The Spiritual Challenges of a Comfortable Life

Like Israel's experience in the wilderness, so hard times in our own lives have a way of bringing us to our knees and helping us rely on God. But in his farewell, Moses warns Israel that it's just as crucial to remember and rely on God's provision when we're comfortable, secure, and prosperous. Join Groundwork as we discuss Deuteronomy 8 to discover the transformative difference this remembering has on our lives and why it leads to a posture of gratitude.

AWARENESS Before listening reflect on what you already know or understand about topics we'll cover in the episode.

- During which season of your life have you found it easiest to remember to pray or to remember to thank and honor God for what he has done for you?
- How do you define providence?



LISTEN TO THE EPISODE: The Spiritual Challenges of a Comfortable Life

READ Deuteronomy 8

REFLECTION After listening, consider the following questions:

- Why is our life today generally more comparable to the Israelites' experience of the Promised Land than to their experience in the desert?
- When have you walked through a time of wilderness in your life? How was God's providence evident in your life during that time?
- Are you currently in the habit of reminding yourself of God's provision? What intentional practices might assist you in this? What does "Remember and do not forget" look like in your life?
- How is God challenging you to be generous with the abilities and resources he has blessed you with?

RELATED PASSAGES for further study

John 6:25-59, 1 Corinthians 4

CONCLUSION

The Psalmist wrote prayers and praise to God both in times of wilderness wandering and times of Promised Land abundance. A consistent theme in the Psalms is remembering God. When thinking about God's provision in your life, look to the book of Psalms for models of how we praise God for his provision and pray for his provision in all seasons of our lives. Read the Psalms slowly and allow the Psalmist's reflections to guide your own reflections on God's hand in your life. If you feel so moved, write your own version or draw pictures of the Psalms you read as they are reflected in your own life.

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