

FORTY DAYS

WEEK 1 DEVOTIONAL

This is a 5-Day Devotional from Sunday's sermon "Renewal in the Wilderness."
Each day includes a Scripture reading, reflection, questions, and prayer.

DAY 1: LED BY THE SPIRIT

Scripture:

Matthew 4:1 – "Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil."

Reflection:

The wilderness was not an accident—it was an assignment. The Holy Spirit led Jesus there, showing us that even the dry seasons can be divinely appointed. Before Jesus' public power was displayed, private preparation was required.

Meditation:

What season are you in right now? Are you resisting or embracing God's leading?

Prayer:

Read this out loud – *"Lord, help me trust that even the wilderness is part of Your plan. Lead me with Your Spirit, and teach me to follow with faith. Amen."*

DAY 2: THE POWER OF FASTING

Scripture:

Matthew 4:2 – "After he had fasted forty days and forty nights, he was hungry."

Reflection:

Fasting is about dependence not performance. Jesus, though physically weak, was spiritually strong. He emptied Himself of earthly strength so He could be filled with heavenly strength. Fasting is not deprivation; it's preparation.

Meditation:

What is filling your soul that God is asking you to release for a time? How can fasting create space for Him? Do you need renewal in your life?

Prayer:

Read this out loud – *"God, show me what I need to lay down so I can be fully filled by You. Teach me to fast not for appearance but for intimacy with You. Amen."*

Scripture:

Matthew 4:3 – “If you are the Son of God...”

Reflection:

The enemy tempts us most when we are uncertain of who we are. Jesus didn't have to prove His identity—He stood secure in His Father's love. Our victory over temptation begins with resting in who we are in Christ.

Meditation:

Where do you feel the need to “prove” yourself? Are you living from approval or for approval? How can you fight the temptations of the enemy with the truth?

Prayer:

Read this out loud – *“Father, remind me of who I am in You. Let me rest in my identity as Your child, not in my performance or people's opinions. Amen.”*

Scripture:

Matthew 4:4 – “It is written...”

Reflection:

When Jesus was tempted in the wilderness, He responded with the Word of God. Scripture was not a decoration in His life—it was His defense and weapon. In the wilderness, what's stored in your heart matters more than what's around you.

Meditation:

Are you feeding your soul with God's Word? How well do you know the Scriptures you'll need in battle? What is a Scripture you can memorize?

Prayer:

Read this out loud – *“Lord, plant Your Word in my heart. Help me speak truth when I am tempted, and let Your voice be louder than the enemy's lies. Amen.”*

Scripture:

Luke 4:14 – “Then Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit...”

Reflection:

Jesus entered the wilderness in obedience and came out in power. This time of testing didn't break Him; it equipped Him. Renewal is what comes during the refining. We cannot rush the process.

Meditation:

Where do you need renewal? Are you open to the Spirit's power moving through your weakness? What do you need to confess to The Lord today?

Prayer:

Read this out loud – *“Holy Spirit, renew me in the places I've grown tired. Use the wilderness to prepare me for what's ahead. I surrender all to You. Amen.”*