

The Gift Of Rest

The Purpose of the Old Testament:

“These things happened to them as examples for us.
They were written down to warn us who live at the end of the age.”
1Cor.10:11 (NLT)

1 _____ 5 _____ 10

1. What is our **promised land** as believers?

*“So watch your step, friends. Make sure there's no evil unbelief lying around that will trip you up and throw you off course, diverting you from the living God. For as long as it's still God's Today, keep each other on your toes so sin doesn't slow down your reflexes. If we can only keep our grip on the sure thing we started out with, we're in this with Christ for the long haul. These words keep ringing in our ears: Today, please listen; don't turn a deaf ear as in the bitter uprising.”
Hebrews 3:12-14 (The Message)*

2. What is the **wilderness** for believers?

“For as long, then, as that promise of resting in him pulls us on to God's goal for us, we need to be careful that we're not disqualified. We received the same promises as those people in the wilderness, but the promises didn't do them a bit of good because they didn't receive the promises with faith. If we believe, though, we'll experience that state of resting. But not if we don't have faith. Remember that God said, Exasperated, I vowed, "They'll never get where they're going, never be able to sit down and rest.” Hebrews 4:1-3 (The Message)

Small Group Questions

1. In your honest evaluation of where you are in your sense of satisfaction in your faith, do you have a desire to go deeper with the Lord? Why or why not?
2. Do you feel you understand what it takes to have “faith in grace” in order to continue to grow closer to Christ?
3. Who do you have around you that can agree with you in these principles of faith? Do you need to be part of a small group or other relationship in order to see that happen?
4. What part does God's word play in the experiencing of a fulfilling Christian life? (see Hebrews 4:12-13)
5. What specific steps might you take in this summer season to continue to grow in your journey toward the Promised Land of partaking in Christ?