



Worship in the Wilderness





Wilderness:



- Without water or food
- A wasteland
- A place of separation
- Confusion / pain
- Silence
- Lack of direction / Wandering
- Questions and doubt



Bare is not barren





“God Encounters” in the Wilderness

- Hagar and Ishmael
- Moses and the Israelites
 - King David
 - Elijah
 - Jesus
 - John the Baptist
- John (Author of Revelation)





There is opportunity to:

- Understand more fully the character and nature of God
 - Experience His presence
 - See his miraculous provision
 - Practice obedience
 - Find comfort
 - Develop character
 - Wrestle with God
 - Learn to trust
 - Realign / Re-centre our lives





1. Where are you getting your water?





“ My people have committed two sins: They have forsaken me, the spring of living water, and have dug their own cisterns, broken cisterns that cannot hold water. ”

Jeremiah 2:13





“ Jesus answered: ‘ *Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again , but those who drink the water I give them will never thirst.*

Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life’ ”

John 4:13





“

You Samaritans worship what you do not know, but we worship what we do know.

”

John 4:22





2. Knowing who we worship





“

There are two vital ingredients at the heart of all true worship: a revelation of who God is, and a response to Him on the basis of that revelation.

”

Dr John Andrews



How do we know?



The Word of God

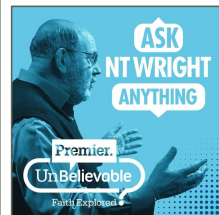
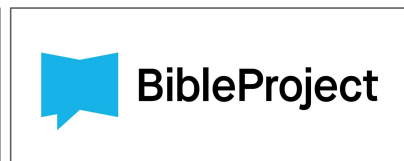
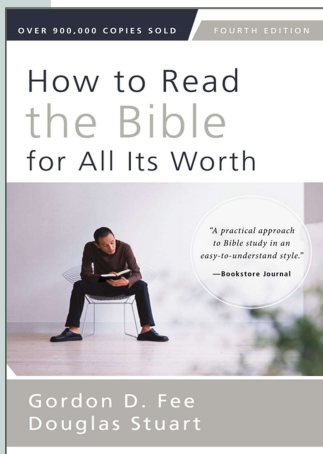
- Cultivating a love of the Bible
- A study course
- Mixing up authors and teaching

Experience

- Knowledge becoming revelation
- Worship
- Prayer
- Corporate worship

Testimony

- Remembering!
- Reminding each other!
- Stories of faithful men and women of God:
 - Corrie Ten Boom
 - Nate Saint
 - Jackie Pullinger
 - Hudson Taylor
 - Jim Elliot



Doing this in community



3. The Power of Praise





The Power of Praise

- Actions speak louder than words!
 - Goes beyond feelings
 - A faith response
- The extraordinary work of the Spirit in worship – it's a mystery!
 - The enemy hates it!





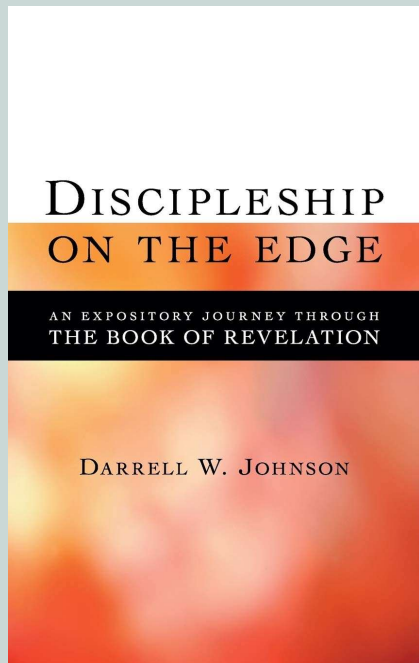
Worship in the Wilderness:

- Where are we getting our water from?
 - Knowing who we worship
 - Choosing Praise



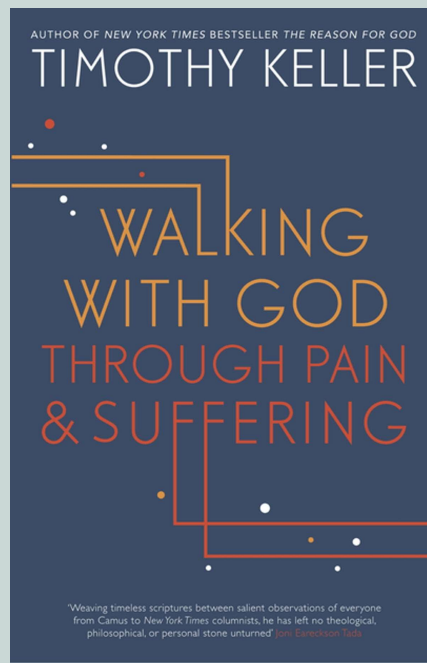


Book Recommendations! (Hoorah!)



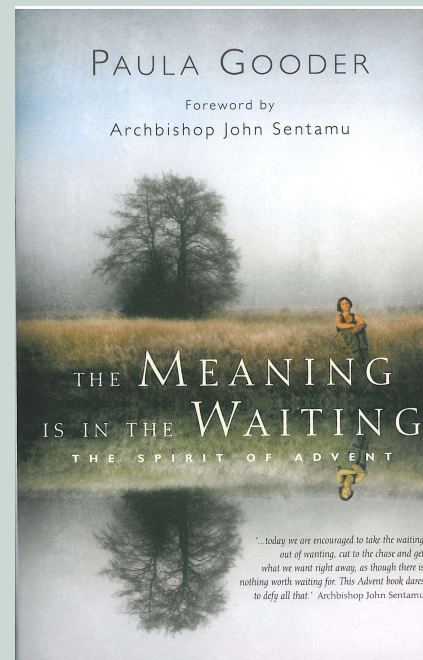
“Discipleship On the Edge”

Darrell W. Johnson



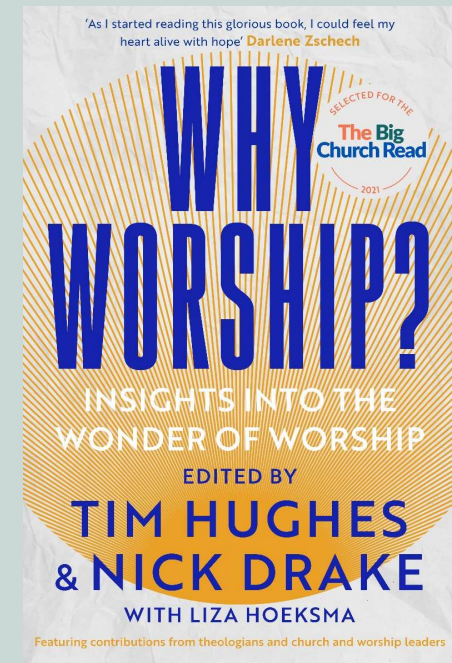
“Walking with God through Pain and Suffering”

Timothy Keller



“The Meaning is in the Waiting”

Dr Paula Gooder



“Why Worship?”

Nick Drake & Tim Hughes