



Growth Group Questions
December 8, 2024
“A Home of Promise”

Scripture:

Numbers 13:30-33

³⁰ Then Caleb silenced the people before Moses and said, “We should go up and take possession of the land, for we can certainly do it.” ³¹ But the men who had gone up with him said, “We can’t attack those people; they are stronger than we are.” ³² And they spread among the Israelites a bad report about the land they had explored. They said, “The land we explored devours those living in it. All the people we saw there are of great size. ³³ We saw the Nephilim there (the descendants of Anak come from the Nephilim). We seemed like grasshoppers in our own eyes, and we looked the same to them.”

Deuteronomy 8:1-11

¹ Be careful to follow every command I am giving you today, so that you may live and increase and may enter and possess the land the Lord promised on oath to your ancestors. ² Remember how the Lord your God led you all the way in the wilderness these forty years, to humble and test you in order to know what was in your heart, whether or not you would keep his commands. ³ He humbled you, causing you to hunger and then feeding you with manna, which neither you nor your ancestors had known, to teach you that man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord. ⁴ Your clothes did not wear out and your feet did not swell during these forty years. ⁵ Know then in your heart that as a man disciplines his son, so the Lord your God disciplines you.

⁶ Observe the commands of the Lord your God, walking in obedience to him and revering him. ⁷ For the Lord your God is bringing you into a good land—a land with brooks, streams, and deep springs gushing out into the valleys and hills; ⁸ a land with wheat and barley, vines and fig trees, pomegranates, olive oil and honey; ⁹ a land where bread will not be scarce and you will lack nothing; a land where the rocks are iron and you can dig copper out of the hills.

¹⁰ When you have eaten and are satisfied, praise the Lord your God for the good land he has given you. ¹¹ Be careful that you do not forget the Lord your God, failing to observe his commands, his laws and his decrees that I am giving you this day.

Exodus 15:22-27

²² Then Moses led Israel from the Red Sea and they went into the Desert of Shur. For three days they traveled in the desert without finding water. ²³ When they came to Marah, they could not drink its water because it was bitter. (That is why the place is called Marah.^[a]) ²⁴ So the people grumbled against Moses, saying, “What are we to drink?” ²⁵ Then Moses cried out to the Lord, and the Lord showed him a piece of wood. He threw it into the water, and the water became fit to drink. There the Lord issued a ruling and instruction for them and put them to the test. ²⁶ He said, “If you listen carefully to the Lord your God and do what is right in his eyes, if you pay attention to his commands and keep all his decrees, I will not bring on you any of the diseases I brought on the Egyptians, for I am the Lord, who heals you.”

²⁷ Then they came to Elim, where there were twelve springs and seventy palm trees, and they camped there near the water.

John 6:30-35

³⁰ So they asked him, “What sign then will you give that we may see it and believe you? What will you do?” ³¹ Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written: ‘He gave them bread from heaven to eat.’^[a]” ³² Jesus said to them, “Very truly I tell you, it is not Moses who has given you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. ³³ For the bread of God is the bread that comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.” ³⁴ “Sir,” they said, “always give us this bread.” ³⁵ Then Jesus declared, “I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.

Deuteronomy 33:27a

²⁷ The eternal God is your refuge,
and underneath are the everlasting arms.

Question:

1. The title of this week’s sermon is “A Home of Promise.” What does it mean to you when you say “I promise. . .”?
2. There are many promises that God makes in Scripture – commitments that He has made to us. What Bible verses can you cite that tell of His promises?
3. As they made their way through the wilderness, the Israelites seemed to forget how God had provided for them in the past. Why is it so important that we remember how God faithfully keeps His promises when we find ourselves in “wilderness” moments?
4. Are there particular Bible verses that you have come to rely upon when you find yourself in “wilderness” moments?
5. In Deuteronomy 8:3, Moses says: “. . .man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord.” What does that mean to you?

6. In John 6:35, Jesus said: “. . . I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.” What does that mean to you? Can you restate this verse in your own words?
7. Pastor Paul said that God gives us glimpses of what our true home is going to look like. How does God do this? What glimpses of our true home has God given to you?
8. How does focusing on God’s promises help us to build our trust in Him?

Pastor Paul’s Sermon Questions:

1. Who do I know who may be experiencing a “wilderness” moment and what can I do to help?
2. Where do I need to trust God more?