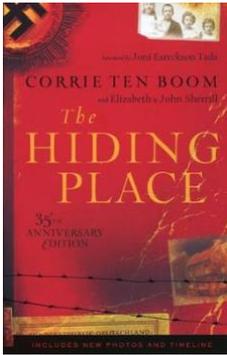


What Is Your Wilderness?

BOOK OF THE MONTH



The Hiding Place

By: Corrie Ten Boom

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SCRIPTURES

Renewed Life

March 1-7

Deuteronomy 11:14

March 8-14

Deuteronomy 32:2

March 15-21

Hosea 6:3

March 22-28

James 5:7

March 29-31

Zechariah 10:1

See, I am doing a new thing!

Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?

I am making a way in the wilderness

and streams in the wasteland.

Isaiah 43:19

A wilderness is described as a wild and uncultivated region, as a forest or desert, uninhabited or inhabited only by wild animals, or a tract of wasteland. As it relates to the lives of both believers and non-believers – a wilderness can be considered as tasks, experiences, or seasons in life that involve uncertainties and risks which challenge and test our weaknesses and strengths in the development of our faith in God. *Jesus experienced 40 days of wilderness testing. The devil tempted Him with hunger, riches, and authority, but Jesus rebuked him each time with the Word of the God.* The things the devil tried to get Jesus to sell Himself short for were nothing compared to what He already had in the assurance of His Father's love for Him. The challenge was difficult both physically and spiritually, but the character of Jesus was rooted in total faith and dependence on God. While Jesus could have easily chosen the 'things of comfort' the devil Him offered during the time He was most vulnerable, He knew they would not sustain Him through the more difficult times ahead. He would need strength He sought only from God.

What is your wilderness? For you, it may be the need for some life changes, clarity and focus, inner peace, self-confidence, employment, hope, or friendship. Or, it could be a matter of overcoming bad habits, bad company, or addictions. Even still, your wilderness may be the effects or consequences you are experiencing due to self-inflicted or projected activities you are continuously engaging in - *either to fill a void or ignore a void in your life* - which can only be filled by the One Who overcame the wilderness, died on a cross, and rose again – *because of His love for...you.*

Name your wilderness. Declare today that you will depend on Jesus to bring you out of out of your wilderness with greater faith than you went in because of your trust and dependence on Him! Let go of the retail therapy, television marathons, manipulation and lying, faking it until you make it, and giving up because things get hard at times! They are all just temporary fixes that will keep you stuck in your wilderness. Make up your mind to get up and get out of your comfort zone! Face whatever is ugly and uncomfortable in your life, and gain wisdom through the process. *There is one sure Way you can get through and out of the wildernesses of your lifetime...His Name is Jesus.*

Pastor Daniel Simmons