

Are you wondering what it means to be a Christian?

Jesus said, "All that the Father gives me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will never drive away" (John 6:37). Jesus also said, "No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent me draws him; and I will raise him up on the last day" (John 6:44).

If you are feeling drawn to Christ, it is because God the Father is drawing you; it is not a desire we can or will create within ourselves. This also means that there is no sin too great to be forgiven, and no past too sinful to be overcome. You can trust Christ to receive you because it is God the Father who is drawing you to find true repentance and receive the gift of faith. You can know a new life in Jesus Christ.

We would love to talk and pray with you about this or any other spiritual needs you may have. Please see Pastor Mark or one of our elders after today's service to do so.

Are you interested in Baptism or Church Membership?

Please indicate your interest on the back of your Connection Card and Pastor Mark or one of the elders will be in touch with you this week to set up a time to meet with you.

WILDERNESS U Exodus 15:22-17:7

Main Thought: Israel's journey in the wilderness foreshadows our spiritual journey in Christ and from it we can learn some important truths about God's sanctifying work in our lives.

1. ISRAEL IN THE _____: GOD _____ THEIR FAITH.
 - 1) Test One: _____ water. (15:22-27)
 - 2) Test Two: _____ from heaven. (16:1-36)
 - 3) Test Three: _____ from the _____. (17:1-7)
 - 4) God tests _____ faith too. (James 1:2-4)
2. CHRIST IN THE _____.
 - 1) Christ _____ the test Israel failed. (Matt. 4:2-3)
 - 2) Christ is the _____ we _____ for eternal life. (John 6:25-29)
 - 3) Christ is the _____ that was _____ for our _____. (1 Cor. 10:1-5)
3. TWO _____ TO THE WILDERNESS JOURNEY
 - 1) _____ in God's _____ for your _____ needs.
 - 2) Trust in Christ for your salvation and _____.

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS FOR GROWTH GROUPS

1. Read Exodus 15:22-27.

1) Given their miraculous escape from Egypt, how do you account for the people complaining so soon?

2) What is the essence of their first test by God? Why didn't God lead them to sweet water to begin with?

3) What is God's cure for the situation?

4) What decree did God make with the people at this point?

2. Read Exodus 16:1-36

1) How adequate do you think Israel's resources were for a prolonged wilderness journey? (See Ex. 12:34-36)

2) Besides food and water, what other problems might they have faced?

3) What are the people grumbling about in this passage? What is the essence of their second test? What do their statements reveal about their spiritual lives at this point?

4) How did God respond to their grumbling? What did He provide? What were His specific instructions? Why do you think He provided in the way that He did? Did the people obey His commands?

5) What lessons do you think God was trying to teach His people through the manna, quail, and His specific instructions regarding them?

3. Read Exodus 17:1-7.

1) What is the essence of their third test?

2) How did God provide? Where did this take place? What other significant event took place at Horeb?

3) What was God trying to teach His people?

4. Does God test His people today? If so, why? (See James 1:2-4) How has God tested you lately? How did you respond to the test? What did you learn about God through the test?

5. How do the following verses connect the wilderness experience of Israel with Jesus' wilderness experience? (Matthew 4:2-3; John 6:25-29; 1 Cor. 10:1-5)

6. What does it all mean for us and our spiritual journey with Christ?