

22 40 Years in the Wilderness

Chapter Deuteronomy 8

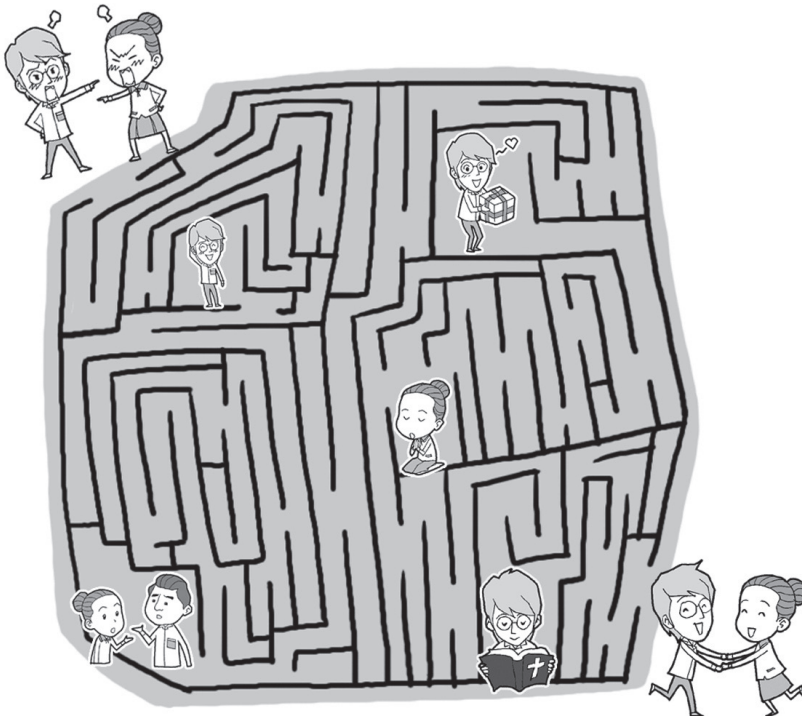
Today's Lesson:



1. To understand God's plan and purpose for allowing Israel to live in the wilderness for 40 years.
2. To understand that even in the wilderness of suffering, God is always protecting and guiding me.

Open Your Heart

Shall we solve this maze?



People who can see the entire maze from above will know the way to the exit better than those who wander directly into the maze to find their way. Those who can see the entire maze can easily lead those inside the maze to their destination.



Understanding Today's Lesson

After God led the Israelites out of Egypt, He brought them into the wilderness and gave them ordinances and laws. This meant that the nation of Israel had to do everything according to the Word and covenant of God. Afterwards, the Israelites came to Kadesh-Barnea and sent 12 spies to Canaan to spy out the land. Out of the 12 spies who returned, 10 spies, except for Joshua and Caleb, gave a bad report about the land of Canaan in front of the people. Because of this, the people again complained against God and reminisced of their days in Egypt. As a result, the Israelites lived in the wilderness for 40 years, counting each of the 40 days they spent spying Canaan as one year.

Even though the life in the wilderness was due to the disobedience of the Israelites, God still protected them and trained them through this period. God protected Israel by day with a cloudy pillar, and by night with a pillar of fire. God fed Israel with manna, quail, and water from the rock. He also made sure that the clothes and shoes of the Israelites did not wear out during the rough 40 years of life in the wilderness. However, Israel tested and distrusted God ten times during their time in the wilderness. As a result, they were killed by scorpions, fiery serpents, and the Amalekites during their time in the wilderness. Eventually, all of those over the age of 20 who came out during the Exodus died in the wilderness except for Joshua and Caleb. And after going through trials and training, the new generation born in the wilderness was finally able to enter Canaan, the promised land. The "Exodus" and "wilderness life" are good models for our "salvation" and "faith life".

Notes:



Memorizing Bible Verses

And you shall remember that the Lord your God led you all the way these forty years in the wilderness, to humble you and test you, to know what was in your heart, whether you would keep His commandments or not.

(Deuteronomy 8:2)



Meditate

On These Verses

1. After you have meditated on the following verses, give a title of the verse or write a short summary of the verse. Also, write down things you have felt about the verse, or other verses that it has reminded you of.

(Deuteronomy 6:4–9)

(Nehemiah 9:9–22)

(1 Corinthians 10:5–12)



Changing

Directions

After reading Psalms 78:1–42 a few times, answer the questions below.

1. What was the reason that the writer wrote this psalm? Read and summarize verses 5–8.
2. Find and write down three examples of the grace of God towards the Israelites.
3. Find and write down three of Israel's trespasses despite such grace.
4. Read verses 41–42 and think about why Israel continued to sin. And write down what we need to do to avoid trespasses like them.
5. God punished Israel for their trespasses. Read Deuteronomy 8:14–16 and find and write down the ultimate purpose of God making the Israelites live in the wilderness and imposing discipline.



Applying

The Word to My Life

For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.
(James 2:26)

1. Please write down how you will apply what you learned today throughout this week.

1.)

2.)

3.)

2. Look back and reflect on how successful you were at applying last week's lesson.



Praying

To Live According to the Word

Let us ask God for help so that we can put our hope not on this earth, but rather on Him. Let us pray that we may not forget his grace, and that we may become those who keep His commandments. Also, let us pray that we may be loyal to God, knowing that God helps us in every situation.



Our Story

Believable Evidence



We can believe when we see evidence. The same is true regarding the Bible. We don't need to know about everything in the Bible to believe in it, but we can believe it when we have a few solid pieces of evidence. We don't believe because we force ourselves to believe, but, rather, we believe because we naturally come to believe.

Truly, these times of ignorance God overlooked, but now commands all men everywhere to repent, because He has appointed a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness by the Man whom He has ordained. He has given assurance of this to all by raising Him from the dead. (Acts 17:30-31)

Carrots, Eggs, and Tea

One evening, when the summer rainy season was in full swing, a daughter was complaining to her father about her difficult life. Her body and heart were exhausted by problems that could not be solved. Her father, being a chef, took his daughter to the kitchen, poured water into three pots and put them over a hot stove. Then, he put carrots in the first pot, eggs in the second, and tea bags and sugar in the third. 20 minutes later, the father turned off the stove and asked his daughter:

"My daughter! What do you see?"

"I see carrots, eggs, and tea."

The father asked the daughter to get closer to the pots and asked again:

"What happened to the carrots, eggs, and tea and sugar?"

The daughter took a detailed look and responded:

"Hmm~the carrots have become soft; the eggs have become solid hard-boiled eggs! And the tea is fragrant."

The father answered:

"Carrots, eggs, and the tea each faced the hardship of hot water, but each reaction was different. The carrots were strong and hard, but became soft and weak in hot water. The eggs were fragile, but they became hardened. Tea and sugar changed the water itself. What about you, my daughter? When difficulties come to you, will you become weak like the carrot, hard like the egg, or will you overcome adversity like the tea and sugar and transform that hardship into fragrant happiness?"

It was then that her expression brightened.





Wednesday

Sermon

Date. | |

Title:

Speaker:

Main Passage:



Sunday

Sermon

Date.

|

|

Title:

Speaker:

Main Passage: