



STUDY #4 Wilderness

When we look at the wilderness, we can learn something of the God who created it!

Here are 2 ways that the wilderness speaks of its creator!

Two Different Wilderness Experiences

The Bible tells of a voice in the wilderness and of wondering in the wilderness. Wilderness is both a place of spiritual connection without distraction and a place of spiritual struggle without direction. It is both a peaceful, beautiful place and a harsh, difficult place. One is a wilderness God calls us to and the other is a wilderness he helps us through. In one we seek to get lost for a time. In the other we seek to find our way out. Our walk with God includes both wilderness experiences.

1- The wilderness God calls us to...

The wilderness speaks of a creator who is always available away from the distractions of life!

God has a message for us in the wilderness. He speaks everywhere! The wilderness is quiet enough for us to listen.

- **John 1:23** *I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, "Make straight the way of the Lord," as the prophet Isaiah said.*
- **Mark 1:35** *And rising very early in the morning, while it was still dark, he departed and went out to a desolate place, and there he prayed.*
- **Matthew 3:1** *In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea.*
- **Exodus 3:18** *The Lord, the God of the Hebrews, has met with us; and now, please let us go a three days' journey into the wilderness, that we may sacrifice to the Lord our God.*
- **Revelation 12:6** *And the woman fled into the wilderness, where she has a place prepared by God, in which she is to be nourished for 1,260 days.*
- **1 Kings 19:4-12** *But he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness and came and sat down under a broom tree... And after the earthquake a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire. And after the fire the sound of a low whisper.*

2- The wilderness God helps us through...

The wilderness speaks of a creator who is always faithful as we wander through hard times!

The wilderness is a place of temptation and spiritual struggle. The wilderness is a wasteland, a difficult and desolate place. Yet, God makes a way through it. He is present in the struggle.

- **Matthew 4:1** Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil.
- **Deuteronomy 2:7** For the Lord your God has blessed you in all the work of your hands. He knows your going through this great wilderness. These forty years the Lord your God has been with you. You have lacked nothing.
- **Deuteronomy 29:5** I have led you forty years in the wilderness; your clothes have not worn out on you, and your sandal has not worn out on your foot.
- **Deuteronomy 32:10** He found him in a desert land, and in the howling waste of the wilderness; he encircled him, he cared for him, he kept him as the apple of his eye.

Sometimes, we get to see God redeem those wastelands and turn them into something beautiful. Other times, we can only see life beyond the wilderness through the lens of eternity.

- **Isaiah 35:1** The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad; the desert shall rejoice and blossom like the crocus; it shall blossom abundantly and rejoice with joy and singing.
- **Isaiah 43:19** Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.
- **Isaiah 51:3** For the Lord comforts Zion; he comforts all her waste places and makes her wilderness like Eden, her desert like the garden of the Lord; joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the voice of song.

Share!

Share about a time when you got lost in the wilderness. How does this relate to spiritual wandering?

Share about a time when you connected with God in the wilderness.

What is your biggest takeaway from this study?

Sing!

God Will Make a Way, Alone with God, Anywhere With Jesus, Way Maker, Quiet Place. In The Wilderness (Micheal Card)