

# Our **Virtual** PowerGroup

## In the Wilderness Week 2 Study

### Icebreaker

There are many times we have found ourselves “in the wilderness” in life. What “wilderness” experience do you feel comfortable sharing with others and how did you navigate out of it?

### Passage 1 Exodus 13:17-18 (NIV)

*“When Pharaoh finally let the people go, God did not lead them along the main road that runs through Philistine territory, even though that was the shortest route to the Promised Land. God said, ‘If the people are faced with a battle, they might change their minds and return to Egypt.’ So God led them in a roundabout way through the wilderness toward the Red Sea. Thus the Israelites left Egypt like an army ready for battle.”*

**Reflection** What was the purpose of God leading them in this route?  
Why does God not allow shortcuts to his promises?

### Passage 2 1 Corinthians 10:1-6 (NIV)

*“I don’t want you to forget, dear brothers and sisters, about our ancestors in the wilderness long ago. All of them were guided by a cloud that moved ahead of them, and all of them walked through the sea on dry ground. In the cloud and in the sea, all of them were baptized as followers of Moses. All of them ate the same spiritual food, and all of them drank the same spiritual water. For they drank from the spiritual rock that traveled with them, and that rock was Christ. Yet God was not pleased with most of them, and their bodies were scattered in the wilderness. These things happened as a warning to us, so that we would not crave evil things as they did, or worship idols as some of them did.”*

**Reflection** Why was this important for the Corinthian church?  
Why is it important for us today?

### Stop and Reflect

*“These things happened to them as examples for us. They were written down to warn us who live at the end of the age.” 1 Corinthians 10:11*

### Passage 3 Deuteronomy 8:2 (NIV)

*"Remember how the Lord your God led you all the way in the wilderness these forty years, to humble and test you in order to know what was in your heart, whether or not you would keep his commands."*

**Reflection** What was the purpose of God leading them in the wilderness for 40 years?  
What was he trying to teach them?

### Passage 4 Deuteronomy 2:7 (NIV) | Nehemiah 9:19-21 (NIV)

*"The Lord your God has blessed you in all the work of your hands. He has watched over your journey through this vast wilderness. These forty years the Lord your God has been with you, and you have not lacked anything."*

*"But in your great mercy you did not abandon them to die in the wilderness. The pillar of cloud still led them forward by day, and the pillar of fire showed them the way through the night. You sent your good Spirit to instruct them, and you did not stop giving them manna from heaven or water for their thirst. For forty years you sustained them in the wilderness, and they lacked nothing. Their clothes did not wear out, and their feet did not swell!"*

**Reflection** In these scripture verses, what do you see God doing for his people although they are in the wilderness?

### Application

Corrie Ten Boom said this,  
"If God sends us on stony paths, he provides strong shoes."

If you are in the wilderness, just know God is with you and will provide what is needed during the time of pruning. He is protecting you, He is fine tuning you to the right posture and He is giving you provision. Where He leads, He will not leave. Please reach out for prayers and let someone walk alongside you.

### Journal