



# Stand Alone Message

*Title: Finding God in the Darkness | Teacher: Antwuan Malone*

*Sermon Questions for 12.28.2025*

## Opener

When was the last time you would describe as being “in the wilderness” in your life?

## Read

Exodus 20:18-21; Exodus 15:21-22; Proverbs 9:10; Psalm 147:11; Matthew 16:24-25

## Main Points

1. God in the Wilderness - The wilderness often follows deliverance and anointing. In the wilderness, God resets us, redirects us, and refines us. Wilderness moments are defining moments and seasons in our lives where God often does his best work in us.
2. He resets us to remind us of who we are in him and who he is in us. He redefines us by giving a new purpose and direction for our lives. He refines us to live and love the way Jesus loved.
3. Our salvation leads to an often-disorienting journey of spiritual formation and discipleship.
4. God in the Darkness - the darkness that shows up in the wilderness is discipleship. The darkness represents our perception of a new level of disorientation in an already disorienting wilderness experience.
5. An unhealthy fear of God calls us to run away from him, but a healthy fear of God calls us to run toward him. A fear of God rooted in hope and rooted in God's steadfast love is a fear that trust God fully.
6. Becoming who we already are in Christ is not a risk-free journey of discipleship.
7. May we adopt a “Trust-in-God” mindset - a healthy fear of God mindset that humbly submits to the path of scary formation, toward living and loving the way Jesus lived and loved.

## Engage with God in a Group

- What has been your experience with wilderness seasons of life?
- How have you experienced something new or deeper in your relationship with Jesus when you were in a dark season of life?
- When have you sensed God leading you into a wilderness season? What scary or unfamiliar thing is God calling you toward?
- What are you “protecting” from God as though he is a threat?

## Bottom Line

In a fallen world, the cost and risk of discipleship are inevitable.