



JUMP IN

THE PROMISED LAND WEEK 2 | AMANDA BEGGS

In the wilderness, where we turn reveals who we trust.

God leads us into the wilderness and sin keeps us there.

Deuteronomy 8:2

Remember how the Lord your God led you all the way in the wilderness these forty years, to humble you and test you in order to know what was in your heart—whether or not you would keep his commands.

Testing isn't about God finding something out. He already knows our hearts. **It's about us finding out where our trust really is.**

God allows the wilderness to uncover things in us that we would rather hide, so that we could live with freedom in the promised land.

1 Corinthians 10:1-6

For I do not want you to be unaware, brothers, that our fathers were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, and all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual Rock that followed them, and the Rock was Christ. Nevertheless, with most of them God was not pleased, for they were overthrown in the wilderness. Now these things took place as examples for us, that we might not desire evil as they did.

Israel's story is our study guide.

ACT I:

- Egypt as the ways and patterns of this world. We can find ourselves enslaved to sin.
- God sent Moses to deliver them, God sent Jesus to deliver us.

ACT II:

- Wilderness as place between deliverance and promised land. God led them there to grow and test them. God leads us into the wilderness for sanctification.
- He gave them manna, He gives us Jesus, the bread of life.
- God gave them pillars of cloud and fire to see His presence. He gave us the Holy Spirit to give us guidance and direction.

ACT III:

- God kept his covenant and brought them into His promise. God keeps His covenant with us through Jesus.
- He brought them into a land of abundance. He gives us abundant life now, and eternal life forever.

The Israelites had freedom, God's presence and provision, and they knew His promises were sure, **but their hearts still went astray.**

To desire evil is to keep turning to something other than God to meet our deepest needs.

Question: What am I craving and turning to?

1 Corinthians 10:11-12

Now these things happened to them as an example...Therefore let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall.

1 Corinthians 10:13

No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.

Romans 1:22-25

Claiming to be wise, they became fools, and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things. Therefore God gave them up in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, to the dishonoring of their bodies among themselves, because they exchanged the truth about God for a lie and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever! Amen.

At the heart of every evil desire is an exchange, taking the truth about God and replacing it with a lie.

God meets our every need → A person, circumstance, or thing can meet our needs.

1 IN THE WILDERNESS, WE EXCHANGE WHAT SATISFIES FOR WHAT PACIFIES.

Numbers 11:4-6

Now the rabble that was among them had a strong craving. And the people of Israel also wept again and said, "Oh that we had meat to eat! We remember the fish we ate in Egypt that cost nothing, the cucumbers, the melons, the leeks, the onions, and the garlic. But now our strength is dried up, and there is nothing at all but this manna to look at."

Numbers 11:18-20

Therefore the Lord will give you meat, and you shall eat. You shall not eat just one day, or two days, or five days, or ten days, or twenty days, but a whole

month, until it comes out at your nostrils and becomes loathsome to you, because you have rejected the Lord who is among you and have wept before him saying, “Why did we come out of Egypt?”

The world is designed to tether us to it.

Numbers 11:34

Therefore, the name of that place was called Kibroth-hattaavah because there they buried the people who had the craving.

Kibrith-hattaavah is literally translated: *the graves of craving*

Question: Are we consuming ourselves to death on the world’s provisions?

John 6:31-35

Jesus then said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but my Father gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is he who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.” They said to him, “Sir, give us this bread always.” Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst.

Our loudest desires aren’t our deepest desires.

We pray, “Give us this day our daily bread” because that bread is Jesus.

2 IN THE WILDERNESS WE EXCHANGE THE PROMISES OF GOD FOR THE PATTERNS OF THIS WORLD.

Numbers 13:30-32

But Caleb quieted the people before Moses and said, “Let us go up at once and occupy it, for we are well able to overcome it.” Then the men who had gone up with him said, “We are not able to go up against the people, for they are stronger than we are.” So they brought to the people of Israel a bad report of the land that they had spied out, saying, “The land, through which we have gone to spy it out, is a land that devours its inhabitants, and all the people that we saw in it are of great height.”

The spies exchanged the truth that God had already promised the land with the lie that they had to conquer it themselves.

Question: What am I seeing through the lens of logic rather than faith?

PATTERNS OF THIS WORLD

“Power comes by crushing others”

“If someone hurts you, pay them back.”

VS.

PROMISES OF GOD

“Whoever wants to be great must be a servant.”

“Forgive again and again.”

PATTERNS OF THIS WORLD

“Happiness is found in building your kingdom.”

“Find identity in what you do or who you are.”

VS.

PROMISES OF GOD

“Seek first the kingdom of God.”

“Find your identity in me.”

Numbers 14:3-4

“Why is the Lord bringing us into this land, to fall by the sword? Our wives and our little ones will become a prey. Would it not be better for us to go back to Egypt?” And they said to one another, “Let us choose a leader and go back to Egypt.”

When the giants seem insurmountable, we go back to past sin patterns, wounds, and relationships.

God’s promise says we don’t have to go back.

2 Corinthians 5:17

If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

I am going to choose the truth that:

- In Christ I am a child of God: chosen, loved, redeemed.
- In Christ I can have peace despite my circumstances.
- In Christ I am fully and forever forgiven.
- In Christ I have everything I need.
- In Christ I have a Good Shepherd who will never leave me.
- In Christ I have abundant life.

The giants were big, but the spies forgot **God is bigger.**

In the wilderness we either turn toward God or away. There is no in between.

Numbers 14:24

But my servant Caleb, because he has a different spirit and has followed me fully, I will bring into the land into which he went, and his descendants shall possess it.