

29 January 2017

SERMON TITLE: Are you in a wilderness... a dry place? Don't Panic!

FOUNDATION SCRIPTURE: Rom 8:38-39

For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Surviving a physical wilderness requires more than just the skills to build a shelter, or start a fire, or purify water. It requires a certain mindset, **a will to live** that overcomes the fear and stress associated with crises, circumstances

So if you find yourself in a wilderness: "Don't Panic!"

...Take a deep breath. Take a moment to remind yourself... "Who God is," ... "Who you are in Christ"... and what the Bible says about His faithfulness in times of trouble or stress.

Fear and panic makes us susceptible to lies from the devil. But God (2 Tim 4 v 7) has not given us a spirit of fear... Satan will lie about God's faithfulness and love for us. He will lie about God's existence and about how valuable you are to God. He (the devil) is the "father" of lies. Don't believe anything the devil says - he (the devil) cannot tell the truth.

1 Kings 17 v 9 - Arise and go to Zarephath!

God may be directing you to Zarephath?

Isaiah 58 v 11; Ps 25 v 4 - 5, Prov 3 v 3 - 4

So much of our Christian experience is our responsiveness to the guidance and obedience of the Holy Spirit.

Walk in the Spirit - Walk (to be occupied with)... the Holy Spirit will constrain us toward a life in which the tendencies of the flesh are both undesirable and unproductive. (Romans 8-11)

Finally: Remember: He who began a good work in you will perform it until the day of Christ. (Phil 1 v 6)