum.'"*

*24 "Truly I tell you," he continued, "no prophet is accepted in his hometown. 25 I assure you that there were many widows in Israel in Elijah's time, when the sky was shut for three and a half years and there was a severe famine throughout the land. 26 Yet Elijah was not sent to any of them, but to a widow in Zarephath in the region of Sidon. 27 And there were many in Israel with leprosy in the time of Elisha the prophet, yet not one of them was cleansed—only Naaman the Syrian."*

*28 All the people in the synagogue were furious when they heard this. 29 They got up, drove him out of the town, and took him to the brow of the hill on which the town was built, in order to throw him off the cliff. 30 But he walked right through the crowd and went on his way.*

**Luke 4:16-30**

- o Share any words or phrases that speak into your life today.
- o What does this passage reveal about the expectations of the Jewish people regarding the Messiah?
- o Why does Jesus claim, "Today this Scripture is fulfilled in your hearing"?\*\*
  - o How might His audience have understood or misunderstood this bold statement?
- o What do verses 22-23 tell us about the initial reaction of those listening to Jesus?
  - o How do their questions and doubts reflect human tendencies when confronted with extraordinary claims?
- o Why do you think Jesus references Elijah and Elisha in verses 25-27? How do these examples tie into His mission and the broader Kingdom of God?
- o What might have caused the shift from amazement in verse 22 to anger and rejection in verse 28?
- o What is significant about the people trying to drive Jesus out of the synagogue and off the cliff? What does this rejection foreshadow about Jesus' ministry and the path He would walk?
- o In verse 30, Jesus "walked right through the crowd and went on His way." How does this display His authority or divine mission? What might this teach us about God's control over opposition to His plans?

- **SERVE** *others*

- In what ways can Jesus' message in this passage challenge our personal assumptions, biases, or expectations about God's Kingdom? How can we be more open to recognizing His work in unexpected ways or places?

- **End with Prayer, the Lord's Prayer, or a short Blessing**