

SERMON NOTES

God With Us - In The Wilderness

Founding Pastor Mike Schaefer - December 11, 2022

Meditation Verse

Look! The virgin will conceive a child! She will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel, which means 'God is with us.'

Matthew 1:23 (NLT)

Wilderness: Wandering & Wondering

Wilderness often follows mountaintop experience.

What's going on? What's the deal God?

YOUR DEEPEST NEED BECOMES A **GIFT**
WHEN IT DRIVES YOU TO **DEPEND** ON GOD.

3 Elijah was afraid and ran for his life. When he came to Beersheba in Judah, he left his servant there, 4 while he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness. He came to a broom bush, sat down under it and prayed that he might die. "I have had enough, Lord," he said. "Take my life; I am no better than my ancestors." 5 Then he lay down under the bush and fell asleep. - 1 Kings 19:3-5 NIV

Tired - Scared, dejected, down and out,
emotional, making bad decisions
Depleted

Physical rest — Spiritual replenishment
Difficult to be spiritual when your tired and depleted.

17 Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed earnestly that it would not rain; and it did not rain on the land for three years and six months. 18 And he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain, and the earth produced its fruit. - James 5:17-18 NKJV

11 The Lord said, "Go out and stand on the mountain in the presence of the Lord, for the Lord is about to pass by." Then a great and powerful wind tore the mountains apart and shattered the rocks before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind. After the wind there was an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake. 12 After the earthquake came a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire. And after the fire came a gentle whisper. - 1 Kings 19:11-12 NIV

GOD wasn't in the REMARKABLE,
GOD was in the ORDINARY.
GOD was in the WHISPER.

7 Where can I go from your Spirit?
Where can I flee from your presence?
8 If I go up to the heavens, you are there;
if I make my bed in the depths, you are there.
9 If I rise on the wings of the dawn,
if I settle on the far side of the sea,
10 even there your hand will guide me,
your right hand will hold me fast.
Psalm 139:7-10 NIV

I'd rather be in wilderness **with God**
than on the mountain top **without him.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

Friday Dec. 23 @ 6:30

*A wonderful time to invite people and
celebrate the birth of Jesus.*



ONLINE SERVICE ONLY

Sunday Dec. 25

*Join us online Christmas Day
at 10a, 12p, 2p, 4p, and 6 p.*

Join us next week as we continue our series "God With Us".