

<sup>23</sup>“Look! The virgin will conceive a child! She will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel, which means ‘God is with us.’”

**Matthew 1:23 (NLT2)**

## In The Wilderness

- Your deepest need becomes a \_\_\_\_\_ when it drives you to \_\_\_\_\_ on God.

<sup>3</sup> Elijah was afraid and fled for his life. He went to Beersheba, a town in Judah, and he left his servant there. <sup>4</sup> Then he went on alone into the wilderness, traveling all day. He sat down under a solitary broom tree and prayed that he might die. “I have had enough, LORD,” he said. “Take my life, for I am no better than my ancestors who have already died.”

**1 Kings 19:3-4 (NLT2)**

<sup>5</sup> Then he lay down and slept under the broom tree. But as he was sleeping, an angel touched him and told him, “Get up and eat!” <sup>6</sup> He looked around and there beside his head was some bread baked on hot stones and a jar of water! So he ate and drank and lay down again.

**1 Kings 19:5-6 (NLT2)**

- Sometimes the most spiritual thing you can do is \_\_\_\_\_.

<sup>7</sup> Then the angel of the LORD came again and touched him and said, “Get up and eat some more, or the journey ahead will be too much for you.” <sup>8</sup> So he got up and ate and drank, and the food gave him enough strength to travel forty days and forty nights to Mount Sinai, the mountain of God. <sup>9</sup> There he came to a cave, where he spent the night. But the LORD said to him, “What are you doing here, Elijah?”

**1 Kings 19:7-9 (NLT2)**

<sup>9</sup> There he came to a cave, where he spent the night. But the LORD said to him, “What are you doing here, Elijah?” <sup>10</sup> Elijah replied, “I have zealously served the LORD God Almighty. But the people of Israel have broken their covenant with you, torn down your altars, and killed every one of your prophets. I am the only one left, and now they are trying to kill me, too.”

**1 Kings 19:9-10 (NLT2)**

<sup>11</sup> “Go out and stand before me on the mountain,” the LORD told him. And as Elijah stood there, the LORD passed by, and a mighty windstorm hit the mountain. It was such a terrible blast that the rocks were torn loose, but the LORD was not in the wind. After the wind there was an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake. <sup>12</sup> And after the earthquake there was a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire. And after the fire there was the sound of a gentle whisper.

**1 Kings 19:11-12 (NLT2)**

- The devil shouts \_\_\_\_\_ - God whispers \_\_\_\_\_
- Have a \_\_\_\_\_ where you can hear God’s whispers.

<sup>18</sup> The LORD is close to the brokenhearted; he rescues those whose spirits are crushed.

**Psalm 34:18 (NLT2)**

<sup>39</sup> A few days later Mary hurried to the hill country of Judea, to the town <sup>40</sup> where Zechariah lived.

**Luke 1:39-40a (NLT2)**

- God will lead you out of the wilderness to a place of \_\_\_\_\_.

She entered the house and greeted Elizabeth. <sup>41</sup> At the sound of Mary’s greeting, Elizabeth’s child leaped within her, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. <sup>42</sup> Elizabeth gave a glad cry and exclaimed to Mary, “God has blessed you above all women, and your child is blessed. <sup>43</sup> Why am I so honored, that the mother of my Lord should visit me? <sup>44</sup> When I heard your greeting, the baby in my womb jumped for joy. <sup>45</sup> You are blessed because you believed that the Lord would do what he said.” <sup>46</sup> Mary responded, “Oh, how my soul praises the Lord. <sup>47</sup> How my spirit rejoices in God my Savior! <sup>48</sup> For he took notice of his lowly servant girl, and from now on all generations will call me blessed. <sup>49</sup> For the Mighty One is holy, and he has done great things for me. <sup>50</sup> He shows mercy from generation to generation to all who fear him.

**Luke 1:40b-50 (NLT2)**

## My Next Step Is To...

- Meditate on and/or memorize Psalm 34:18
- Be open to using the wilderness moments of my life as a tool for God’s work in another person.
- Wait on God this week, as I find a quiet place for Him to speak to my heart.
- Ask Jesus into my life so that I can learn what it is to have God with me in every season of life.