



I. When God Told a Nation to Go Camping

A. _____ God's Faithfulness

Leviticus 23:42-43 "You shall dwell in booths for seven days. All native Israelites shall dwell in booths, that your generations may know that I made the people of Israel dwell in booths when I brought them out of the land of Egypt: I am the Lord your God."

1. Remember His Presence In the _____

2. Remember His Provision In the _____

Deuteronomy 16:13 "You shall keep the Feast of Booths seven days, when you have gathered in the produce from your threshing floor and your winepress."

Deuteronomy 8:12-14 "lest, when you have eaten and are full and have built good houses and live in them, and when your herds and flocks multiply and your silver and gold is multiplied and all that you have is multiplied, then your heart be lifted up, and you forget the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery"

B. Find _____ Through Gratitude

Leviticus 23:40 "And you shall take on the first day the fruit of splendid trees, branches of palm trees and boughs of leafy trees and willows of the brook, and you shall rejoice before the Lord your God seven days."

Deuteronomy 16:14-15 "You shall rejoice in your feast, you and your son and your daughter, your male servant and your female servant, the Levite, the sojourner, the fatherless, and the widow who are within your towns. For seven days you shall keep the feast to the Lord your God at the place that the Lord will choose, because the Lord your God will bless you in all your produce and in all the work of your hands, so that you will be altogether joyful."

Psalms 103:2 "Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits"

1. Record God's Answers to Prayer
2. Tell the Next Generation What God Has Done
3. Celebrate Spiritual Milestones
4. Remember How Christ Saved You!
5. Give Thanks For God's Ordinary Mercies

C. Depend on God Rather than the _____ Around You

Psalms 90:1 "Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations."

Psalms 127:1a "Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labor in vain"

• Recognize the Danger of False Security

James 4:14 "you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes."

Deuteronomy 33:27a "The eternal God is your dwelling place, and underneath are the everlasting arms."

D. Look Forward to the _____ (Zechariah 14:16-17; Genesis 12:3; Isaiah 56:7; Psalm 86:9)

Revelation 7:9-10 "After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, and crying out with a loud voice, 'Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!'"

Jeremiah 2:13 "for my people have committed two evils: they have forsaken me, the fountain of living waters, and hewed out cisterns for themselves, broken cisterns that can hold no water."

John 1:14 "And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth."

Colossians 2:9 "For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily"

John 7:37-38 "On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and cried out, 'If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, "Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water."'"

John 7:39a "Now this he said about the Spirit"

Hebrews 13:12 "So Jesus also suffered outside the gate in order to sanctify the people through his own blood."

E. Bringing the Feast Home

1. Remember What Has Brought You Through
2. Hold Your Possessions With _____
3. Make _____ a Deliberate Practice
4. Trust God Through Every Wilderness Season
5. Invite the Nations to Worship the King
6. Come to Jesus With Your _____

Revelation 21:3 "And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, 'Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God.'"



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BACKGROUND:

Much of Jesus' public ministry coincided with the feasts instituted by God. The Feast of Booths, also known as the Feast of Tabernacles or Sukkot, is no exception. It memorializes Israel's journey in the wilderness. The feast was celebrated for seven days with an additional sacred assembly on the eighth day. Israelites were commanded to live in temporary shelters (booths or Sukkot) made from branches. The purpose of the feast was to remember God's faithfulness, His presence, and to thank Him for His provisions. As with all of God's feasts - it ultimately pointed to Jesus.

DIGGING DEEPER:

It was on the last day of the Feast of Booths that Jesus stood and cried out, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, 'Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.'" (John 7:37-38) Jesus was speaking of the Holy Spirit that would regenerate their heart and dwell (tabernacle) in the believer.

1. How does His invitation to come and drink from the living water sustain you? How is this invitation the same as Jesus' conversation with the "Woman at the Well"? In what ways are you inviting others to drink from this water as well?

2. Read *1 Corinthians 6:19-20*. When you consider that you are the temple of the Holy Spirit, how does this shape your faith?

3. Read *Revelation 21:1-4*. How do the temporary booths ultimately point to the permanent reality of God's presence with His redeemed people? How should that truth affect the way you perceive your role in this world?

As followers of Christ, we are to remember God's faithfulness. The temporary booths symbolized Israel's dependence on God during the forty years in the wilderness. Although they lacked permanent homes, God provided food, water, protection, and guidance.

4. Jesus had no earthly home during his ministry on earth. He depended on the Father to provide for Him. What is your attitude regarding earthly security being temporary? How much do you truly depend and rely on God for your daily provisions?

5. How has God remained faithful in every season of your life?

6. The purpose of the feast was to encourage joy and gratitude toward God. How do you express joy and gratitude in your spiritual life?

God dwelling with His people is a prominent theme throughout scripture. He dwelt with Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden (Genesis 2:15). He instructed Moses to build a portable tabernacle in the wilderness (Exodus 25, 26). Solomon was assigned to build the Temple in Jerusalem (1 Kings 6, 7). The Temple happened to be dedicated on the Feast of Booths (1 Kings 8:2). Christ became flesh and dwelt among us (John 1:14). The future New Jerusalem will be where God dwells with His people forever (Revelation 21:3).

7. How would you describe to a non-believer that God dwells inside you?

8. Can you draw comparisons from your life when you've felt close to God and times when you felt far from Him?

9. God will never abandon you or forsake you (*Deuteronomy 31:6, 8*). What does it mean to you that nothing can separate you from the love of God in Christ Jesus (*Romans 8:37-38*)? What does that mean regarding your assurance of salvation?

TAKING IT HOME:

The Feast of Booths provides us with a profound symbol of God's presence and provision. God came to dwell among us and gave us His Spirit to dwell in us permanently.

10. We are reminded that our journey through life on earth is temporary and purposeful. Read *1 Peter 2:11* and *Hebrews 11:13*. What do these passages mean to you?

11. God appeared as a pillar of smoke during the day and a pillar of fire during the night to guide Moses and the people. How does the Holy Spirit within you guide your journey of faith?

12. How is Jesus your ultimate shelter and source of rest?