



What God's Up To In The Wilderness | Ryan Wekenman | 10.26.2025
Weekly Study

SHARE

As group members settle in, take a few minutes to check in with everyone and see how their lives are going. Share an exciting story from this week, your highs and lows, an answered prayer, or something you're struggling with. If someone is really struggling, rally the group around them and take a few moments to pray over them.

- **Share a high, a low, and something interesting from this week.**

GROW

Life can feel heavy, like you're pushing a boulder uphill only for it to roll back down. Maybe you've felt that way in your career, in relationships, or in your faith — like progress is temporary, and the challenges never end. This is what the Bible calls the wilderness — a place of testing, refining, and preparation.

From Moses to David to Jesus, God meets His people in these "in-between" seasons. The wilderness isn't a sign of God's absence; it's a place where He teaches, strengthens, and equips us for what lies ahead. Our challenge this week is to "kiss the fire" — to stop avoiding life's flames and start facing them with faith, trusting that God is working even when we can't see the outcome.

Read Exodus 3:1-12

- **Have you ever felt like you were stuck or going in circles in life? How did that season shape you?**
- **How does thinking of life's challenges as preparation and reconnaissance rather than meaningless wandering change your perspective on what God might be trying to do in your life?**
- **How do you normally respond to life's "wilderness seasons," and what might it look like to face them differently this week?**

MOVE

The wilderness is not empty — it's purposeful. Moses spent decades tending sheep before leading God's people; David faced lions and bears before facing giants; Jesus went into the wilderness, led by the Spirit, not the enemy. God often uses these seasons to teach us what to do, what not to do, and how to trust Him when the way forward is unclear.

The story of the burning bush reminds us that God can appear in the middle of life's flames without letting them destroy us. Sanctification is a lifelong process — we are both already loved and still being refined. God's presence is constant, even when it feels invisible. The key is paying attention, pausing, and noticing where He is moving.

Read Philippians 1:6, Hebrews 12:11

- **What does it mean for you to "run into the fire" instead of avoiding challenges? Can you think of a recent example where you faced difficulty rather than fleeing?**
- **How can you intentionally pause and notice God's presence this week, even in mundane or painful moments?**
- **What does the phrase "harvest of righteousness and peace" mean to you personally? How might your current struggles be producing this harvest in your life?**

- **What “unfinished work” in your life do you need to trust God to complete?**
- **How might your confidence in God’s ongoing work affect the way you encourage others in their struggles?**

P R A Y

Take time this week to pray intentionally, focusing on these areas:

1. **Presence in the Fire** – Ask God to make His presence known in your wilderness season and reveal what He is teaching you.
2. **Courage to Face Challenges** – Pray for strength to confront difficulties with faith rather than avoidance.
3. **Awareness of Holy Ground** – Ask God to help you see this moment, right now, as sacred and full of purpose.
4. **Guidance and Discernment** – Pray for clarity on what God wants you to learn or avoid in this season.
5. **Community and Support** – Lift up the people around you, asking God to help you, and your community support one another through life’s challenges.