

AGAPE HOUSE OF WORSHIP
BIBLE STUDY – WEDNESDAY JUNE 11TH, 2025

Study Series: A Man After God's Own Heart
Wilderness

Part 6: Worshipping God in the

Scripture: Psalm 57, Psalm 142, Psalm 63

Teacher: Pastor Nneoma Ewurum

Introduction

Anyone can worship God during joyful times but what about when we go through wilderness seasons, or we do not get the answers we wanted to prayer? While many associate worship with moments of joy and peace, the Bible reveals that authentic worship often takes place amid hardship and wilderness experiences. The wilderness symbolizes trials, testing, and seasons of waiting. Yet, it is also a place of profound encounter with God. David spent 7-13 years in his wilderness season as a fugitive from Saul. He hid in caves and camped in wildernesses and wrote Psalms of worship like 57, 142, 63 during those times. This study explores what our heart posture should be in our wilderness seasons gleaning into examples from David, a man after God's own heart.

What is Spiritual Wilderness?

Truths about wilderness seasons

1. Everybody gets wilderness time

When we look at the lives of all of those whom God used in the Bible, every single one of them went through a time of preparation before they stepped into their calling and purpose. We call them wilderness seasons. It is a place of testing and encounter. It is basic training for believers. It is just core curriculum in the school of spirituality maturity. If Jesus had "wilderness-time," the wilderness won't be optional for you. Every believer gets wilderness time.

2. They reveal what is in our heart

The dry places can reveal what is in our hearts like nothing else can. The barren land of loss, grief, sickness, or despair does not cause the pain and heartache inside of us—it merely exposes it. In Deuteronomy 8:2, Moses tells Israel, "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?"

3. It is a place to be pruned, to grow, revive and thrive

It's a place of purpose where God provides as he purges and produces greater character in you. Your life will bear fruit in ways that are far beyond your own predications or understanding. The wilderness can be a sacred space where encounters with God deepen and refining faith through trial. Just like gold, you must be tried through fire to come out as pure gold.

"Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us" (Romans 5:3-5).

What should we not do in the wilderness?

What David knew that about wilderness seasons that we should know

1. God is always good even when my circumstances are not. Psalm 23:6
2. Seasons will always change. There is a time for everything under the sun
3. My circumstances should not and will not determine my worship. Psalm 34:1. Habakkuk 3:17-18.

Worshipping in wilderness seasons

1. It is a privilege you never get to do in eternity

The only time you get to worship God in the middle of pain and suffering is here on earth. There is no pain or suffering in heaven. It's your chance to give God a costly offering. So don't waste your trial, don't waste a chance to worship! God is glorified as we worship and trust Him in our trials. Psalm 50:15 (TPT).

2. Wilderness seasons are light and momentary compared to eternity.

For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. 2 Corinthians 4:17 (NIV)

For our present troubles are small and won't last very long. Yet they produce for us a glory that vastly outweighs them and will last forever! ¹⁸ So we don't look at the troubles we can see now; rather, we fix our gaze on things that cannot be seen. For the things we see now will soon be gone, but the things we cannot see will last forever. 2 Corinthians 4:17-18 (NLT). Read in TPT also.

3. It turns your attention away from the problem and focuses it on God. Hebrews 12:2.

Worship reminds us He is bigger than anything we are facing

4. It is a form of warfare and the exact opposite of what the devil wants. Acts 16:25-26. Psalm 149:6 (TPT).

5. Worship invites God into the situation. Psalm 22:3

Practical steps to seek refuge in God during trials

1. Hold on to what God says about you even if you do not see it. We walk by faith and not by sight. 2 Corinthians 5:7.
2. Encourage yourself with testimonies of those who went through similar situations.
3. Pray, praise, worship, read the word of God even if you don't feel like it
4. Focus on the current assignment – serve even more
5. Build memorial stones in your heart. Joshua 3, 4
6. Yield to the leading of the Holy Spirit
7. Determine in your heart what your response will be before the wilderness season even starts
8. Surround yourself with other believers who can encourage you, pray with you

DO NOT WASTE YOUR WILDERNESS SEASONS