

FINDING GOD IN THE DESERT OF THE SOUL

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THREE KINDS OF SOUL DESERTS

- WHEN THE HEAT TURNS UP
- WHEN YOUR HEART TURNS _____
- WHEN YOU'RE GIVING OUT MORE THAN YOU'RE TAKING IN

"O God, you are my God, earnestly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you, my body longs for you, in a dry and weary land where there is no water. I have seen you in the sanctuary and beheld your power and your glory. Because your love is better than life, my lips will glorify you. I will praise you as long as I live, and in your name I will lift up my hands. My soul will be satisfied as with the richest of foods; with singing lips my mouth will praise you. On my bed I remember you; I think of you through the watches of the night. Because you are my help, I sing in the shadow of your wings. My soul clings to you; your right hand upholds me." - Psalm 63:1–8 (NIV)

"Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up." - Galatians 6:9 (NIV)

- **A DESERT IS GOD'S WAY OF GETTING YOUR _____**

"Therefore I am now going to allure her; I will lead her into the desert and speak tenderly to her. There I will give her back her vineyards, and will make the Valley of Achor a door of hope. There she will sing as in the days of her youth, as in the day she came up out of Egypt. In that day," declares the Lord, "you will call me 'my husband'; you will no longer call me 'my master.' I will remove the names of the Baals from her lips; no longer will their names be invoked . . . In that day I will respond," declares the Lord—"I will respond to the skies, and they will respond to the earth; and the earth will respond to the grain, the new wine and oil, and they will respond to [my people]." - Hosea 2:14–23 (NIV)

- **YOUR VALLEY IS NOT A DEAD END, IT'S A _____**

WHAT TO DO WHILE YOU'RE WAITING IN THE DESERT

1. PREPARE TO MEET GOD THERE

"A voice of one calling: 'In the desert prepare the way for the Lord; make straight in the wilderness a highway for our God. Every valley shall be raised up, every mountain and hill made low; the rough ground shall become level, the rugged places a plain. And the glory of the Lord will be revealed, and all mankind together will see it. For the mouth of the Lord has spoken.'" - Isaiah 40:3–5 (NIV)

- **WHEN GOD SEEMS SILENT IT'S BECAUSE HE IS _____**

2. START PLANTING SEEDS NOW FOR SPIRITUAL GROWTH

"The seed is the word of God . . . The seed on good soil stands for those with a noble and good heart, who hear the word, retain it, and by persevering produce a crop." - Luke 8:11, 15 (NIV)

3. ELIMINATE UNNECESSARY _____

"Every valley shall be raised up, every mountain and hill made low; the rough ground shall become level, the rugged places a plain." - Isaiah 40:4 (NIV)

4. SEARCH YOUR HEART FOR IDOLS

"I will remove the Baals from her lips. No longer will their names be invoked." - Hosea 2:17 (NIV)

"Those who cling to worthless idols forfeit the grace that could be theirs." - Jonah 2:8 (NIV)

"They followed worthless idols and became worthless themselves." - 2 Kings 17:15 (NIV)

5. _____ TO THE LORD

"With singing lips my mouth will praise you . . . I sing in the shadow of your wings." - Psalm 63:5,7 (NIV)

"There she will sing as in the days of her youth, as in the days she came up out of Egypt." - Hosea 2:15 (NIV)

1. cold 2. attention 3. doorway 4. listening 5. distractions 6. sing

在心靈荒漠中尋找上帝

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三種「心靈的荒漠」

- 當越發煎熬
- 當你的心變得_____
- 當你付出的比得到的多

“上帝啊，你是我的上帝，我熱切地尋求你。在這乾旱、疲乏、無水之地，我的心靈渴想你，我的全身切慕你。我曾在你的聖所朝見你，凝視着你的權能和榮耀。你的慈愛比生命更好，我要盡情讚美你！我要一生一世讚美你，舉起雙手向你禱告。你使我飽足，勝過最豐盛的筵席。我要用歡樂的歌讚美你。我躺在牀上思念你，我終夜默想你。你是我的幫助，我在你翅膀的蔭下歡唱。我緊緊地倚靠着你，你強壯的右手牢牢抱住我。”
- 詩篇 63:1-8 (新普及譯本)

“我們行善，不可喪志；只要不灰心，到了適當的時候，必可收成。”
- 加拉太書 6:9 (新漢語譯本)

· 荒漠是上帝引起你_____的方式

“「然而，我要再次贏回她的心，我要領她到荒漠中，在那裏溫柔地對她說話。我要把她的葡萄園還給她，將亞割谷變為希望之門。她必在那裏歌唱，像她少年的時候一樣，也像她從埃及地上來的那天一般。」上主說：「當那天來臨，你要稱我為『我的丈夫』，而不是『我的主人』…我要將巴力眾多的名號從你的嘴唇抹去，你就永遠不再提起它們。」上主說：「到那日，我必回應，我必向天回應，天必向地回應，地必向五穀、新酒和油回應，它們定必向我的子民回應。」”

- 何西阿書 2:14-23 (新普及譯本/新譯本/NIV 意譯)

- 你的低谷並不是死路一條，而是一條_____

在荒漠中等待時，你該怎麼做

1. 準備好在那裏與上帝相遇

“聽啊，有人高喊：「在曠野預備耶和華的道，在沙漠修直我們上帝的路。一切山谷將被填滿，大山小丘將被削平；坎坷之地將變得平坦，崎嶇的地面將成為平原。耶和華的榮耀必彰顯，世人必一同看見。這是耶和華親口說的。」”

- 以賽亞書 40:3-5 (當代譯本)

- 當上帝看似沉默時，其實祂正在_____

2. 現在就要開始播種，準備靈命成長

“種子是神的道…祂說：“那落在好土裏的，就是人用誠實良善的心來聽，把道持守住，忍耐著結出果實。”

- 路加福音 8:11, 15 (新譯本)

3. 消除不必要的_____

“一切山谷將被填滿，大山小丘將被削平；坎坷之地將變得平坦，崎嶇的地面將成為平原。”

- 以賽亞書 40:4 (當代譯本)

4. 找出你內心的偶像

“我要將巴力眾多的名號從你的嘴唇抹去，你就永遠不再提起它們。”

- 何西阿書 2:17 (新普及譯本)

“那敬奉虛妄之偶像的人，實在是離棄了他們的恩典。” - 約拿書 2:8 (新譯本)

“（他們）拜無用的偶像，結果使自己也變得無用。” - 列王紀下 17:15 (新普及譯本)

5. 向上主_____

“我要用歡樂的歌讚美你…我在你翅膀的蔭下歡唱。” - 詩篇 63:5,7 (新普及譯本)

“她必在那裏歌唱，像她少年的時候一樣，也像她從埃及地上來的那天一般。”

- 何西阿書 2:15 (新譯本/NIV 意譯)