

SERMON GUIDES

Talking through the message during the week helps you and your group turn what God is saying to you into action steps. Begin with the key questions, add in any optional scriptures and questions if needed, then wrap up by deciding on your next steps.

God is With Us in the Wilderness | WEEK # 2

01.

INTRODUCTION

This week we continue with the sermon series, "God with Us" and explore how God is with us in the wilderness of our lives.

02.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Read **1 Kings 19:1-12**

1. Pastor Gordon talks about how God is with us even when we do not believe God is with us. He is with us in our mountain highs and our valley/wilderness lows. Looking back on your life, what are some examples of times where this has proved to be true?
2. There was a discussion how mountaintop experiences are often followed by wilderness experiences where we feel lost, disoriented, alone and sometimes desperate. How do you typically react when this occurs in your life? Do you try to extricate yourself from these circumstances on your own? If so, what steps can you take that will allow you to bring God into the process?
3. Pastor Gordon discusses how "your deepest need becomes a gift when it drives you to depend on God". What is a need in your life right now that your brothers/sisters in Christ can pray with you about?
4. Pastor Gordon talks about how he didn't realize how spiritually depleted he really was until he made his recent trip to Israel. Where do you feel like you are spiritually? If you are not sure, try asking someone close to you where they think you are spiritually. If you are spiritually depleted, what changes can you make that will reverse that slow burn that is pulling you away from God?
5. Read **1 Kings 19:11-12**. These verses describe how God usually doesn't reveal himself in powerful ways but through whispers to those who are quiet and listen for his voice. How often do you step back from the noise and activity of your busy life and listen quietly for God's guidance? If you struggle with this, ask a friend to help keep you accountable in your practice of listening for God.

03.

NEXT STEPS

1. Where do you need to depend on God?
2. Where do you encounter the presence of God?
3. Listen for the whispers of God.