

A SPIRITUAL WILDERNESS SURVIVAL GUIDE

For the week of February 28, 2021

Full message available at home.highpoint.church

Psalm 63

1. O God, you are my God; earnestly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you; my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.
2. So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary, beholding your power and glory.
3. Because your steadfast love is better than life, my lips will praise you.
4. So I will bless you as long as I live; in your name I will lift up my hands.
5. My soul will be satisfied as with fat and rich food, and my mouth will praise you with joyful lips,
6. when I remember you upon my bed, and meditate on you in the watches of the night;
7. for you have been my help, and in the shadow of your wings I will sing for joy.
8. My soul clings to you; your right hand upholds me.
9. But those who seek to destroy my life shall go down into the depths of the earth;
10. they shall be given over to the power of the sword; they shall be a portion for jackals.
11. But the king shall rejoice in God; all who swear by him shall exult, for the mouths of liars will be stopped.

MESSAGE POINTS:

1. Thirst for God's Presence in the Wilderness (vs 1-3)
2. Feed on God's Promises in the Wilderness (vs 4-5)
3. Reflect on God's Provision in the Wilderness (vs 6-8)
4. Rest in God's Protection in the Wilderness (vs 9-10)
5. Worship with God's People in the Wilderness (vs 11)

GOAL:

To understand God's purpose for us in the wilderness.

GET GOING:

- Do you enjoy being out in the actual wilderness? Why or why not?
- How would you describe the idea of spiritual wilderness?
- Look at verse 3. How has God's steadfast love impacted you?
- How has your worship been impacted by your spiritual times of wilderness?
- Look at verse 7. In what ways has God been your help and protector?
- Look at verse 8. What does it mean to cling to the Lord? What are some practical ways to grow in this?
- Look at verse 1. When have you felt this type of intense longing for God?
- Take a moment to describe any current spiritual wilderness that you find yourself in. If meeting in a group, please spend some time praying for one another.

KEEP GROWING:

- Turn to Matthew 4:1-11.
- What was the purpose of the wilderness experience for Jesus?
- What are some of the specific ways that Jesus was tempted? Why do you think that Satan tried these different forms of temptation?
- It is at your point of greatest weakness that the enemy often comes calling. How have you seen this in your own life?
- Why is scripture so important while in the wilderness?
- Why is prayer so important while in the wilderness?
- Why is fasting so important while in the wilderness?

GET GROUNDED:

- God uses both testing and temptation to mold and shape us. Where are you seeing this taking place in your life?
- What impacted you personally from either the message or study today?
- Take a minute to discuss how you can hold one another accountable and encourage each other throughout the week. Where do you need to turn away from evil?

MEMORY VERSE:

Psalm 63:1 "O God, you are my God; earnestly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you; my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water."