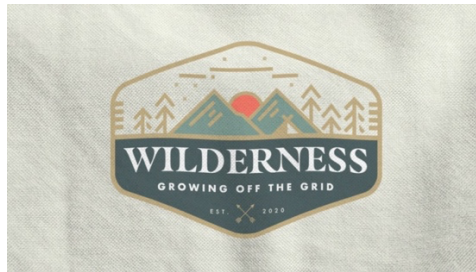


“When The PRESSURE Is On”
SERIES - Wilderness: Growing Off The Grid
2026-07-26



“Great occasions do not make heroes or cowards; they simply unveil them to the eyes of men. Silently and imperceptibly, as we wake or sleep, we grow strong or weak; and at last some crisis shows what we have become.”

~Brooke Foss Westcott~

Pressure does not CREATE your character; pressure simply REVEALS what has been growing silently underneath.

Luke 6:45 (NIV)

“The good man brings good things out of the good treasure of his heart, and the evil man brings evil things out of the evil treasure of his heart. For out of the overflow of the heart, the mouth speaks.”

“We find out who we TRULY ARE in the wilderness of life.”

1 Samuel 13

1 Samuel 28

Pressure often exposes a lack of deep-rooted TRUST leading straight into impatience, COMPROMISE, and disobedience.

1 Samuel 24:5-7 (NIV)

5 Afterward, David was **conscience-stricken** for having cut off a corner of his robe. 6 He said to his men, “The Lord forbid that I should do such a thing to my master, the Lord’s anointed, or lay my hand on him; for he is the anointed of the Lord.” 7 With these words **David sharply rebuked his men** and did not allow them to attack Saul. And Saul left the cave and went his way.

1 Samuel 28

1 Samuel 30:6 (NKJV)

6 Now David was greatly distressed, for the people spoke of stoning him, because the soul of all the people was grieved, every man for his sons and his daughters. **But David strengthened himself in the Lord his God.**

While Saul **PANICKED** and forced outcomes, David **PAUSED** and anchored his soul in God.

When unexpected stress hits your marriage, your finances, your health, or your work, what spills out of your heart?

We cannot always **PREVENT** the wilderness, but we can **PREPARE** for how we navigate it.

BEFORE your Wilderness Experience:

- ***ABIDE** in Jesus

John 15:5-6 (NIV)

- ***Let the HOLY SPIRIT shape you**

Galatians 5:22-25 (NLT)

- ***Ask God to EXAMINE your heart**

Psalms 139:23-24 (NIV)

- ***Get an ACCOUNTABILITY partner**

Proverbs 27:5,6,17 (NIV)

5 Better is **open rebuke** than hidden love.

6 **Wounds from a friend** can be trusted, but an enemy multiplies kisses.

17 **As iron sharpens iron**, so one person sharpens another.

When you stumble:

- ***HUMBLE yourself**

- ***CONFESS to God and Others**

- ***Make It RIGHT**