

WILDERNESS WORK

*Cynicism to
Love*

**When we've
been hurt, we
can learn to love
more deeply.**

SERIES SUMMARY

Wilderness Work is a journey through Numbers 11–14, where Israel's wilderness wanderings reveal not just external challenges, but internal battles of the heart. In the quiet, desolate places—what Scripture calls the *erēmos*—God exposes the attitudes that hold us back: complaining, criticism, doubt, and rebellion. Yet in the very same wilderness, He invites us to deeper transformation.

This series will explore how God wants to do sacred work within us, leading us from grumbling to gratitude, from cynicism to love, from fear to faith, and from rebellion to submission.

ICEBREAKER

Can you share a funny or memorable “siblings squabble” story?

SCRIPTURE

Read about putting on love for one another in Colossians 3:11–17.



LEARNING FROM HIS STORY

1. Look again at the mash up of people groups represented in this early church. How would the list read if it were written to our context?
2. Why do you think Paul may have chosen the metaphor of putting on clothes to describe what we are to do with love?
3. How should Christians differ from the world when our differences make it difficult to practice forgiving & bearing with one another?

EXAMINING OUR OWN STORY

4. Can you share about a time you were wounded or offended by a brother or sister in Christ? Were you able to resolve it?
5. Do you think people in our culture are too quick to leave a church when conflict arises? When is the right time to leave a church?
6. What makes it so easy to be a cynic?

WRITING A NEW STORY

7. What sorts of habits can help us put on love like we put on clothes?
8. What are the pros & cons of having a diverse church where different worldviews have to co-exist (versus a more uniform group)?
9. What are some easy, Christ-like ways to promote peace at Creekside?

TAKING TIME TO PRAY

Lord, grant that our group might be one, and that Creekside might be one, and that the church in Pryor Creek might be one... so the people around us would know the power of your gospel! Amen.

