

3 Phases of Discipleship

Phase 2: Lessons from the Wilderness

Our Mission: To take as many people to Heaven as we can before we die. Period.

1. God begins to set you apart through worship.

This is what the LORD, the God of the Hebrews, says: Let my people go, so they can worship me. **Exodus 9:1 NLT**

2. The Wilderness is about winning your inner battles before fighting your outer battles.

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. **Exodus 13:17-18 NLT**

[at Marah] He said, "If you will listen carefully to the voice of the Lord...obeying his commands...then I will not make you suffer any of the diseases I sent on the Egyptians; for I am the Lord who heals you." **Exodus 15:26 NLT**

3. The wilderness is about developing daily dependence upon God.

Then the Lord said to Moses, "I have heard the Israelites' complaints. Now tell them, 'In the evening you will have meat to eat, and in the morning you will have all the bread you want. Then you will know that I am the Lord your God.'" Exodus 16:11b-12 NLT

"Now if you will obey me and keep my covenant, you will be my own special treasure from among all the peoples on earth; for all the earth belongs to me. And you will be my kingdom of priests, my holy nation.' This is the message you must give to the people of Israel." **Exodus 19:5-6 NLT**

Then he took the Book of the Covenant and read it aloud to the people. Again they all responded, "We will do everything the Lord has commanded. We will obey." **Exodus 24:7 NLT**

4. Let God break you of stubbornly building idols in your life.

The Lord told Moses, "Quick! Go down the mountain! Your people whom you brought from the land of Egypt have corrupted themselves. How quickly they have turned away from the way I commanded them to live! They have melted down gold and made a calf, and they have bowed down and sacrificed to it. They are saying, 'These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you out

of the land of Egypt.' " Then the Lord said, "I have seen how stubborn and rebellious these people are." Exodus 32:7-9 NLT

...be sure that your faith is in God alone. Do not waver, for a person with divided loyalty is as unsettled as a wave of the sea that is blown and tossed by the wind. Such people should not expect to receive anything from the Lord. Their loyalty is divided between God and the world, and they are unstable in everything they do. **James 1:6-8 NLT**

Preparation for the Promised Land... Conclusion:

For God to set you apart with blessings, you must first be set apart with loyalty towards Him alone.