



WILDERNESS SURVIVAL MANUAL



You Can Survive Temptation in the Wilderness



By Ray Reynolds

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“Draw near to God and He will draw near to you.” James 4:8

Gulf Coast Bible Camp (Lucedale, MS)

Daily Devotionals by Ray Reynolds

DAY ONE: Welcome To The Wilderness

I. THE WILDERNESS HELPS US GROW UP IN CHRIST – II Peter 1:1-4, James 1:2-8

- A. Do you think some people are afraid of growth?
- B. Why do some people refuse to grow and mature spiritually?
- C. What are the dangers of not maturing or experiencing growth?

II. THE WILDERNESS HELPS US IN OUR RELATIONSHIP TO THE LORD – II Peter 1:5-8

- A. What are the Christian graces, or virtues, and why are they required of us?
- B. Why does Peter tell us to abound in these eight attributes?
- C. What are the benefits of having these eight attributes?

III. THE WILDERNESS HELPS US IN OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH EACH OTHER – II Peter 1:9-11

- A. How can we know that each attribute is necessary and equal to the previous?
- B. Applying these attributes requires diligent effort. How can we do it?
- C. Why should we attempt this transformation?

IV. THE WILDERNESS HELPS US IN OUR RELATIONSHIP TO THE TRUTH – II Peter 1:10-11

- A. How is life and godliness impacted by what I know about the truth?
- B. How can knowing the truth keep me from experiencing spiritual amnesia?
- C. How can knowing the truth keep me from stumbling?

V. THE WILDERNESS HELPS US GAIN WISDOM & KNOWLEDGE – I Peter 4:12-13

- A. How can recognizing our need for wisdom and knowledge draw us closer to God?
- B. What are the greatest benefits of wisdom and knowledge?
- C. How can not having wisdom and knowledge keep me from entering the kingdom?

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DAY TWO: Surviving Temptation in the Wilderness

- I. *TEMPTATION CAN HINDER OUR CONDUCT – Galatians 5:19-21, Ephesians 5:3-7*
 - A. Why are we tempted to do things that are specifically condemned by God?
 - B. Why are we tempted to do things that are not specifically condemned by God?
 - C. How is Satan able to persuade us that these things are okay for a Christian?
- II. *TEMPTATION CAN HINDER OUR CONSCIENCE – Romans 14:23, I Timothy 3:9*
 - A. Why is it important to have a good conscience?
 - B. What will happen if we do things that violate our conscience?
 - C. How can we keep our conscience clear? Why is that important?
- III. *TEMPTATION CAN HINDER OUR CONTROL – Titus 2:1-8, Hebrews 5:14*
 - A. Why should we take notice of the actions of mature Christians?
 - B. Why did Paul instruct the older to teach the younger Christians?
 - C. Why is self-control such an asset to every Christian, especially our leaders?
- IV. *TEMPTATION CAN HINDER OUR CHARACTER – I Corinthians 9:19-23, 10:31-11:1*
 - A. Why should we worry about how others perceive us and our character?
 - B. Why is it so important to set a good example for other Christians?
 - C. How can temptation lead us to more sin? And how can that hinder our character?
- V. *TEMPTATION CAN HINDER OUR CHRISTIAN LIVING – Colossians 1:13, Romans 6:13*
 - A. How can learning more about Satan help us in dealing with temptation?
 - B. How can dealing with temptation draw us closer to God?
 - C. What are the benefits of temptation? How can they actually help us?

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DAY THREE: Dealing With Self-Worth in the Wilderness

- I. *SELF-ESTEEM CAN AFFECT OUR MATURITY – I Corinthians 3:1-3, Hebrews 2:1, 5:13*
 - A. How does our lack of effort hinder our walk in the wilderness?
 - B. How does not using our talents hinder our walk, and the walk of others?
 - C. How does ignoring our purpose hinder our walk?

- II. *THE WORLD CAN AFFECT OUR MATURITY – II Corinthians 4:8-9, Galatians 6:9*
 - A. How does discouragement hinder our walk in the wilderness?
 - B. Why do other people try to interfere with our Christian walk?
 - C. What can we do when people try to discourage or frustrate us in our walk?

- III. *SATAN CAN AFFECT OUR MATURITY – I Peter 2:1-3, 5:8-11, Matthew 4:1-11*
 - A. Why does Satan try to hinder us from reaching full maturity?
 - B. What will Satan do to keep us from reaching maturity? What are his tactics?
 - C. How can we resist Satan and keep on maturing in Christ?

- IV. *CHRISTIANS CAN AFFECT OUR MATURITY – I Corinthians 13:1-13, Ephesians 4:1-16*
 - A. How can becoming active in the work of the church help us to mature?
 - B. How can studying, teaching, serving, and working with others help us to mature?
 - E. What will happen if we discourage or frustrate each other?

- V. *STRONG, MATURE FAITH CAN BUILD SELF-WORTH – Ephesians 2:10, 4:17-19*
 - A. How will the world react when our faith is weak? What will Satan do?
 - B. How can a stronger faith draw us closer to God and help us in our walk?
 - C. What are the benefits of building a strong, mature Christian faith?

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DAY FOUR: Enduring the Wilderness, Just Like Jesus

- I. *THE PLANNED TEMPTATION OF JESUS IN THE WILDERNESS – **Matthew 4:1-11***
 - A. What was the first temptation of Jesus? Why was that a temptation? Explain.
 - B. What was the second temptation of Jesus? Why was that a temptation? Explain.
 - C. What was the third temptation of Jesus? Why was that a temptation? Explain.

- I. *THE PROGRESSIVE NATURE OF SIN – **Isaiah 59:2, James 1:14-15, Revelation 21:8***
 - A. How are we tempted to sin? What leads us to sin? Why?
 - B. What do we know about the development of sin?
 - C. What are the consequences of sin if we do not repent of it?

- II. *THE POWER TO OVERCOME SIN – **Matthew 6:13, Romans 12:1-2, I Corinthians 10:13***
 - A. Do we have the ability to change our desires? Explain.
 - B. How can we avoid temptation and limit our opportunities to sin?
 - C. How can we exercise self-control and perseverance?

- III. *THE PROVIDENCE THAT PROVIDES VICTORY – **John 3:16-17, Romans 8, James 4:17***
 - A. How does God play a role in our victory over sin?
 - B. How does Jesus Christ play a role in our victory over sin?
 - C. How does the Holy Spirit play a role in our victory over sin?

- IV. *THE PROPOSAL FOR FUTURE VICTORY – **Matthew 3:15-17, Galatians 6:1-2, James 5:7-20***
 - A. How did the spiritual decisions of Jesus help Him to be victorious over Satan?
 - B. How can sharing our struggles with others help us? How can it help them?
 - C. What will you do to get through the wilderness? Will you help others?