

# FORTY DAYS

## WEEK 4 DEVOTIONAL

This is a 5-Day Devotional from Sunday's sermon "The Wilderness to The Way." Each day includes a Scripture reading, reflection, questions, and prayer to help guide personal renewal and deeper trust in Jesus.

### DAY 1: THE PURPOSE OF THE WILDERNESS

**Scripture:**

Numbers 14:33 — "Your children will be shepherds in the wilderness for forty years and bear the penalty for your acts of unfaithfulness until all your corpses lie scattered in the wilderness."

**Reflection:**

The wilderness can feel like punishment—but for Israel, it became a time of transformation. God used those 40 years to humble, shape, and prepare them. God had their attention, but more importantly their hearts. Often, our "wilderness" seasons are invitations to listen more deeply and to return to our first love.

**Meditation:**

Is there a place in your life that feels like a wilderness right now? Could it be that God is using it not to harm you, but to renew you?

**Prayer:**

Read out loud - *"Lord, when I feel discouraged or delayed, remind me that You are working in the wilderness. Refine my heart and draw me closer to You. Let this dry place become holy ground. Amen."*

### DAY 2: FASTING FOR DEPENDENCE

**Scripture:**

Deuteronomy 8:3 — "He humbled you by letting you go hungry; then he gave you manna to eat, ...so that you might learn that man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord.."

**Reflection:**

Fasting reminds us of our true source. Israel learned that God's Word sustains more than daily bread. When we fast, we declare that our deepest hunger is not for food, comfort, or control—but for God's presence.

**Meditation:**

What have you been depending on for peace or strength? What can you fast from today to make room for deeper intimacy with God?

**Prayer:**

Read out loud - *"Jesus, I choose to set aside earthly comforts to seek Your face. Help me hunger for what truly satisfies—Your Word and Your presence. Amen."*

**Scripture:**

Numbers 21:5-7 — “The people spoke against God and Moses... Then the Lord sent poisonous snakes among the people... The people then came to Moses and said, “We have sinned... Intercede with the Lord so that he will take the snakes away from us.”

**Reflection:**

Even in rebellion, Israel turned back to God and prayed—and God listened. Your rebellion or wilderness is not too far for God to hear you. Prayer is the bridge between your pain and His healing. It reminds you of His great mercy.

**Meditation:**

Have you been withholding or avoiding prayer because of sin, guilt or doubt? Today is the day to return to God. He is ready to receive you.

**Prayer:**

Read out loud - *“Father, I am praying honestly. I have failed, but I know Your grace is greater. Heal my heart as I draw near. Help me walk in truth and keep my eyes on you. Amen.”*

**Scripture:**

John 6:35 — “‘I am the bread of life,’ Jesus told them. ‘No one who comes to me will ever be hungry, and no one who believes in me will ever be thirsty again.’”

**Reflection:**

Jesus is not just the answer to Israel’s hunger—He is the answer to yours. No amount of worldly success, wealth or comfort can fill the God-shaped hunger inside you. Only Jesus satisfies. He offers not just a meal, but eternal life.

**Meditation:**

Where are you being fed? Are you feeding your soul with God’s Word and the Bread of Life, or with temporary things from this world?

**Prayer:**

Read out loud - *“Jesus, I receive You today as my true nourishment. Fill the empty places in me. Satisfy my soul with Your Word, love, and truth. Amen.”*

**Scripture:**

John 3:14 — “Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up...”

Hebrews 4:3 — “For we who have believed enter the rest...”

**Reflection:**

The Promised Land is more than a place—it’s a relationship. Through Jesus, we are invited to enter a rest that no “wilderness” can steal. Like Israel, we look up—not for a bronze serpent, but to the cross of our Savior. Then, through faith, we enter God’s ultimate provision: salvation through Jesus Christ.

**Meditation:**

Have you fully trusted Jesus Christ as your Savior? Do you believe that he is the Son of God? Today, you can believe and confess, and come home.

**Prayer:**

Read out loud - *“Lord Jesus, I believe You are the Messiah, the Son of God. That you are The One lifted up for me. I turn from my wandering and walk toward You. Lead me into the promise of new life. I trust You as my Savior. Amen.”*