

Sunday Sermon — Discussion Guide: Gyle Smith, 4-26-20
The Wilderness: Conversation with Joe Spann and Tim Cameron

1/3 — Looking Back

Start with prayer and/or worship (reading a Psalm, singing a song, giving thanks, etc.). Re-cast the vision (see example video [here](#)), review obedience goals from the previous week, and ask how everybody is doing. Check-in question options:

- Up/In/Out — How are you doing in your three primary relational spheres? (Up: *God*. In: *fellow believers and family*. Out: *unbelievers*)
- Highs/Lows: What was your “high” and your “low” from the past week?

2/3 — Looking to Jesus in the Present

Explore the Scripture passage together: Deuteronomy 8

- As the facilitator, first summarize the passage in your own words.
- Invite someone else to read the passage out loud.
- Invite a third person to “re-tell” the passage in their own words.
- Discuss the question: “*what do we learn from this passage about who God is and what He does?*”
- Discuss the question: “*what do we learn from this passage about who we are and what we do?*”
- Alternative question: “*what does God seek to accomplish in the lives of his people by leading them through the wilderness?*”

3/3 — Looking Forward

Ask Jesus how he wants you to respond (corporately and individually) to what you have heard and learned. You can also practice the following exercise together:

- Sit quietly in Jesus’ presence together and ask Him to show you what attachments He is seeking to free you from in this season. These could be *external* attachments (desire for food, drink, money, sex, entertainment, comfort, security, health, etc.) or *internal* attachments (desire for happiness, peace, contentment, attention, recognition, approval, etc.). Spend some time in prayer together, acknowledging and repenting of the attachments that rise to the surface of your consciousness. Offer them up to Jesus and ask Him how He wants to fill the voids that will be created by letting go of these attachments.