

**Note: The long way is still God's way. The wilderness is \_\_\_\_\_; the promise is coming.**

5/31/25-6/1/25

**Action Step: Don't give up! Keep \_\_\_\_\_ in faith, knowing that God finishes what He starts.**

Are you in a wilderness season?

**REMEMBER: GOD IS NOT TRYING TO DESTROY YOU—HE'S \_\_\_\_\_ YOU.**

### MY NEXT STEP TODAY IS:

- ✓ I will memorize **Jeremiah 29:11 (NIV)**
- ✓ I will join the New Life church family
- ✓ I will accept Christ for the first time today
- ✓ I will sign up for the next baptism

**Stay connected to ALL THINGS NEW LIFE on social media:**



# GOD'S PLAN FOR YOUR LIFE

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### MEMORY VERSE:

*For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.*

**Jeremiah 29:11 (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." Exodus 13:17-18 (NLT)*

**Note: God sometimes leads us through delays, detours, and deserts—not to punish us, but to \_\_\_\_\_ us.**

The wilderness is a place of revelation, formation, and transformation.

Lessons from the Wilderness: When God Takes the Long Way

### 1. GOD USES THE WILDERNESS TO REVEAL WHAT'S IN OUR \_\_\_\_\_

*"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."*

**Deuteronomy 8:2 (NIV)**

**Note:** The wilderness doesn't make you; it \_\_\_\_\_ you. God uses delays to uncover what we truly believe and trust in.

**Action Step:** Ask God to show you what He's revealing about your heart. \_\_\_\_\_ your fears, frustrations, and doubts to Him.

### 2. THE WILDERNESS TEACHES US TO \_\_\_\_\_ ON GOD

*"He humbled you, causing you to hunger and then feeding you with manna, which neither you nor your ancestors had known, to teach you that man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord."* **Deuteronomy 8:3 (NIV)**

**Note:** God provided manna daily to train daily dependence. The wilderness reminds us God is our true \_\_\_\_\_.

**Action Step:** \_\_\_\_\_ trusting God day by day. Spend daily time in His word and prayer, depending on Him for spiritual and practical needs.

### 3. THE WILDERNESS \_\_\_\_\_ IDENTITY AND DEEPENS WORSHIP

*"You have seen what I did to the Egyptians. You know how I carried you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself. 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 19:4–6 (NLT)**

**Note:** God used the wilderness to give His people the law, worship practices, and their identity. You discover who you are in the \_\_\_\_\_—not in Egypt, and not yet in the promised land.

**Action Step:** Let God shape your character and identity during difficult seasons. Don't wait to worship until you get to the promised land—\_\_\_\_\_ in the wilderness! That's where spiritual strength is forged.

### 4. THE WILDERNESS \_\_\_\_\_ YOUR OBEDIENCE AND FAITH

*"That night all the members of the community raised their voices and wept aloud. All the Israelites grumbled against Moses and Aaron, and the whole assembly said to them, If only we had died in Egypt! Or in this wilderness! Why is the Lord bringing us to this land only to let us fall by the sword? Our wives and children will be taken as plunder. Wouldn't it be better for us to go back to Egypt? And they said to each other, We should choose a leader and go back to Egypt."*

**Numbers 14:1–4 (NIV)**

*"So we see that they were not able to enter, because of their unbelief."* **Hebrews 3:19 (NIV)**

**Note:** Fear and unbelief \_\_\_\_\_ their destiny. The wilderness exposes whether you will trust and obey when things are uncertain.

**Action Step:** \_\_\_\_\_ faith over fear. Take your next step of obedience even if the outcome isn't clear.

### 5. THE WILDERNESS IS NOT THE \_\_\_\_\_ OF THE STORY

*"Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up."* **Galatians 6:9 (NIV)**