

A WAY IN THE Wilderness

March 14, 2021 – 4th Sunday of Lent

A Way in the Wilderness: When We Grow Impatient
Numbers 21:4-9

Devotion

**But the people grew impatient on the way.
Numbers 21:4b**

We are about halfway through our Lenten journey. If you and your family created a paper chain to count down the days until Easter, you may be getting impatient to get to the last link. Impatient is when we don't want to wait for something. In our Bible passage for this week we hear about how the Israelites were becoming impatient on their journey out of the wilderness. Have you ever not wanted to wait for something? I know when I have a trip to Disney World planned, I like to do a countdown to keep track of how many months, days, hours, and even minutes until I get there!

Sometimes this makes it worse while I am waiting to get there. I may focus too much on the waiting and not enough on the preparing. I like to make sure I am ready for our family's adventure. If I spend too much time worrying and being too focused on the wait, I may not get the things done that will help me to actually enjoy my time when I am there.

It is important for us to remember that we need to focus on God and what He is telling us. Sometimes that means we have to focus on Him even harder and allow ourselves to be in His presence even while we are waiting. I want to make sure you understand that God's timing is not necessarily the same as our timing or when we want things to happen. It is important that we understand that God has a plan for when things happen in our lives.

I know firsthand that my timing is not always God's timing. As you continue to spend quiet time with God during Lent, I pray you learn to not be impatient and to listen for what God has to tell you in His time.

PRAYER: Dear God, we thank you for this time of Lent when we can be quiet in your presence. We pray as we continue to set aside things that distract us from you that we will spend our time drawing closer to you. We thank you for helping us to learn how to be patient as we see how Your plan is at work in our lives. We ask this in Your Son's name. Amen.

~Tammy Palermo

Snack Recipe: Easy Hot Cross Buns

INGREDIENTS

1 package (8 count) refrigerated buttermilk biscuits
1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
1 teaspoon packed brown sugar
1/2 cup raisins, divided
1 egg, lightly beaten
5 tablespoons confectioners' sugar
1 teaspoon water

INSTRUCTIONS

Preheat oven to 350°F. Gently stretch each biscuit into 4-inch circle. Mix cinnamon and brown sugar in small bowl. Sprinkle 1/4 teaspoon cinnamon mixture and 1 tablespoon raisins over half

of each biscuit. Fold over plain biscuit half onto raisin half. Fold again, pinching edges to seal. Gently shape into a ball. Repeat with remaining biscuits. Place buns in lightly greased 9-inch cake pan, evenly spacing them apart. Brush bun tops with beaten egg.

Bake 15 to 20 minutes or until golden brown. Remove buns onto cooling rack; cool completely.

Mix confectioners' sugar and water in small bowl. Spoon into small re-sealable plastic bag. Cut a small piece from one of the bottom corners of bag. Close bag tightly then pipe the shape of an X on top of each bun.

Snack idea to buy: Goldfish crackers (symbol of Christian faith)

Activity/Game: put a puzzle together

Simon Says

A command starting with "Simon says" means that the players must obey that command. A command without the beginning "Simon says" means do not do this action. Anyone who breaks one of these two rules is eliminated from the remainder of the game.

The Quiet Game

The quiet game is a children's game where children must stay quiet. Stillness is sometimes a rule but in most cases not. The last child or team to make noise wins the game. It is usually acceptable for players to make sounds they cannot control, such as sneezing whereas talking would cause a player to get out.

Coloring Sheet: Moses Made a Bronze Snake