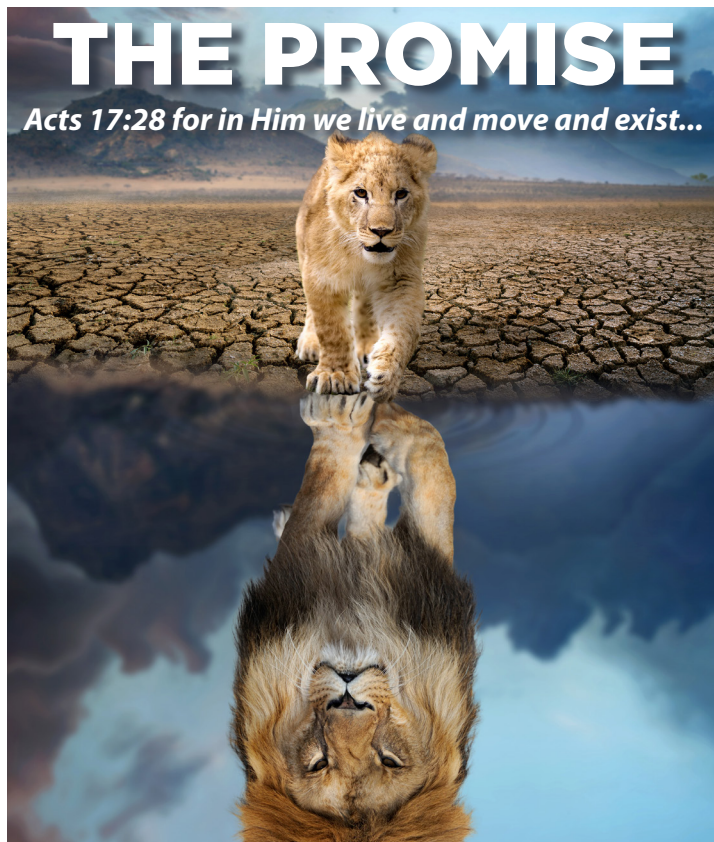




# WILDERNESS PEOPLE

FOR IN HIM WE LIVE AND MOVE AND EXIST



***John 18:36 My kingdom is NOT of THIS world, My kingdom is NOT of THIS realm***

## **WHO ARE THESE WILDERNESS PEOPLE?**

Wilderness people are people who live their lives from being 'in Him'. This 'in Him' position is living our lives from Spirit and Truth, just as Jesus taught in John 4:24.

***John 4:24 God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth."***

Followers of Jesus live, move and exist on earth from this heavenly dimension.

It's important to note that being and becoming a wilderness people is a byproduct of being in Him and being perfected in Him. It's not something we chase after but it is an outcome of this 'in Him' life. It's not about adopting another thing and adding something new to your existing life.

Wilderness people abide in Christ and they have no fixed abode. They are looking for a country of their own, which is a heavenly one, as Hebrews 11:14-16 testifies to.

**Hebrews 11:14-16** *For those who say such things make it clear that they are seeking a country of their own. And indeed if they had been thinking of that country from which they went out, they would have had opportunity to return. But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore, God is not ashamed to be called their God; for He has prepared a city for them.*

Their lives are defined by being in Christ and not in being part of something.

**John 3:6-8** *That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be amazed that I said to you, 'You must be born again.' The wind blows where it wishes and you hear the sound of it, but do not know where it comes from and where it is going; so is everyone who is born of the Spirit."*

This 'in Him' life has no beginning of days or end of life. We are to be eternal beings who live in an earthly suit. We know we are not of natural bloodline and of

the order of another kind, an eternal kind, called an eternal life, the Christ.

**Hebrews 7:3** *Without father, without mother, without genealogy, having neither beginning of days nor end of life, but made like the Son of God, he remains a priest perpetually.*

**1 John 4:17** *By this, love is perfected with us, so that we may have confidence in the day of judgment; because as He is, so also are we in this world.*

The institutional form of Christianity has its roots embedded in self, principles, performing miracles, physical relationships, rules, forms, methods, programmes, events, attending services, traditions, ceremonies, and works/tasks for Christ. This institutional form of Christianity is about being part of something, but fails to live from being IN Christ. This form of Christianity looks to draw its very life from all of the things above, as opposed to Christ Himself.

Followers who live from being in Him, live from a

Personhood reality and dimension. Their lives are defined by the surpassing value of truly knowing their Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

***Philippians 3:7-9 But whatever things were gain to me, those things I have counted as loss for the sake of Christ. More than that, I count all things to be loss in view of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them but rubbish so that I may gain Christ, and may be found in Him...***

These followers only draw their life from Life Himself. Wilderness followers hold as their greatest value their fellowship with God and their fellow brethren. They see one another as people and not assets who are there to achieve a functional task.

This is the goal of being in Him, to be Christlike and not just say you are a Christian.

Saying yes to this verbally is one thing, but being yielded to it is a completely different dimension. This is where things tend to go separate ways in the lives we live.

### **1 John 1:1-4**

***1 What was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the Word of Life—***

***2 and the life was manifested, and we have seen and testify and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was manifested to us—***

***3 what we have seen and heard we proclaim to you also, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father, and with His Son Jesus Christ.***

***4 These things we write, so that our joy may be made complete.***

So that our joy may be made complete. The incredible joy and fulfilment it is to walk out this relational dynamic with Christ and our brothers and sisters, who truly know through revelation this spiritual posture of oneness.

Those who desire this in Him life, desire to be made complete in the 4 attributes below:

1. Same mind.
2. Same love.
3. United in spirit.
4. Intent on one purpose.



As mentioned this entire way of living is centred in Him in us.

***John 17:11 ...that they may be one even as We are.***

***Acts 17:28 for in Him we live and move and exist...***

***Acts 17:25 nor is He served by human hands, as though He needed anything, since He Himself gives to all people life and breath and all things.***

Wilderness people have no name, no title or position. They have no abode, but they abide and have the literal reality of Christ being built within them. They are nobodies to the institutional heart and mind, but are somebodies to Him. They don't fit in the system of man as they are not of man, but are of the Spirit. They are deemed worthless, holding no value and have nothing to bring or add.

Those who are in Him don't look to one another, but to Him for all things. They don't need one another, but they are interdependent with one another, and their sole purpose is to do the will of their Father, bringing glory to His name.

Their food source is the bread of life, and His Spirit. They walk in the power of God and are bondservants to the Father. They devote themselves to the Word of God, prayer, fellowship and the breaking of bread. They are living for this age and the age to come, because they have a revealed knowledge of the eternal purpose of God.

These wilderness followers see the unseen realm and live in accordance to it.

### **2 Corinthians 4:16-18**

***16 Therefore we do not lose heart, but though our outer man is decaying, yet our inner man is being renewed day by day.***

***17 For momentary, light affliction is producing for us an eternal weight of glory far beyond all comparison,***

***18 while we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen; for the things which are seen are temporal, but the things which are not seen are eternal.***

When they see the dry bush they see the Presence of God. When they see the massive rock in the desert they see living water. When they see Jesus they see the Son of God, not just the Son of man. This 'in Him' life knows there is nothing of man and nothing made by man in the wilderness.

Followers who live from and grow in this 'in Him' life are true spiritual family in every sense of the word. They don't require gatherings, forms, methods, programmes, events, vision statements, organisational goals, mission statements, trusts, buildings, relational friendships, or anything else of the natural design to be family.

They are family due to their fellowship with the Father, Son and Spirit.

These followers are able to see the Father's kingdom blueprint for the building up of His body, recognising and receiving the different graces on each individual for the purpose of this work of the Spirit. They look to support the callings which some carry in a financial way, to see certain individuals released in these

callings, both locally, nationally and internationally.

These wilderness people understand and are passionate about seeing other people become wilderness people, both in their cities, New Zealand, and the rest of the world. They think locally, nationally and globally, and are just as passionate about the work of the Spirit overseas, as they are in their local neighbourhood, and vice versa.

#### **4 DIVINE ATTRIBUTES OF WILDERNESS FOLLOWERS:**

1. Fellowship
2. Faith
3. Fruitfulness
4. Function - righteous acts by faith

Those who are in Him know and are coming to know the divine pattern of heaven, when it comes to expressing His manifold wisdom on earth.

The first 3 of these attributes are internal qualities and are formed through the Spirit within a person. To the

natural eye one can not see the work being done, but one can experience the tangible expression of this nature, character and life being birthed and matured in someone.

The fourth attribute is ultimately the outworking of these inner attributes being expressed. It's a little bit like love. Love isn't a form but there are many forms of love expressed.

This is why this can't be copied, be a method, a how to, a pattern or programme, because it's all a work of the spiritual formation within you. This is all birthed and formed upon the Personhood of Christ alone. This is the promise to be in Him and live a Christlike life.



# HIS PROCESS

## WHAT IS THE WILDERNESS WAY? - TRUE SPIRITUAL DISCIPLESHIP

***2 Thessalonians 2:13-14 But we should always give thanks to God for you, brethren beloved by the Lord, because God has chosen you from the beginning for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and faith in the truth. It was for this He called you through our gospel, that you may gain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.***

The wilderness way has no predetermined gatherings, programmes, methods, tasks, ministries, ceremonies, rituals, or relational connections as its first priority. The wilderness way is not based on a trust deed, constitution or any formal manmade document, but purely founded on the Christ Himself. It is about Jesus being FIRST through the process of spirit and truth discipleship.

***Colossians 1:18 He is also head of the body, the church; and He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that He Himself will come to have first place in everything.***



***Mark 12:29-31 Jesus answered, "The foremost is, 'Hear, O Israel! The Lord our God is one Lord and you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind and with all your strength. The second is this, You shall love your neighbour as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these."***

***Matthew 28:18-20 And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."***

This Wilderness discipleship way is about every follower entrusting their hearts to Christ and Christ alone, and entering into the Great Commandments and the Great Commission.

It is from this position of spirit and truth that all things flow and are expressed. From the reflection

of who these people are in Christ, comes the natural expression of this image into the earth.

Our ability to enter into, keep and live out both of these eternal instructions, are dependent on our knowledge and ongoing knowledge of the WHO, WHY, WHAT, HOW, WHEN and WHERE.

The Who and the Why are the most critical attributes out of the 6 in the discipleship process for transformation into His image.

- The Who and the Why are the Life.
- The What, How, Where and When are the expression of that Life.

We are to pursue the Who and the Why, the 'in Him' dimension, knowing that if we are in this dimension, the What, How, When and Where will just flow forth.

The Who relates to 'identity'

The Why relates to the 'motivation and reason'

The What, How, When and Where relates to the 'expression'

Wilderness followers walk in numbers of 4-6, knowing that these numbers are the most conducive for spiritual transformation and accomplishing their goal of keeping the commandments and commission.

They are always on the lookout for other wilderness followers to join them, while understanding the tension of getting too big can limit the true outworking of their goal. They understand the importance of the need for multiplication, so the raising up of other followers to lead new groups of 4-6 is a priority.





Wilderness followers see the transformation into the image of Christ as their greatest priority, and not what they or anyone else does for Christ. This 'in Him' life is focused on personal transformation into the image of the Son, which leads to an authentic and innate expression of His life through them. They don't try to be Christians, they just express Christlikeness.

This is the goal of being in Him, to be Christlike,

keeping the Great Commandments and the Great commission.

The only question that remains is... Do you want to pursue this 'in Him' dimension and become a wilderness follower, who is an active participant in this discipleship process, where your only desire and focus is to see the Will of God being accomplished in and through you, bringing glory to His name?

